

# LAND AT DAINTON CROSS, MARLDON ROAD, IPPLEPEN, DEVON

NGR SX 84954 66430

## Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

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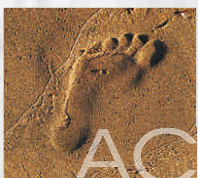
Prepared by:  
Elisabeth Patkai

With a contribution from:  
Naomi Payne

On behalf of:  
Mr Ranjit

Report No: ACD1307/2/0

Date: April 2016



AC archaeology

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# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Ipplepen, Teignbridge District Council	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SX 84954 66430	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Land at Dainton Cross, Marldon Road, Ipplepen: Results of archaeological monitoring and recording		<b>Photo attached?</b> Plates 1-2
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 16/00490/FUL	<b>Recipient museum:</b> RAMM, Exeter	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 239605	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> RAMM 16/12	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> ACD1307	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 17.03.2016	
<p><b>Introduction</b>          Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by AC archaeology during the groundworks for a new agricultural building on land at Dainton Cross, Marldon Road, near Ipplepen (SX 84954 66430).</p> <p>The site lay 0.5km to the southeast of Ipplepen and to the south of Marldon Road on the southwest side of Dainton Cross (Fig. 1). It comprised the west portion of a wider rectangular pasture plot also occupied by existing agricultural buildings. The site was positioned on flat ground at 88m aOD (above Ordnance Datum), with the underlying solid geology comprising mudstone, siltstone, limestone and sandstone of the Nordon Formation (British Geological Survey Online Viewer).</p> <p>Adjacent to the site lay an extensive area of Iron Age and Romano-British settlement, which extends to the west and north of Dainton Cross and has been identified by geophysical survey, trial trenches and ongoing excavations led by Exeter University. Here, evidence for enclosures, a trackway and cemetery have been so far recorded with an occupational date range of between the 1st to 2nd centuries BC until the 8th century AD. Further investigations carried out ahead of the construction of agricultural buildings immediately to the west of Dainton Cross exposed a large pit dated to the Romano-British period and thought to represent possible slate extraction.</p> <p><b>Description of works</b> (Fig. 1; Plates 1 and 2)          An area of approximately 27m by 18m was stripped using a tracked machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket. Natural subsoil (context 102) was exposed at a depth of 0.4m below existing levels and was comprised of a weathered limestone in a silty-clay matrix. This was overlain by mid yellowish-brown sandy-clay subsoil (101) and topsoil (100). The southwest portion of the site comprised an existing open terrace associated with the adjacent agricultural building. A single possible ditch terminal or pit (F103) was exposed within the stripped area.</p> <p>Possible ditch terminal or pit F103 had been truncated to the northwest by the later terracing of the site. It measured 3.9m long, 2.10m wide and 0.28m deep with moderately-steep concave sides and an uneven base. The ditch or pit contained two fills (104 and 105). The lower fill (104) comprised an organic-rich dark brown silt that was overlain by 105, which consisted of a mid greyish-brown clayey-loam.</p> <p><b>Finds</b> by Naomi Payne          The upper fill (105) of F103 produced four fragments (362g) of undiagnostic ironworking slag, a small and featureless lump of heat-affected clay (11g) and a single fragment (58g) of ceramic building material. This is a fragment of a flat tile, 20mm thick, with no original edges. The tile is reasonably soft and the fabric would not be out of place in a Roman context. It is however typologically undiagnostic.</p> <p><b>Comments</b>          The truncated ditch terminal or pit could have represented a Roman feature and therefore a continuation of the activity recorded to the west. However, the presence of loose partially-degraded organic material within the basal fill of the feature, whilst in an aerobic and well-drained environment, would suggest that it was likely to have been of a more-recent date, thereby making the possible Roman tile-fragment residual in its context.</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> Elisabeth Patkai, AC archaeology	<b>Date sent to HER:</b> April 2016	

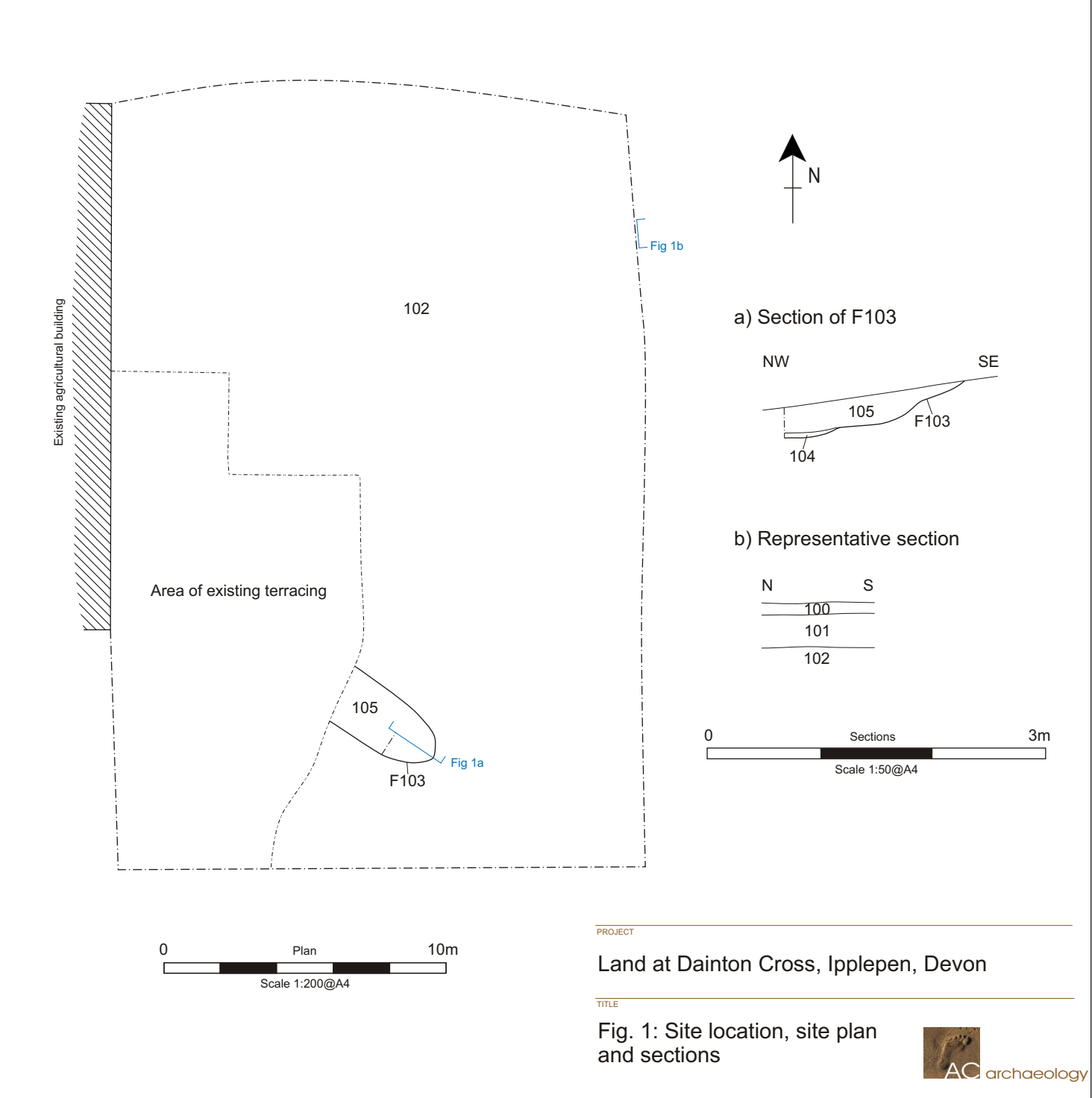
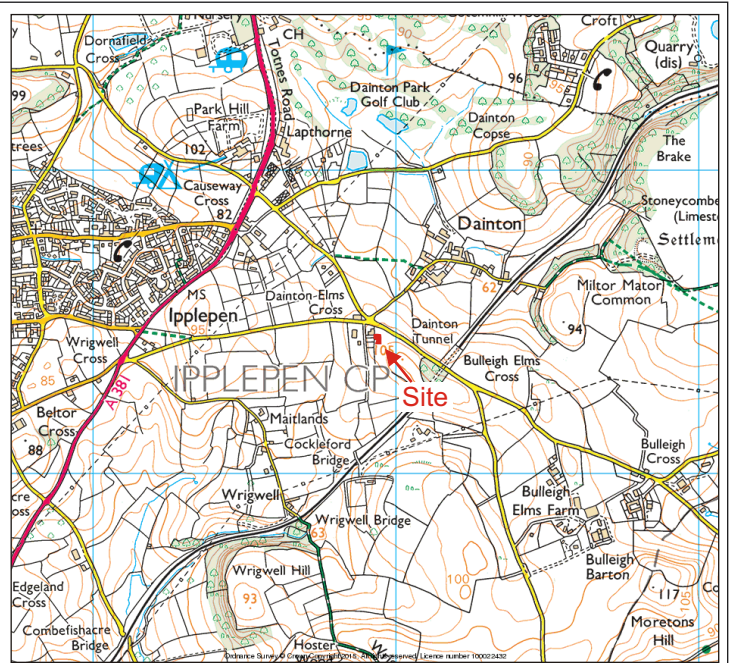
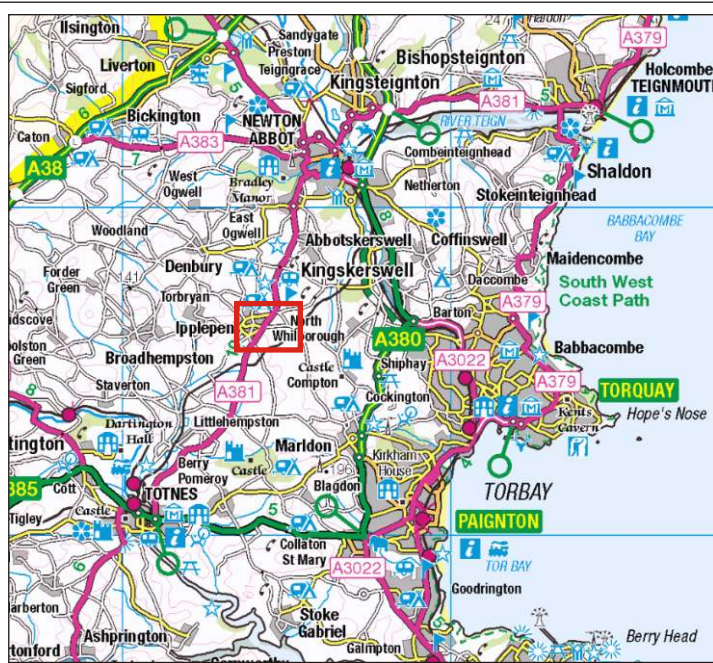




Plate 1: View of the stripped area, looking north (scale 2m)



Plate 2: Ditch terminal or pit F103, view to the southeast (scale 1m)

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