

Land off Pinhoe Road, Exeter, Devon

(NGR SX 95796 93896)

Results of an Archaeological Trench Evaluation

Exeter City Council planning reference: 14/1579/03

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On behalf of:
Strongvox

Document No: ACD1230/2/0

Date: November 2015



AC archaeology

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Summary

An archaeological trench evaluation was carried out by AC archaeology in October 2015 on land off Pinhoe Road, Exeter, Devon. The fieldwork comprised the machine-excavation of five trenches totalling 116m in length which were positioned to target and characterise a number of anomalies interpreted from a previous geophysical survey.

The evaluation found that 'mixed spreads' of possible archaeological origin interpreted from the results of the geophysical survey are not archaeological in nature. However, a small number of previously unknown archaeological features were identified. These include a series of boundary ditches one of which is probably Iron Age in date. A small number of deposits and features matching the location of buildings depicted on historic maps and dating to the late post-medieval and modern periods were exposed. No remains associated with the medieval settlement of Pilton were found in the evaluation. A small quantity of pottery of prehistoric and medieval date was recovered along with a larger assemblage of post-medieval pottery.

1. INTRODUCTION (Fig. 1; plate 1)

- 1.1 This document sets out the results of an archaeological trench evaluation which was undertaken by AC archaeology during October 2015 on land off Pinhoe Road, Exeter, Devon (NGR SX 95796 93896; Fig 1). The work was commissioned by Strongvox, and was requested by Exeter City Council, as advised by their Principal Project Manager (Heritage), as supporting information for a planning application (planning reference 14/1579/03) ahead of proposed residential development.
- 1.2 The application site lies on the south side of Pinhoe Road and is bounded by Pilton Lane to the east and the grounds of the Pinhoe Hoard public house and the car park for Sainsbury's supermarket to the west. The land use is currently rough grass and waste ground lying at around 35m aOD (Plate 1). The site occupies a generally level area of approximately 0.98ha.
- 1.3 The underlying solid geology comprises rocks of the Permian Whipton Formation, Exeter Group. These comprise reddish-brown silty clay sands and weakly cemented sandstone with some degraded mudstone and breccia facies. Superficial geological deposits are recorded to the south of the site which are described as soliflucted sand, clay and gravels; to the north of the development area is the Pin Brook which contains alluvial deposits (BGS 2015).

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site is located immediately adjacent to Pilton Lane, with a settlement at Pilton recorded as early as AD 1370. A recent desk-based assessment of an adjacent site found that the origins and extent of the medieval settlement are unknown and it is likely that the documentary references are to a farm on the site of the later Pilton House (Passmore 2015). The origins of Little Pilton, which were located within the proposed development area, are also unknown. The surviving remains, which are depicted on historic maps, are thought to date to no earlier than the early 19th century.

- 2.2** Archaeological investigations ahead of extensive and actual proposed development in close proximity to the current site has shown that the landscape was utilised in the prehistoric and Romano-British periods, including burial and ritual activity in the form of a possible Neolithic/Bronze Age henge, Bronze Age ring ditches, and settlement represented by Bronze Age, Iron Age and Romano-British enclosures and field systems. Although at present much of the archaeological information is unpublished and has not been interrogated as a whole dataset, it is clear that ritual and settlement foci are located piecemeal and sporadically across the landscape (Passmore 2015).
- 2.3** A geophysical survey of the site (Dean 2013) identified a number of anomalies which relate to historic land division, as well as a series of 'rubble spreads' which may relate to the sites of former buildings.

3. AIM

- 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 potential for medieval and post-medieval structures. The results of the work will be reviewed and used to inform any subsequent mitigation and whether or not the significance and state of survival of any buried archaeological remains is great enough to influence the layout of the proposed development should planning consent be obtained.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1** The fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with a Method Statement for an Archaeological Trench Evaluation (Valentin 2015), submitted to and approved by the Exeter City Council Principal Project Manager (Heritage) prior to commencement on site. Local conditions on the ground meant that some trenches were repositioned and the proposed Trench 5 was omitted altogether. Trenches were located to target a series of 'spreads' identified during the geophysical survey, and buildings associated with the site of the former settlement at Pilton. The trenches were positioned using a Leica Viva GS08 Plus GNSS Network RTK Rover GPS with sub 100mm accuracy. The removal of soil overburden was undertaken using a JCB wheeled excavator with a 1.5m wide grading bucket under the control and direction of the site archaeologist. Machine-excavation ceased at the level at which natural subsoil or archaeological deposits were exposed.
- 4.2** All features and deposits revealed were recorded using the standard 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). Detailed sections or plans were produced at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate, and all site levels relate to Ordnance Datum.

5. RESULTS (Fig. 2; Plates 2-12; Appendix 1)

- 5.1** The evaluation comprised the machine-excavation of five trenches totalling 116m in length and with each trench 1.5m wide. Trenches were positioned to target the geophysical anomalies and are shown in Figure 2. Archaeological features were present in all of the trenches and are tabulated in Appendix 1 and discussed in

greater detail below. Relevant plans and sections are included as Figs 2-6 and photographs as Plates 2-12.

5.2 Trench 1 (Detailed plan Fig. 3a and section Fig. 3b; Plate 2)

This trench measured 19m long and was aligned NW-SE. It was positioned to target a 'mixed spread' of possible archaeological origin interpreted from the geophysical survey results. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.75m below ground level onto natural (context 103) consisting of light yellowish orange clay at its northwest end, and a depth of 0.58m onto natural gravel at its southeast end. The overlying layer sequence comprised up to 0.23m of topsoil (100), over up to 0.29m of subsoil (101). A total of four sherds of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the topsoil, and part of a clay tobacco pipe was recovered from the subsoil in this trench. An additional subsoil layer (102) was identified at the northwest end of the trench. A single linear feature (F104) was exposed at the southeastern end of the trench cutting into the natural.

Ditch F104

Ditch F104 was NE-SW aligned and measured 1.21m wide by 0.48m deep, with a sharp top break of slope, steep straight sides, and a moderate lower break of slope into a slightly concave base. The feature contained three fills (105-7). The primary fill (105) consisted of a pale orangey brown sandy clayey loam. The secondary fill (106) comprised an orangey brown silty clay. The upper fill (107) consisted of an orangey brown clayey loam from which a single sherd of medieval pottery was retrieved. The remains of an additional subsoil layer (108) were identified overlying this ditch. This consisted of an orangey brown silty clay loam from which three sherds of medieval pottery were recovered.

5.3 Trench 2 (Detailed plan Fig. 3c and section Fig. 3d; Plate 3)

This trench was NE-SW aligned and was positioned to target a 'mixed spread' of possible archaeological origin interpreted from the geophysical survey results. The trench was split into two to avoid excavation over the known line of modern buried services. The southwest end of the trench measured 3.8m long and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.54m below ground level onto the natural which consisted of degraded breccia and clay (204). The overlying layer sequence comprised up to 0.17m of topsoil (200), over up to 0.33m of subsoil (201). A single sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the topsoil. The northeast end of the trench measured 5.8m long, with natural subsoil encountered from a depth of 0.68m. The overlying sequence comprised 0.20m of topsoil, over 0.18m of subsoil, with an additional layer of 0.30m of colluvium (205). A single linear feature (F202) was identified within the southwest end of the trench cutting into the natural.

Gully F202

Gully F202 was aligned roughly N-S, measured 0.42m wide by 0.07m deep, and had a moderate top break of slope, and shallow gently sloping sides into a slightly rounded base. The feature contained a single fill (203) consisting of an orangey brown silty clayey loam, which was very similar in colour and composition to the overlying subsoil. No finds were recovered from this feature.

5.4 Trench 3 (Detailed plan Fig. 4a and sections Figs 4b-c; Plate 4)

This trench was NE-SW aligned, measured 20m long, and was positioned to target two 'mixed spreads' of possible archaeological origin interpreted from the geophysical survey results. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.85m below ground level onto the natural consisting of degraded breccia and clay (302).

The overlying layer sequence comprised up to 0.36m of topsoil (201), over up to 0.43m of subsoil (301). A single linear feature (F303) cutting into the natural and a modern service trench were identified within the centre of the trench.

Ditch F303

Ditch F303 was E-W aligned and measured 0.80m wide by 0.20m deep, with a moderate top break of slope, moderately steep sides and a concave base. The feature contained a single fill (304) consisting of light reddish brown silty clay. No finds were recovered from the feature.

5.5 Trench 4 (Detailed plan Fig. 5a and sections Figs 5b-d; Plates 5-8)

This trench was T-shaped with a NW-SE aligned section 17.50m long and a NE-SW aligned section 4.50m long. The trench was positioned to target the site of former buildings associated with the possible medieval settlement of Pilton. The deposit sequence varied throughout the trench and will be described in greater detail below. Natural degraded breccia (403) was exposed from a depth of 0.10m. An earthwork bank (402), part of a possible surface (404), a linear feature (F407) and a wall (410) were recorded within the trench.

Earthwork 402

The northwestern end of the trench cut through material (402) that is likely to have derived from the levelling of the area to the southeast for buildings related to Little Pilton. Deposit (402) consisted of a light brownish grey silty loam with small to medium sized sandstone and quartz inclusions. This lay over the natural geology (403), and was overlain by a deposit of disturbed mixed topsoil and re-deposited natural (401). This deposit was also overlain on its south facing edge by a dark orangey brown sandy clay with common small stone inclusions (406).

Surface 404

Possible surface 404 was composed from a mixture of brick, concrete, stone slabs and cobbles. The fragments ranged from whole pieces, to broken and highly irregular fragments ranging in size from 0.02m to 0.40m wide. Fragments of post-medieval and modern pottery were also recovered from the surface. The surface lay on top of the natural geology (403) and was sealed by deposit (405) which comprised a dark brownish black friable silty loam with small to large inclusions of sandstone, quartz and brick, and common fragments of charcoal and slag. This was in turn sealed by a disturbed deposit of mixed topsoil and re-deposited natural (401). Surface F404 had been truncated on its southern edge for a modern service trench.

Ditch F407

Ditch F407 was approximately NE-SW aligned and measured 1.28m wide by 0.46m deep with a sharp top break of slope, steep sides, and a moderate lower break of slope into a wide rounded base. The feature contained two fills (408-9). The primary fill (408) was a reddish grey sandy clay, with abundant large stones visible at the top of the deposit. A total of 11 sherds of post-medieval pottery was recovered from this fill. The upper fill (409) comprised a dark reddish brown clay with common small stone inclusions and flecks of charcoal; six fragments of glass were recovered from this fill. Part of ditch F407 was also exposed within the NE-SW aligned section of the trench (where it was recorded on site as F417; for consistency the number F407 has been used within this report). The fills corresponded with those recorded elsewhere (409/413/415 and 408/414/416). A total of eight pieces of clay tobacco-pipe and 34 sherds of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the upper fill, three pieces of

clay tobacco pipe and six sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the primary fill.

Wall 410

Wall 410 was NW-SE aligned and survived as a foundation of large sub-rounded blocks of breccia stone at the southern end, and a bright brownish red bonding of small stones and breccia at the northern end. No construction cuts were visible on either side of the wall indicating the wall had been constructed tightly within a foundation trench. The wall was shown to cut through the upper fill (413/415) of ditch F407, with the lower fill (414/416) extending beneath the structure. Wall 410 and ditch F407/F417 were sealed by deposit (411) which comprised a greyish brown sandy clay with abundant gravel inclusions. This was sealed by topsoil (400). An additional deposit of dark yellowish orange sand (412) was recorded at the northeastern end of the trench which overlay deposit (413) and was sealed by deposit (411). This deposit (412) may represent a levelling deposit for a possible floor surface.

5.6 Trench 6 (Detailed plan Fig. 6a and sections Figs 6b-c; Plates 9-10)

This trench was NW-SE aligned, measured 45m long and was positioned to target a 'mixed spread' of possible archaeological origin interpreted from the geophysical survey results. The deposit sequence at the southeast end of the trench consisted of up to 0.22m of topsoil (600), over up to 0.19m of subsoil (601), which overlay up to 0.66m of alluvium (613). A total of three sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the topsoil; three sherds of post-medieval pottery and a single piece of slate were recovered from the subsoil, and four sherds of prehistoric pottery were recovered from alluvium (613). A linear feature (F617) and posthole (F609) were exposed at the centre of the trench, and at the northwestern end of the trench remains of concrete (605), brick (606) and cobble (610) surfaces were exposed. The deposit sequence varied throughout the remainder of the trench and will be discussed in greater detail below.

Ditch F617

Ditch F617 was NE-SW aligned and measured 1.30m wide by 0.57m deep, with a sharp top break of slope, a moderate lower break of slope and a slightly rounded base. The feature contained three fills (614-6). The primary fill (616) consisted of a greyish brown sandy clay. The secondary fill (615) consisted of an orangey brown sandy clay, while the upper fill (614) consisted of dark reddish brown slightly sandy clay. A single sherd of prehistoric pottery and a piece of worked flint were recovered from this upper fill. The ditch was sealed by alluvial deposit (613). A layer of re-deposited natural with occasional modern rubble fragments (603) which overlay a deposit of dark reddish brown firm silty loam with occasional gravel and small sub-rounded stone inclusions (612), likely to represent a layer of buried topsoil, were identified between the topsoil (600) and subsoil (601) within the area of the trench around ditch F617.

Surfaces

Cobble surface 610 was exposed 7.3m from the northwestern end of the trench and consisted of a compact layer of medium and large rounded and sub-rounded stones with complete blocks and fragments of red brick. Finds of metalwork, slag, glass, CBM and post-medieval pottery were recovered from the surface. It overlay a dark blackish grey sandy silt with abundant fragments of coal throughout (611), and was beneath a dark greyish green loamy sand (607), which probably represents the base for a floor surface. A little further to the northwest, the top of a brick surface (606) was

exposed overlying this deposit (607), with a concrete surface (605) exposed immediately to the northwest of the bricks. All of the surfaces were sealed by a layer of re-deposited natural with occasional modern debris (603), which was overlain by topsoil (600). An additional deposit of dark blackish brown loamy sand and modern rubble (604) was exposed at the far northwestern end of the trench, between subsoil (603) and deposit (607). Finds of post-medieval pottery, glass, clay tobacco pipe and vitrified building material were recovered from this deposit.

Posthole F609

Posthole F609 was partially exposed within the trench and contained a single fill (608) consisting of a dark greyish brown silty clay with common small and medium sized stone inclusions and common small fragments of ceramic building material. It cut coal-rich deposit 611 and is of modern date.

6. THE FINDS (Appendix 2) by Naomi Payne

6.1 Introduction

With the exception of a small quantity of prehistoric and medieval pottery and a worked flint, all of the finds were post-medieval or undated. The finds are summarised in Appendix 2.

6.2 Prehistoric pottery

A total of five sherds (7g) of prehistoric pottery was recovered from two contexts in Trench 6. The sherds are all small and abraded body sherds from reduced dark grey/black vessels. The sherd from context 614, which is particularly abraded, contains angular white quartz temper up to 3mm in size. At least two of the sherds from context 613 are from the same vessel. The fabric contains fine mica and white quartz inclusions which has a more varied size and angularity than the sherd from fill 614. The general character of the sherds suggests a date in the Iron Age.

6.3 Medieval pottery

A total of four sherds (8g) of medieval pottery was recovered from two contexts (107-8). All are Upper Greensand derived cooking jar body sherds and date from the 11th to 14th century.

6.4 Post-medieval pottery

A total of 71 sherds (1702g) of post-medieval pottery was recovered in 11 contexts from Trenches 1, 2, 4 and 6 (Table 1). Most of the pottery has been industrially produced and therefore dates from the second half of the 18th century or later. Contexts 408, 415 and 416 are dated by finds to the 17th or 18th century. Context 415 contained sherds from at least three North Devon sgraffito dishes, which were decorated with spirals, combed wavy lines and a floral centrepiece. One of the sherds from context (604) appears to have formed part of an ornament as opposed to a vessel.

6.5 Worked flint

A single worked flint (8g) was recovered from context 614. This is a broken tertiary waste flake and is likely to be of later Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date.

6.6 Metalwork

A total of two metal objects was recovered from context 610. The first was a small, flat, machine-made strip of copper alloy, 24mm by 6mm, with a circular perforation at

each end. One end has broken across the perforation. The other metal find was a small iron nail which is likely to be modern in date.

6.7 Slag

A single piece of slag (23g) was recovered from context 610. This is undiagnostic iron working slag and it cannot be closely dated.

6.8 Glass

A total of 13 sherds (562g) of glass was recovered from four contexts in trenches 4 and 6. All are from industrially-made bottles or wine glasses, with the exception of the sherds from context 409, which are from the lower part of a single vessel – a large onion bottle dating from the late 17th or early 18th century.

Context	NDGT	NDGF	SS	Tin-glazed earthenware	Industrial	Forms
100					4	
201					1	
408		2	7	1		1 x South Somerset jug handle sherd, 2 x conjoining rim sherds from a South Somerset bowl, rim sherd from tin-glazed earthenware ointment pot
408			1			Base from large jug
414					1	
415	3	20	11			Sherds from at least 3 North Devon sgraffito dishes, 1 x South Somerset sgraffito dish rim and 1 x handle from small cup
416			5			Plain base from 15th/16th century cup
600					3	
601				2	1	2 x conjoining rim sherds from tin-glazed earthenware dish with geometric rim design
604					7	1 x fragment from china ornament
610					2	
Total	3	22	24	3	19	

KEY: NDGT – North Devon Gravel Tempered; NDGF – North Devon Gravel Free; SS – South Somerset

Table 1. Summary of post-medieval pottery by context

6.9 Clay tobacco pipe

A total of 13 fragments (98g) of post-medieval clay tobacco pipe was recovered from four contexts in trenches 1, 4 and 6. Both of the fragments from trenches 1 and 6 are stems and cannot be closely dated. Contexts 425 and 416 produced a total of three near complete bowls, which are all from plain pipes of the same form dating from c. AD1700-1770.

6.10 Building materials

A total of five fragments of modern ceramic drain pipe were recovered from surfaces 606 and 610. All but one have mortar adhering. In addition, two small pieces of

vitrified building material were recovered from context 604, whilst context 601 produced a small fragment of possible roofing slate.

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 The evaluation has shown that the 'mixed spreads' interpreted from the results of the preceding geophysical survey are not archaeological in nature. However, a small number of previously unknown archaeological features were identified and are dated to the prehistoric, medieval, post-medieval and modern periods.

7.2 Prehistoric

A ditch of possible prehistoric date (F617) was identified at the centre of Trench 6. It was sealed by a thick layer of alluvium of unknown date, but containing six sherds of prehistoric pottery of probable Iron Age date. The upper fill of ditch also contained a single sherd of Iron Age pottery, and a single worked flint of probable later Neolithic or early Bronze Age date which must be residual in this context. The ditch probably represents a field boundary of Iron Age date and may illustrate an extension of activity of this date known from excavations a short distance to the south at Hill Barton Farm.

7.3 Medieval

A ditch (F104) of probable medieval date was identified within Trench 1. A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from this feature, and three sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the overlying buried subsoil layer (108) indicating that the ditch is probably medieval or earlier in date. It was aligned NE-SW which is consistent with the orientation of field boundaries known from historic mapping and thought to have their origins in late medieval times (Devon County Council 2015).

7.4 Post-medieval

A ditch (F407) of post-medieval date was identified within Trench 4. It contained abundant post-medieval finds which were recovered from both of the fills within the feature. It was NE-SW aligned and is probably a field boundary maintaining the orientation of the field pattern established in the medieval period.

7.5 Post-medieval to modern features

The footings of a NW-SE aligned wall 410 was exposed within Trench 4, and overlay post-medieval ditch F407, indicating that it is of later post-medieval date. The wall is situated within an area in which buildings are depicted on both the Pinhoe Tithe Map of 1839, and the first and second edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey maps of 1889 and 1905. The wall appears to represent an internal wall to a long NE-SW aligned building. The area is bounded to north by an associated landscaping deposit (402) indicating that the structures here are constructed on an area specifically levelled for the purpose.

Remains of additional surfaces or structures of concrete and brick, and of late post-medieval and modern date were identified at the northwest end of Trench 4 and at the northwest end of Trench 6. Ordnance Survey mapping dating to 1932 indicates several small buildings in the area of Trench 6 which appear to be outbuildings belonging to Little Pilton located within an orchard. A posthole (F609) in this area is also of modern date.

7.6 Unknown date

Small ditches or gullies of unknown date were exposed within trenches 2 and 3, although the fill of F202 indicates that it is probably of modern date.

8. CONCLUSIONS

8.1 A small number of previously unknown archaeological features were identified and are dated from the late prehistoric through to the post-medieval and modern periods. These include a series of ditches and of former brick, stone and concrete surfaces. In addition, the foundation of a late post-medieval wall was exposed within Trench 4, located within an area formerly occupied by buildings depicted on historic maps.

8.2 A small quantity of pottery of medieval date was identified within a ditch and soil layer within Trench 1, but no structural remains associated with the medieval settlement of Pilton were present.

8.3 A layer of modern material appears to have been deposited over a large part of the development site, and there is a noticeable terrace within the area of the former buildings of Little Pilton near the eastern boundary of the site indicating that truncation has probably occurred within this area, which may have removed any evidence for a medieval settlement here.

8.4 The finds assemblage largely comprises material of post-medieval date, although a small quantity of pottery of prehistoric and medieval date was recovered, along with a single worked flint of prehistoric date. The earlier material appears to be associated with an agricultural landscape. There is poor preservation of post-medieval and modern structural remains associated with the historically recorded settlement of Little Pilton.

9. ARCHIVE AND OASIS

9.1 The finds, paper and digital archive is currently held at the offices of AC archaeology Ltd, at 4 Halthaies Workshops, near Exeter, Devon, EX5 4LQ under the unique project code of ACD1230; a Royal Albert Memorial Museum temporary reference number has been applied for. It will be held until the need for any further archaeological work on the site is established. Ultimately the finds will be offered to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and if requested by the Exeter City Council Principal Project Manager (Heritage) the paper and digital archive will be deposited at the Archaeology Data Service.

9.2 An online OASIS entry has been completed, using the unique identifier **228790**, which includes a digital copy of this report.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

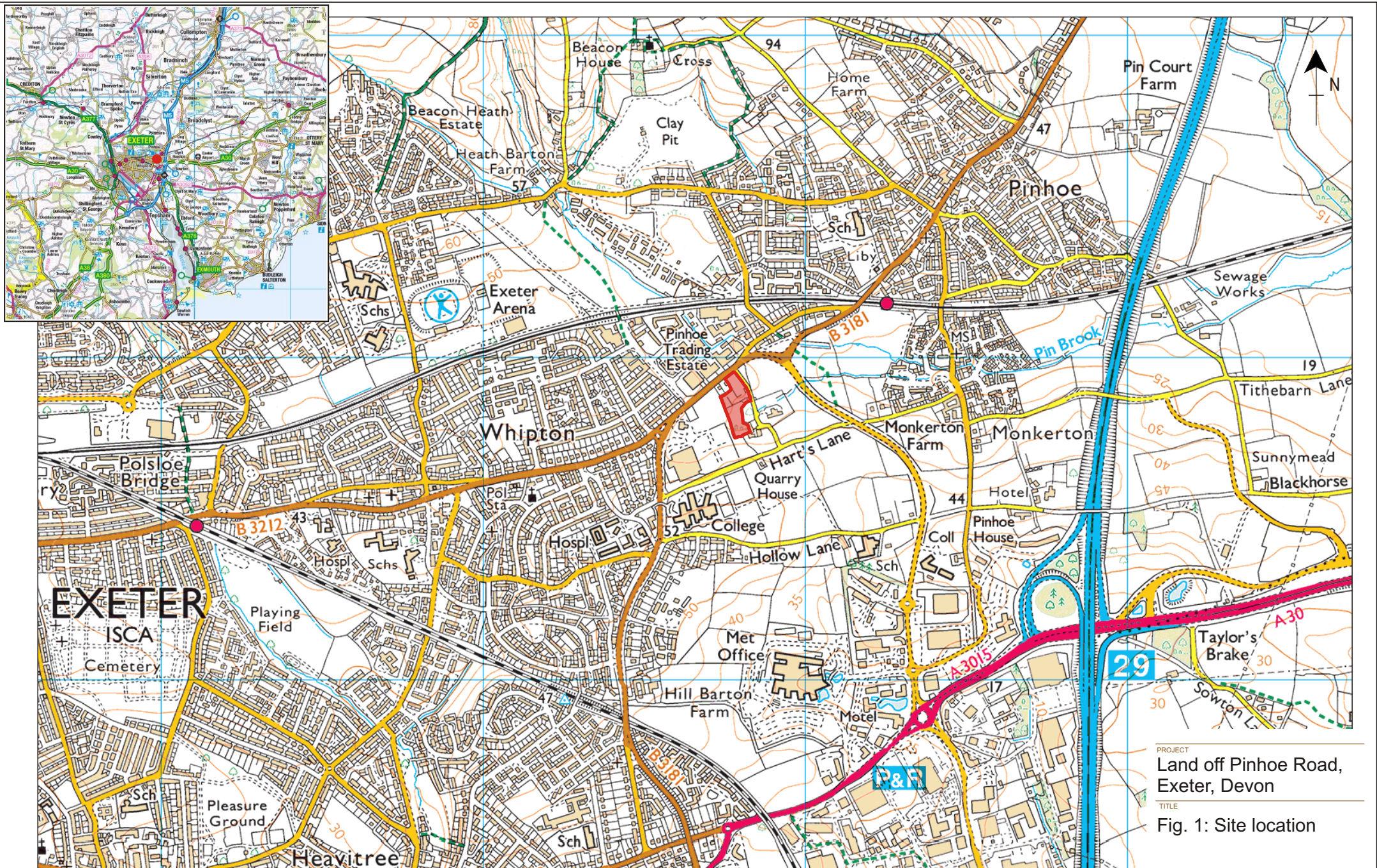
10.1 The fieldwork was commissioned by Strongvox. The site work was supervised by Fiona Pink and Ben Pears, assisted by Chris Caine, Naomi Kysh, Paul Cooke and Chris Blatchford. The report was prepared by Fiona Pink, with the illustrations prepared by Elisabeth Patkai. The collaborative role of Andrew Pye, Exeter City Council Principal Project Manager (Heritage), is duly acknowledged.

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Devon Heritage Centre
Pinhoe Tithe Map, 1839

Internet sources consulted October 2015
Old Maps Repository (www.old-maps.co.uk)

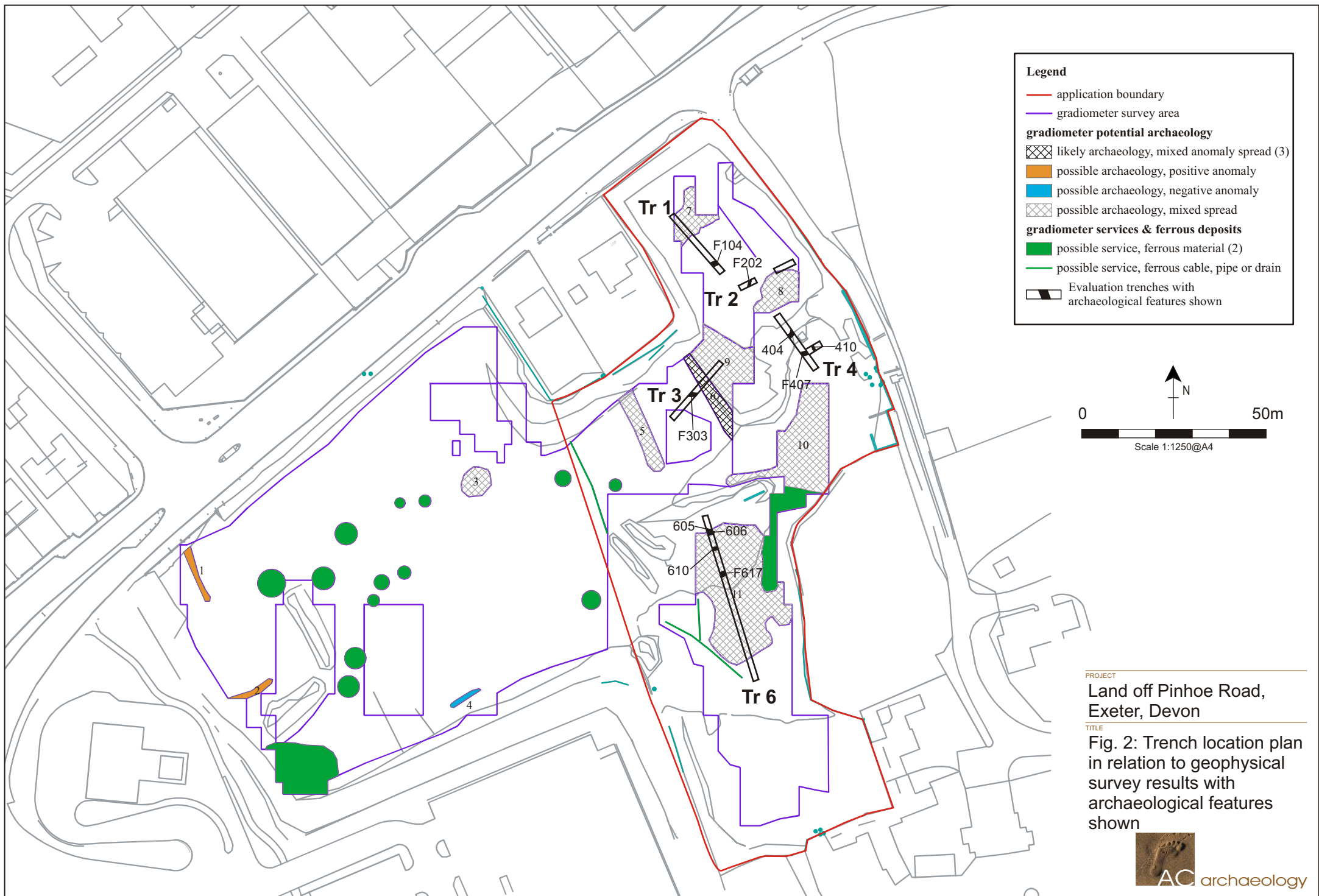


PROJECT
 Land off Pinhoe Road,
 Exeter, Devon

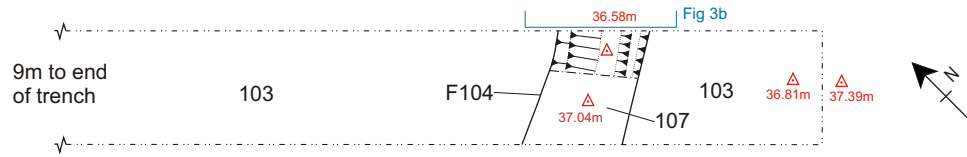
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 Fig. 1: Site location

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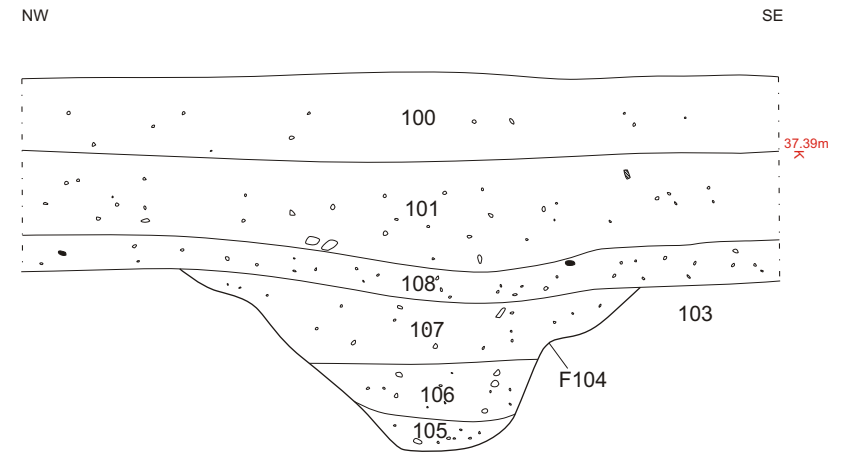




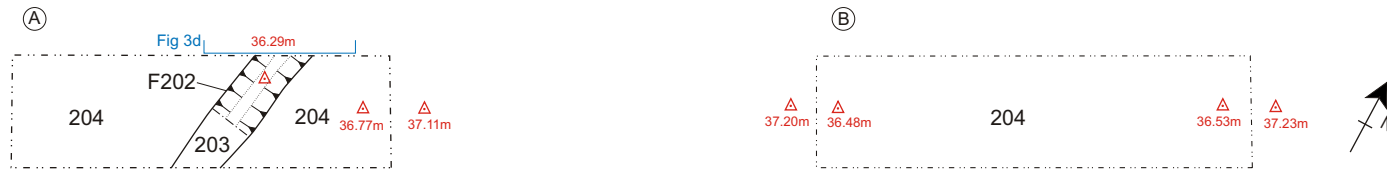
a) Trench 1, plan



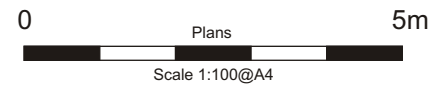
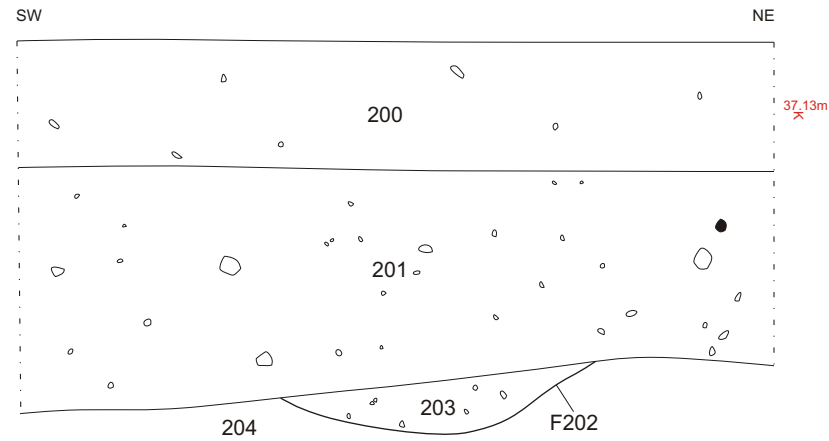
b) Section of F104



c) Trench 2, plan



d) Section of F202

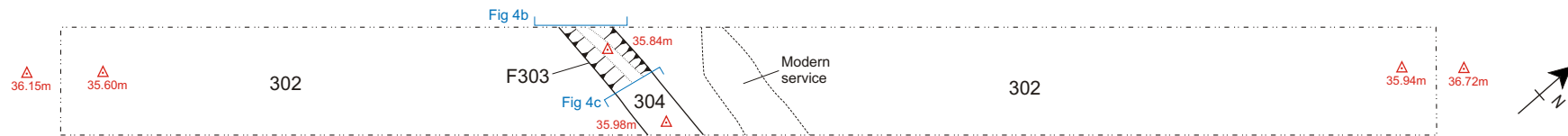


PROJECT
Land off Pinhoe Road,
Exeter, Devon

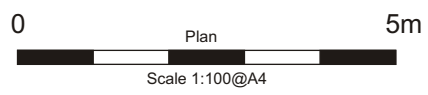
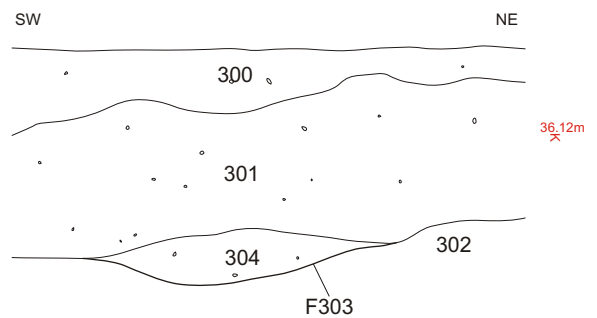
TITLE
Fig. 3: Trenches 1 and 2,
plans and sections



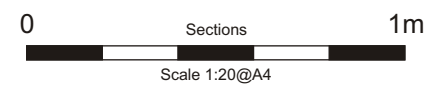
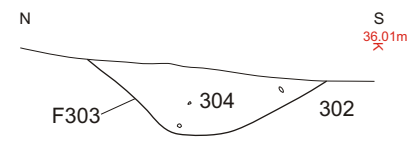
a) Trench 3, plan



b) Southeast facing section of F303



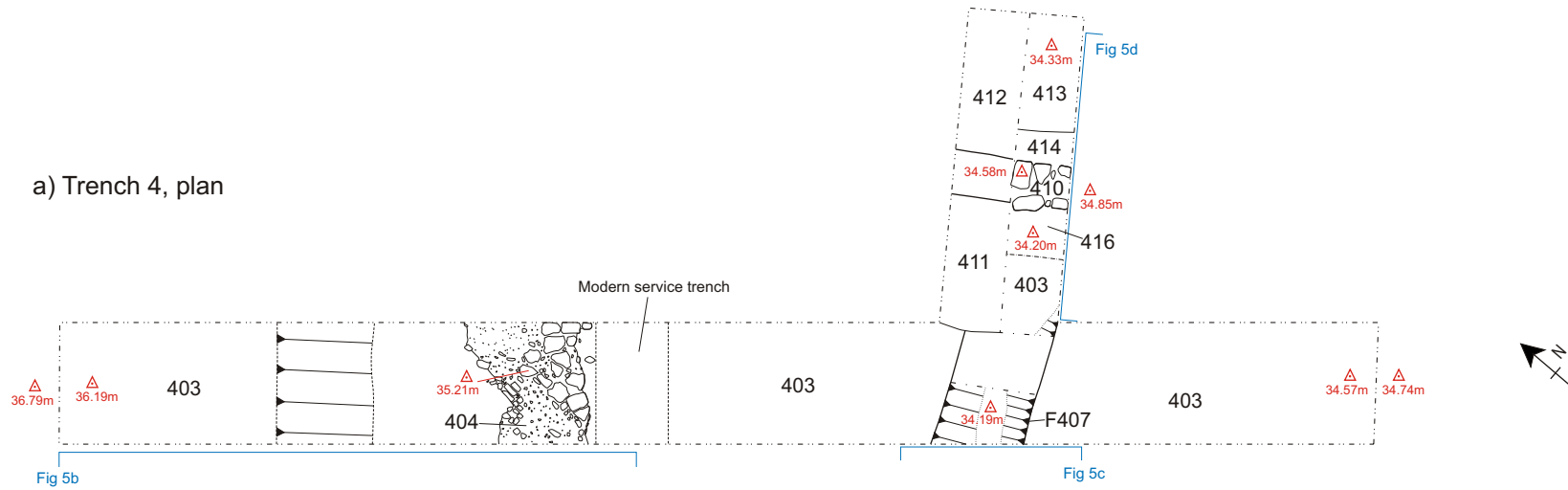
c) Northwest facing section of F303



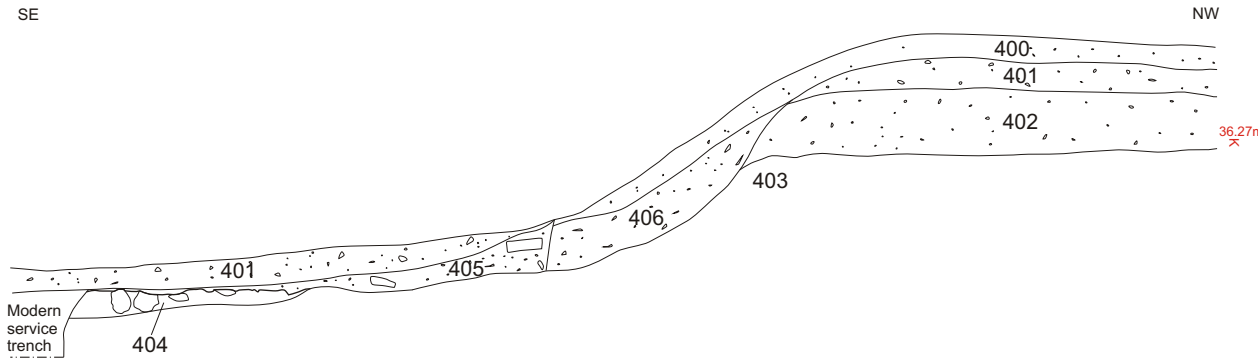
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 TITLE
**Fig. 4: Trench 3,
 plan and sections**



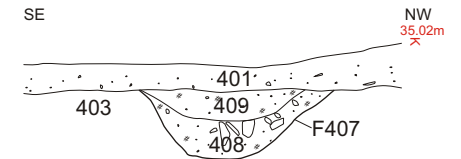
a) Trench 4, plan



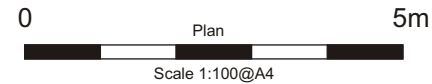
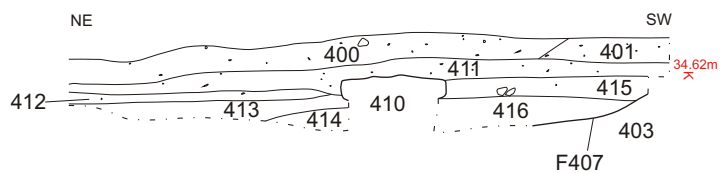
b) Section of F404



c) Section of F407



d) Section of 410 and F407



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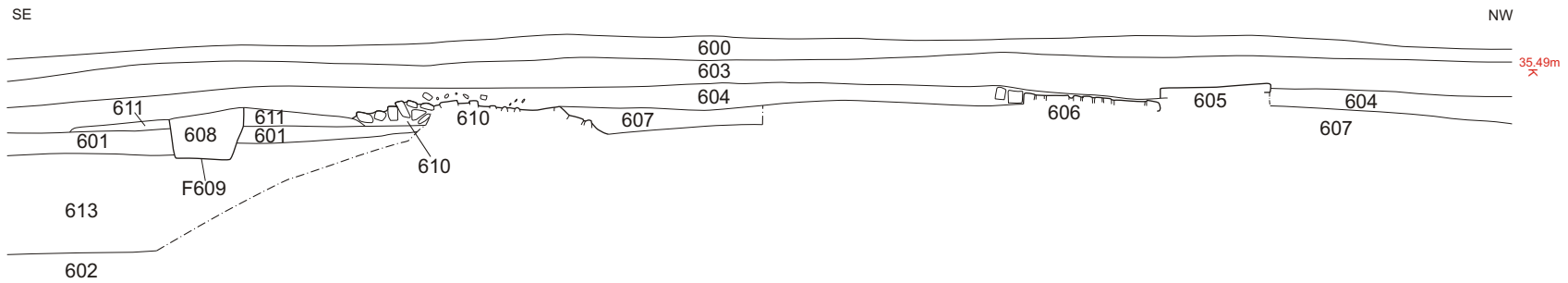
TITLE

Fig. 5: Trench 4,
plan and sections

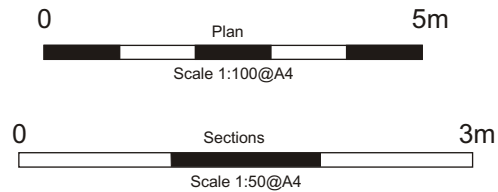
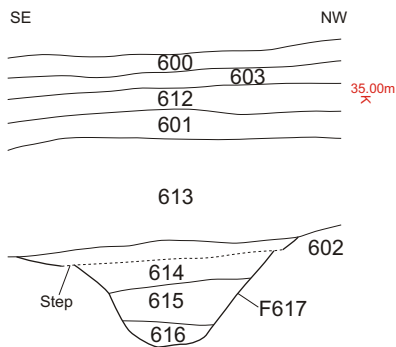
a) Trench 6, plan



b) Section of F609, 610, 606 and 605



c) Section of F617



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Fig. 6: Trench 6,
plan and sections





Plate 1: General view of site, looking south



Plate 2: Trench 1, southwest-facing section of ditch F104 (scale 1m)



Plate 3: Trench 2, north-facing section of gully F202 (scale 0.5m)



Plate 4: Trench 3, west-facing section of ditch F303 (scale 0.5m)



Plate 5: Trench 4, northeast-facing section of earthwork 402 (scale 1m)



Plate 6: Trench 4, surface 404, looking northeast (scale 1m)



Plate 7: Trench 4, northeast-facing section of ditch F407 (scale 1m)



Plate 8: Trench 4, northwest-facing section showing wall 410 (scale 1m)



Plate 9: Trench 6, northeast-facing section of ditch F617 (scale 1m)



Plate 10: Trench 6, surfaces 610, 606 and 605, looking west (scale 2m)

Appendix 1

Tabulated context descriptions by trench



APPENDIX 1: TABULATED CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS BY TRENCH

Trench 1		Length 19m	Width 1.5m	Alignment NW-SE
Context	Description	Depth (m)	Interpretation	
100	Brown friable silty loam, inclusions of modern debris, slate, CBM, coal and ceramics (not retained)	0.19-0.23	Topsoil	
101	Brown compact silty clay loam	0.22-0.29	Subsoil	
102	Pale to mid-orangey brown compact clay loam with occasional inclusions of small sub-angular stones.	0.02-0.05	Subsoil	
103	Light yellowish compact orange clay and dark brownish red breccia gravel	0.43+	Natural	
F104	NE-SW aligned linear feature measuring 1.21m wide, with a broadly symmetrical profile and top sharp break of slope, steep straight sides, and a moderate lower break of slope into a slightly concave base	0.48	Ditch	
105	Pale orangey brown compact sandy clay loam with frequent well-sorted sub-rounded gravel inclusions	0.09	Primary fill of F104	
106	Orangey brown compact silty clay with rare moderately sorted sub-angular and sub-rounded stone inclusions	0.17	Secondary fill of F104	
107	Orangey brown clay loam with rare sub-angular stone inclusions	0.25	Upper fill of F104	
108	Orangey brown silty clay loam with rare small sub-angular stone inclusions	0.11	Subsoil	

Trench 2A		Length 3.8m	Width 1.5m	Alignment ENE-WSW
Context	Description	Depth (m)	Interpretation	
200	Brown friable silty loam with inclusions of modern debris, slate and ceramic fragments (not retained)	0.17	Topsoil	
201	Orangey brown compact sandy clay loam with common small sub-angular stone inclusions and rare flecks of charcoal	0.25-0.32	Subsoil	
F202	N-S aligned linear feature measuring 0.42m wide, with a symmetrical profile and moderate top break of slope, and shallow gently sloping sides into a slightly rounded base	0.07	Gully	
203	Orangey brown silty clay loam with rare sub-angular stone inclusions.	0.07	Fill of F202	
204	Degraded breccia and sandy clay	0.42+	Natural	

Trench 2B		Length 5.8m	Width 1.5m	Alignment ENE-WSW
Context	Description	Depth (m)	Interpretation	
200	Brown friable silty loam with grey hues with inclusions of modern debris, slate and ceramic fragments (not retained)	0.20	Topsoil	
201	Orangey brown compact sandy clay loam with common small sub-angular stone inclusions and rare flecks of charcoal	0.18	Subsoil	
204	Degraded breccia and sandy clay	0.38+	Natural	
205	Orangey brown compact silty clay with occasional small fragments of slate and charcoal	0.30-0.32	Colluvium	

Trench 3		Length 20m	Width 1.5m	Alignment NE-SW
Context	Description	Depth (m)	Interpretation	
300	Mixed deposit of dark blackish brown silty clay with abundant inclusions of CBM, slate, stone and rubble (not retained)	0.12-0.36	Topsoil	
301	Mid to dark orangey brown silty clay with common small fragments of manganese	0.32-0.43	Subsoil	
302	Reddish brown and yellowish brown firm sand with abundant manganese	0.43+	Natural	
F303	E-W orientated linear feature measuring 0.80m wide, with a broadly symmetrical profile and moderate break of slope at top, moderately steep sides and a concave base	0.20	Ditch	
304	Light reddish brown friable silty clay	0.20	Fill of F303	

APPENDIX 1: TABULATED CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS BY TRENCH

Trench 4		Length 17.50m and 4.50m	Width 1.5m	Alignment NW-SE and NE-SW
Context	Description	Depth (m)	Interpretation	
400	Dark brown to dark greyish brown firm silty loam and silty clay loam with inclusions of small quartz, sandstone fragments, charcoal, coal, modern ceramics, glass and metal (not retained)	0.16-0.18	Topsoil	
401	Light pinkish red and greyish red firm silty clay	0.16-0.19	Modern disturbed deposit	
402	Light brownish grey firm silty loam with small to medium sized sandstone and quartz inclusions and common inclusions of charcoal	0.40	Earthwork dumped material	
403	Red to pinkish red compact sandy clay with medium sized inclusions of sandstone and ironstone	0.10+	Natural	
F404	Brick, concrete, stone slabs and cobbles	0.10-0.15	Surface	
405	Dark brownish black friable silty loam with small to large inclusions of sandstone, quartz and brick, and common fragments of charcoal and slag	0.05-0.30	Deposit	
406	Dark orangey brown firm sandy clay with common small stone inclusions	0.15-0.16	Slumped dumped material	
F407	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 3.40m long+ by 1.28m wide, with a symmetrical profile and sharp breaks of slope at top, steep sides, and a moderate break of slope at base into a wide rounded base	0.46	Ditch	
408	Reddish grey compact sandy clay with abundant large stones	0.14-0.25	Primary fill of F407	
409	Dark reddish brown firm clay with common small stone inclusions and flecks of charcoal	0.15-0.18	Secondary fill of F407	
F410	NW-SE aligned wall measuring 0.69m wide and composed of large sub-rounded blocks of breccia stone and bright brownish red mortar bond comprising small stones and breccia	0.15-0.20	Wall	
411	Greyish brown compact sandy clay with abundant gravel inclusions throughout	0.06-0.18	Levelling deposit	
412	Dark yellowish orange friable sand	0.05-0.06	Levelling deposit	
413	Mottled dark greyish brown with dark brownish red sandy clay and clay with abundant flecks of charcoal	0.09-0.13	Fill of F417 – same as 409 and 415	
414	Brownish grey friable sandy clay with rare small stone inclusions	0.09-0.19	Fill of F417 – same as 408 and 416	
415	Dark orangey brown firm slightly sandy clay with common medium sized stone inclusions	0.02-0.11	Fill of F417 – same as 409 and 413	
416	Greyish brown friable sandy clay with occasional small stone inclusions and a dense concentration of stones within the upper part of the deposit	0.09-0.21	Fill of F417 – same as 408 and 414	
F417	Linear feature – same as F407	Unknown	Ditch	

Trench 5 – Not Excavated

Trench 6		Length 45m	Width 1.5m	Alignment NW-SE
Context	Description	Depth (m)	Interpretation	
600	Dark reddish-brown compact silty-loam with occasional small inclusions of sub-rounded stones	0.11-0.22	Topsoil	
601	Brownish red friable silty clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones and sandstone	0.16-0.19	Subsoil	
602	Mid to light red friable sandy clay with common sub-rounded stone inclusions	0.27+	Natural	
603	Mid to light red friable sandy clay with common sub-rounded stone inclusions and occasional inclusions of construction rubble	0.09-0.13	Re-deposited natural and rubble	
604	Dark blackish brown loose loamy sand with abundant poorly sorted fine gravel and sub-angular stones	0.12-0.18	Demolition rubble	
605	Concrete	0.06	Surface	
606	Brick	0.08	Brick surface	

APPENDIX 1: TABULATED CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS BY TRENCH

607	Dark greyish green loose loamy sand with rare sub-angular stone inclusions	0.13-0.18	Sand
608	Dark greyish brown friable silty clay with common small and medium sized stone inclusions and common small fragments of CBM	0.29-0.38	Fill of F609
F609	Sub-square cut feature measuring 0.50m wide by 0.38m deep, with vertical to very straight edges and a flat base	0.29-0.38	Modern posthole
610	Compact layer of medium and large rounded and sub-rounded cobbles with complete blocks and fragments of red brick	Unknown	Cobble surface
611	Dark blackish grey friable sandy silt with abundant fragments of coal throughout	0.05-0.12	Levelling deposit
612	Dark reddish brown firm silty loam with occasional gravel and small sub-rounded stone inclusions	0.14	Buried topsoil
613	Pale greyish brown friable sandy clay with abundant flecks of manganese	0.58-0.66	Alluvial deposit
614	Dark reddish brown friable slightly sandy clay	0.28-0.33	Upper fill of F617
615	Orangey brown compact sandy clay	0.20-0.29	Middle fill of F617
616	Greyish brown sticky sandy clay with abundant fragments of manganese	0.11-0.16	Lower fill of F617
F617	E-W aligned linear feature measuring 1.30m wide by 0.57m deep, with a sharp top break of slope, a moderate lower break of slope, and a slightly rounded base	0.70-0.73	Ditch

Appendix 2

Summary of finds by context

Appendix 2: Summary of finds by context (weight in grams)

Context	Context Description	Metalwork		Slag		Worked flint/ chert		Slate		Glass		Clay tobacco pipe		CBM		Vitrified building material		Prehistoric pottery		Medieval pottery		Post-medieval pottery	
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
100	Topsoil																					4	37
101	Subsoil											1	3										
107	Upper fill of ditch F104																			1	2		
108	Soil layer																			3	6		
201	Subsoil																					1	3
408	Primary fill of ditch F407																					11	433
409	Upper fill of ditch F407									6	453												
414	Primary of ditch F417																					1	3
415	Secondary fill of ditch F417											8	57									34	869
416	Primary fill of ditch F417											3	36									5	210
600	Topsoil																					3	37
601	Subsoil							1	26													3	28
604	Demolition rubble									3	60	1	2			2	11					7	55
606	Brick surface									2	16			4	23								
610	Cobble surface	2	4	1	23					2	33			1	11							2	27
613	Alluvium																	4	6				
614	Upper fill of ditch F617					1	8											1	1				
Total		2	4	1	23	1	8	1	26	13	562	13	98	5	34	2	11	5	7	4	8	71	1702

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