

# LAND AT WEST FISHLEIGH FARM, HATHERLEIGH, DEVON

NGR SS 53995 05245 to SS 53852 05665

Report on an Archaeological Watching Brief and  
Excavation

West Devon District Council Planning Reference:  
00774/2014

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On behalf of:  
Devon County Council

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AC archaeology

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## Summary

*Archaeological monitoring and recording carried out during groundworks associated with the construction of a section of the Tarka Trail cycleway on land at West Fishleigh Farm, Hatherleigh, Devon (NGR SS 53995 05245 to SS 53852 05665), was carried out by AC archaeology between December 2014 and January 2015. The route of the cycleway lay in close proximity to West Fishleigh Farm, which occupies the site of a medieval manor house listed in the Domesday Book.*

*The archaeological investigations recorded the presence of medieval activity to the west of West Fishleigh Farm. This consisted of a repeatedly re-cut boundary ditch and the site of a possible post structure that were likely to have been contemporary with the medieval manor estate. While the activity was primarily dated to the 12th to 15th centuries, residual finds dating from the 11th to 12th century AD suggested the presence of earlier occupation of the area. This earlier date was broadly consistent with the listing of the farm as Fishleigh Manor in the Domesday Book of 1086.*

*A series of ditches relating to post-medieval field boundaries were also exposed and a section through a late medieval to post-medieval upstanding hedgebank was recorded as part of the works.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document sets out the results of archaeological monitoring and recording carried out during the construction of a section of The National Cycle Network: Tarka Trail on land at West Fishleigh Farm, Hatherleigh, Devon (NGR SS 53995 05245 to SS 53852 05665). The work was required as a condition of planning consent granted by West Devon District Council (ref. 00774/2014), following consultation with Devon County Council Historic Environment Team.
- 1.2 The archaeological works were commissioned Devon County Council and were carried out by AC archaeology during December 2014 and January 2015.
- 1.3 The site lies 900m north of Hatherleigh Town centre and on land to the southwest of West Fishleigh Farm, adjacent to the current A386 road (Fig.1). This section of the Tarka Trail crossed through three pasture fields; extending between the A386 to the southeast and a farm track to the north of West Fishleigh Farm. The route sloped gently down from more elevated ground to the north and south at around 80m aOD (above Ordnance Datum) towards a small stream that bisected the site. Its underlying solid geology comprised mudstone and siltstone of the Ashton Mudstone Member and Crackington Formations (British Geological Survey Online Viewer).

## 2. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The principal archaeological interest in the cycleway route was its close proximity to the site of a medieval manor house at West Fishleigh Farm (Devon County Historic Environment Record number MDV11923). This was named in the Domesday Book as 'Fislegh' and later was part of the Tavistock Abbey estate until the dissolution. There are no surviving features of the manor house, with the current farmhouse being of modern origin. However, to the northeast of the farmhouse is a Grade II listed probable 17th century barn comprised of cob walls and a hipped thatched roof (Heritage List for England number 1165160).

**2.2** The first and second-edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey Maps of 1884 and 1906 show that the route crosses historically agricultural land, which for the southern field was formally comprised of three plots. A line of three extant trees within the current wider plot are positioned on the line of the one of the former boundaries, while a kink in the boundary to the west corresponds with the location of the second.

### **3. AIMS**

**3.1** The aim of the monitoring and recording was to preserve by record any archaeological features or deposits exposed during groundworks associated with the project, with particular reference for the potential for medieval remains to be present on the site.

### **4. METHODOLOGY: MONITORING**

**4.1** The work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AC archaeology (Hughes 2014), submitted to and approved by the Devon Historic Environment Team prior to commencement. It comprised the monitoring of three targeted areas identified by the Devon County Council Historic Environment Team to be of higher archaeological potential (Figs 2 and 3). These comprised the north section of the scheme close to West Fishleigh Farm (Area 1), the point where it crossed the stream at its midpoint (Area 2) and a hedgebank breach towards the south of the route (Area 3).

**4.2** Topsoil stripping within the three targeted areas was carried out using a tracked 360° machine fitted with a toothless bucket. The groundwork excavations were directly supervised by the attending archaeologist. Following the initial overburden removal the area was cleaned by hand where necessary to clearly identify archaeological features and deposits.

**4.3** All features and deposits exposed 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 and plans were produced at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate.

### **5. RESULTS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

The monitoring recorded archaeological features and deposits within the Area 1 at the north end of the scheme that lay adjacent to West Fishleigh Farm and within Area 3 comprising the hedgebank breach towards the south. These are described in detail below. No archaeological features or deposits were exposed in Area 2.

#### **5.2 Area 1 (Plans Figs 2, 4 and 5, Sections Figs 6-8 and Plates 1-7)**

##### **5.2.1 Introduction**

Archaeological features and deposits that were exposed throughout Area 1 have been dated to the medieval and post medieval period. Undated features have been attributed to either of these two phases based on their character, fill type and location.

Natural subsoil (context 120) was present at a depth of between 0.23m and 0.48m below existing levels and consisted of a light yellowish-grey clay with occasional gravel inclusions. The overlying deposits consisted of a light grey silty-clay loam

colluvial layer (119), which was a maximum of 0.1m thick and localised to the middle portion of the site. This was overlain by a mid greyish-brown silty-clay loam subsoil (118) and a mid greyish-brown silty-clay loam topsoil (117).

## 5.2.2 Medieval features

### ***Intercutting ditch sequence F135, F229, F223, F242, F130, F226, F124, F127, F138 and F142 and ditch terminal or pit F234***

This sequence of ten ditches and one pit or ditch terminal were located towards the north portion of Area 1. Two further pits (F213 and F249) also formed part of this sequence but have been dated to the post-medieval period and are detailed below. The earliest in the sequence were ditches F135, F229 and F223 that were cut into the natural subsoil. Ditches F135 and F229 were overlain by two 0.2m thick probable buried soil layers (231 and 137), which consisted of mid grey to dark grey silty-clay loams. To the west of these (and separated by later ditches) were two similar probable buried soil layers (122 and 123). Eighteen sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from these layers.

#### *Ditch F135*

North to south aligned ditch F135 was cut into the natural subsoil was truncated by later ditch F138. It measured at least 0.6m wide and 0.11m deep with a shallow concave profile. The ditch contained a mid yellowish-grey silty-clay loam fill (136). No finds were recovered.

#### *Ditch F229*

Ditch F229 was aligned ENE to WSW and represented a potential continuation of ditch F135 to the north. It measured 0.95m wide and 0.21m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a light yellowish-brown silty-clay fill (230) from which no finds were recovered.

#### *Ditch F223*

Angled ditch F223 was located on the southern edge of the intercutting ditch sequence and was cut by ditch F242. It measured 0.48m wide and 0.07m deep with gradually-sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a light grey silty-clay fill (222). No finds were recovered from ditch F223.

#### *Ditch F242*

Ditch F242 was aligned ENE to WSW east-northeast west-southwest and measured 1.88m wide and 0.27m deep with a gradual-sided concave profile. It contained a light grey silty-clay loam (243) with manganese staining and mineralisation throughout. Nine sherds of medieval pottery were recovered.

#### *Ditch F130*

Ditch F130 was truncated across the top by later ditches F138 and F142. It measured approximately 1.85m wide and 0.7m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained two fills; a light yellowish-grey silty-clay basal fill (131), which was overlain by a mid grey silty-clay loam (132). Five sherds of medieval pottery was recovered from upper fill 132.

#### *Ditch F226*

This ditch was east to west aligned and probably represented a continuation of ditch F130 described above. In this location it measured at least 1.08m wide and 0.32m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a fill sequence consistent with F130 with this comprising a light yellowish-grey silty-clay

basal fill (227), which was overlain by a mid grey silty-clay loam (228). No finds were recovered.

#### Ditch terminus or pit F234

This feature extended 0.65m into the monitored area from the northeast. It cut ditch F226 to the northwest and measured 1.08m wide and 0.25m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch terminus or pit contained a dark grey silty-clay loam basal fill (235), which was overlain by a dumped light yellowish-red clay (236). No finds were recovered.

#### *Ditch F124*

Curving ditch F124 cut ditch terminal or pit F234, ditch F242 and buried soil 123. It measured 2.2m wide and 0.7m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a base that was concave to the north and flat to the east. To the north it contained a light yellowish-brown silty-clay (125), which was overlain by a mid greyish-brown silty-clay loam (126); while to the east it contained a wet-lain basal deposit of mid grey silty-clay (239) which was overlain by light to mid grey silty-clay loams (240/238 and 241). A total of 19 sherds of medieval pottery was recovered from ditch F124.

#### *Ditch F127*

Ditch F127 represented a re-cut along the line of ditch F124. It measured between 1.76m and 1.15m wide with moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base to the east, while to the north it had a gradual west side. The ditch contained two fills that consisted of a mid brownish-grey silty-clay loam basal fill (128/245), which was overlain by a mid grey to mid brownish-grey silty-clay loam (129/246). Two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered.

#### *Ditch F138*

Curving ditch F138 truncated earlier ditches F130, F226 and F124. It measured approximately 1.2m wide and between 0.2m and 0.44m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flattish base. To the north it contained two dark grey silty-clay loam accumulation fills (139 and 140), which was overlain by a dump of light yellow clay (141); while to the east it contained a single dark grey silty-clay loam (233). A total of four sherds of medieval pottery was recovered from the ditch.

#### Ditch F142

This ditch represented the final in the sequence. It extended south into a sub-squared terminal and measured a maximum of 1.95m wide and 0.46m deep with steeply-sloping sides and an irregular flattish base. The ditch contained a dark grey sandy-loam basal fill that had abundant grit inclusions (143). This was overlain by a dark grey silty-clay loam (144) and a mid brownish-grey silty-loam (147). Four sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from upper fill 147.

#### ***Ditches F171, F253, F254 and F255 and pits and postholes F161, F165, F169, F173, F175, F185, F188, F208, F210, F214 and F216***

This concentration of features was located towards the south of Area 1. These were cut into the natural subsoil and were sealed by subsoil 118.

#### *Ditch F171*

Ditch F171 extended approximately south into a rounded terminal. It measured 0.2m wide and 0.04m deep with a shallow concave profile. The ditch contained a light grey clayey-loam fill (172) from which one sherd of medieval pottery was recovered.

#### *Ditch F253*

Curving ditch F253 measured 6.5m long and a maximum of 0.8m wide with rounded terminals at each end. Three segments were excavated into the feature (167, 181 and 183), which exposed it to measure a maximum of 0.13m deep with a shallow concave profile. It contained a consistent light grey clayey-loam fill (168, 182 and 184). One sherd of medieval pottery and a residual prehistoric worked flint were recovered from ditch F253.

#### *Ditch F254*

This slightly curving short ditch extended approximately east to west between the terminals of ditches F171 and F253 and measured 4m long and 0.37m wide. Two segments (179 and 191) were excavated into the feature which exposed it to have a shallow concave profile that measured a maximum of 0.08m deep. It contained a light grey clayey-loam fill (180 and 192) from which four sherds of medieval pottery was recovered.

#### *Ditch F255*

Ditch F255 measured 0.29m wide and extended approximately south into a rounded terminal. Two segments (155 and 163) were excavated into the feature, which exposed it to have a shallow concave profile that was a maximum of 0.06m deep. It contained a light grey clayey-loam fill (156 and 163) from which six sherds of medieval pottery were recovered.

#### *Probable postholes F161, F165, F169, F173, F175, F185, F188, F208 F210 F214 and F221*

This group of probable postholes were round to oval-shaped in plan measuring between 0.4 and 0.55m across and between 0.05m and 0.19m deep with steep to moderately-steep sloping sides and flattish bases. For postholes F188, F185, F161, F165 and F169 the bases contained additional possible stakehole impressions. The postholes contained light to mid brownish-grey silty-clay to silty-clay loam fills (162, 166, 170, 174, 176, 186, 187, 189, 190, 209, 211, 215 and 222). One sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from posthole F169 and one further sherd from F208.

#### *Pit F216*

Oval pit F216 measured 0.75m long, 0.72m wide and 0.24m deep with moderately-steeply-sloping sides and a base made irregular by root intrusion. It contained a mid brownish-grey silty-clay loam fill (217) which was undated.

### **5.2.3 Post-medieval features**

#### *Hollow F200 and ditches F195 and F197*

These features were located at the northwest end of Area 1. Linear hollow F200 measured a maximum of 2.5m wide and 0.33m deep with gradually sloping sides and an undulating base. It contained a basal deposit of tightly-packed angular mudstone rubble forming a possible rough surface in a mid brownish-grey silty-clay matrix (199). This was overlain by an accumulation of mid brownish-grey silty-clay (198). A total of two fragments of post-medieval tile as well as 33 sherds of medieval pottery and a prehistoric worked flint were recovered from deposit 198.

Ditch F195 measured 0.54m wide by 0.18m deep with steep to moderately-steep sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two mid reddish-grey to mid yellowish-grey silty-clay fills (194 and 193). Three sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from upper fill 193.

Linear hollow F200 and ditch F195 were cut by ditch F197. This measured 1.2m wide and 0.28m deep with steeply-sloping sides and an irregular base. It contained a mid greyish-brown silty-clay loam fill that had common small to large sub-angular stone inclusions. No finds were recovered.

*Possible pits F213 and F249*

These features were cut into the medieval intercutting ditch sequence. Sub-round possible pit F213 measured 1.15m across and 0.1m deep with irregular gradually-sloping sides and a concave base. It contained a dark brownish-grey silty-clay loam fill (212). One sherd of post-medieval pottery and seven sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from fill 212.

Possible pit F249 measured 0.7m wide and 0.53m deep with steep to vertical sides and a concave base. It cut through a sequence of two dark brownish-grey to mid grey probable buried soil layers (247 and 248) from which six sherds of post-medieval pottery was recovered. The pit contained three mid grey silty-clay to silty-clay loam fills (250, 251 and 252) from which no finds were recovered.

*Ditches F148 and F150 and postholes F221 and F218*

North to south aligned parallel ditches F148 and F150 were located in the central section of Area 1 and cut through a mid greyish-brown silty-clay loam possible buried soil layer (152) that contained frequent small to medium sub-angular mudstone inclusions. A total of 8 sherds of medieval pottery was recovered from layer 152.

Ditch F148 measured 1.61m wide and 0.31m deep and a moderately-steep stepped and flat-based profile suggesting that it may have been re-cut. It contained a dark brownish-grey silty-clay loam fill (149) from which thirteen 19th century iron objects and four sherds of medieval pottery were recovered.

Ditch F150 was 1m wide and 0.06m deep with gradually-sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a dark brownish grey silty-clay loam fill (151) from which one sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered.

Ditch F150 was cut by posthole F218. This measured 0.48m across and 0.37m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a dark greyish-brown silty-clay loam fill (219). One sherd of post-medieval pottery and two sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from fill 219.

*Ditches F159, F177, F157 and posthole F202*

These features consisted of two parallel east to west aligned ditches (F159 and F177) either side of posthole F202 and a ditch re-cut (F157) that were located at the southern extent of Area 1.

Ditch F159 measured 2.3m wide and 0.43m deep with a gradual south side and a moderately-steep north side. It contained two light grey to light greyish-brown silty-clay fills (206 and 160). Finds recovered from ditch F159 included one sherd of post-medieval pottery and a clay tobacco pipe stem fragment.

Ditch F177 measured 0.58m wide and 0.39m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base. It contained two mid grey to dark greyish-brown silty-clay fills (207 and 178). No finds were recovered.

Ditch re-cut F157 extended along the line of ditch F177 and was cut through subsoil layer 118. It measured 0.75m wide and 0.33m deep with gradually-sloping sides



and a flat base. It contained a dark brownish-grey silty-clay loam fill (158) from which a 19th century iron object was recovered.

Posthole F202 measured 0.4m in diameter and 0.38m deep with steep to vertical sides and a concave base. It contained a vertical mid-brownish-grey clayey-loam deposit (205) that represented the probable location of the former post. The posthole was backfilled with a light greyish-yellow clay re-deposited natural subsoil packing (203). A fragment from a 17th to 18th century bottle was recovered from fill 205.

### **5.3 Area 3** (Section Fig. 8g and Plate 8)

Area 3, which comprised the breaching of the northwest to southeast aligned historic hedgerow, exposed a sequence of bank deposits (108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115 and 116) and a partially-exposed associated ditch (F106). The bank measured a total of 1.38m high and overlay two buried soil layers (104 and 105) that sealed the natural subsoil (120). The buried soils consisted of a light yellowish-grey clayey-loam and a light brown silty-clay loam respectively. No finds were recovered from these layers.

Ditch F106 measured 0.73m wide and had a moderately-steep northeast side. It contained a light greyish-brown silty-clay fill (107).

Layer 108, which sealed buried soil 105, represented the lowest bank deposit and comprised a light to mid yellowish-brown clayey-loam. This was overlain by layers 109 and 110 that comprised redeposited natural subsoil and light brown silty-clay loam slumped bank deposits.

Upper bank deposits 111, 112 and 113 consisted of light yellowish-brown to yellowish-grey clayey-loams that were overlain by mid brownish-grey, greyish-brown and yellowish-grey heavily root-disturbed upper growing horizon and accumulated soils (114, 115 and 116). No finds were recovered from the hedgebank deposits.

## **6. THE FINDS** by *John Allan and Charlotte Coles*

### **6.1 Introduction**

All finds recovered during the archaeological monitoring 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 included a moderate assemblage of medieval pottery, a smaller quantity of post-medieval pottery, iron, ceramic building material, glass and clay tobacco-pipe. A single piece of worked flint was also recovered. The finds are summarised in Appendix 1, Table 1.

### **6.2 Medieval and post-medieval pottery**

A total of 148 sherds (964g) of medieval and post-medieval pottery were recovered from 29 contexts. The pottery is summarised in Appendix 1, Table 2.

Two conjoining body sherds of Upper Greensand Derived (UGSD) coarse ware were recovered from context 180, fill of ditch F254. The internal surface of these sherds is oxidised, so they are likely to be of 11th or 12th century date. Their presence here suggests that the earliest phase of settlement on the site was before c AD1200.

The bulk of the collection consists of North Devon Medieval Coarseware (NDMC) which unfortunately had a very long production life, from AD 1200 to the mid-15th century. The collection consists of entirely unglazed material and the forms of most sherds cannot be established but there are examples of jars/cooking pots with applied strips along the bottom of the rim and on the body, as seen in the material from Okehampton and Launceston Castles. Hitherto, the origin of this material has appeared to be the Barnstaple/Bideford area, but a recent study by Roger Taylor (forthcoming) of a similar collection from Roadford has cast doubt on this. He believes a production centre on the northern margin of Dartmoor is indicated by the petrology.

The 22 sherds of post-medieval pottery included eight sherds of North Devon Gravel Free (NDGF) ware, including sherds from a jug and a jar, and six sherds of North Devon Gravel Tempered (NDGT), including sherds from a chamber pot and jar. This material dates from the 16th to the 18th century. Later material consisted of a sherd of post-1770 creamware, six sherds of 19th century Staffordshire white ware from context 248 and a single sherd of 19th-20th century industrially-produced earthenware from subsoil (118).

### **6.3 Iron**

Seventeen iron objects (452g) were recovered from three contexts. They include two horseshoes, a small length of chain, a small bar or latch, three nails and several other unidentifiable pieces. They are all 19th century in date.

### **6.4 Worked flint**

A single piece of worked flint (1g) was recovered from context 198. This is the end of a blade of Neolithic date in a dark grey mottled flint.

### **6.5 Other finds**

The base of an English green glass bottle (464g), dating from 1680-1740, was recovered from context 205. Two pieces (54g) of ceramic building material were recovered from context 198 including a very worn piece of un-datable ridge tile, possibly from North Devon, and a piece of 19th-20th century tile. A small, featureless piece of fired clay (4g) and a clay tobacco-pipe stem (2g) were also recovered from context 160. These cannot be closely dated. A tiny piece (1g) of coal, again not closely datable, was retrieved from context 149.

## **7. DISCUSSION**

**7.1** Archaeological monitoring and recording carried out during the construction of the Tarka Trail cycleway at West Fishleigh Farm exposed archaeological features dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods as well as showing the composition of an upstanding historic hedgebank boundary. In addition to the medieval and post-medieval activity, a residual prehistoric worked flint was recovered suggesting a background of possible Neolithic activity in the area.

### **7.2 Medieval**

The date range for the medieval activity exposed in Area 1 has been extends between the 13th to 15th centuries. However, the inclusion of pre-AD1200 pottery within the assemblage, which albeit residual, suggests an earlier occupational range.

- 7.3** Two concentrations of medieval activity were exposed, with these consisting of the intercutting ditch sequence exposed towards the north of Area 1 and the series of narrow ditches and postholes present towards the south.
- 7.4** A total of seven phases are likely to have made up the intercutting ditch sequence, with F135 and F229 probably representing parts of the same feature, which was also perhaps the case for F130 and F226. These features are likely to represent the repeated re-establishment of the corner of an enclosure boundary, the location of which corresponds just to the east of the position of a former boundary depicted on the 1839 Hatherleigh parish tithe map, the 1884 First-Edition Ordnance Survey Map, and subsequent editions into the late 20th century (Fig. 9).
- 7.5** The series of small ditches and postholes exposed towards the south of Area 1 represent activity that was external to the plot enclosed by the intercutting ditch sequence. The function these features was not clear. However, despite the lack of a clear arrangement to these within the limits of the excavation area, they potentially represented part of a simple post structure with possibly associated ditched subdivisions.
- 7.6** The recovery of a moderate assemblage of medieval pottery from these features is perhaps indicative of nearby settlement. The proximity of the medieval activity exposed to the site of the manor at West Fishleigh, which lies approximately 100m to the east, almost certainly suggests that these two are related, and to which the maintained ditched boundary would have related to a contemporary enclosure. While the 13th to 15th century date given for the majority of the finds is consistent with its medieval occupation, the recovery of potentially 11th century pottery within the assemblage would potentially correspond with the description of the manor in the Domesday Book.
- 7.7** **Post-medieval**  
Post medieval activity included the possible trackway surface 199 with later ditches F195 and F197 located to the north of the site. The surface may have comprised a rough track that extended into the field from the farm track to the north, while the adjacent ditches F195 and F197 correspond immediately to the west of the plot boundary shown on the Hatherleigh parish tithe map, and adjacent to the medieval intercutting ditch sequence. These features therefore probably relate to the later position of the boundary that has been shown to have a medieval origin.
- 7.7** To the south of Area 1, the two sets of double parallel ditches (F148 and F150 and F177 and F159, with re-cut F157) are likely to represent the flanking ditches to former hedgebanks. The locations of these correspond with the southern plot boundary shown on the 1839 Hatherleigh parish tithe map, the 1884 Ordnance Survey map, and subsequent editions (Fig. 9).
- 7.8** **Area 3 hedgebank boundary**  
Although undated, the hedgebank is perhaps of late medieval to post-medieval origin. Initially set out with a simple ditch with associated bank that sealed the existing buried soil layers, 104 and 105, the number of overlying deposits represent the accumulation of soils likely to be the result of consistent vegetation growth along its line.

## 8. CONCLUSIONS

Archaeological investigations have recorded the presence of medieval activity to the west of West Fishleigh Farm. A repeatedly re-cut boundary ditch and the site of a possible post structure were exposed that were likely to have been associated with West Fishleigh Farm, which has origins as a medieval manor. While the activity has been dated to the 12th to 15th centuries, residual finds from the 11th to 12th century suggest earlier occupation, with this period broadly consistent with the listing of Fishleigh Manor in the Domesday book of 1086.

## 9. THE PROJECT ARCHIVE

9.1 The paper and digital archive is currently held at the offices of AC archaeology Ltd, at 4 Halthaies Workshops, Bradninch, near Exeter, Devon, EX5 4LQ. This will ultimately be deposited under a museum accession number issued from the Plymouth City Museum, Plymouth.

9.2 An online OASIS entry has been completed, using the unique identifier **240717**, which includes a digital copy of this report.

## 10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The archaeological monitoring was commissioned by West Devon District Council and was coordinated for them by Stephen Cowell. The fieldwork was conducted by Paul Cooke, assisted by Abigail Brown, Will Smith, Stella De-Villiers and Chris Caine, with illustrations prepared by Elisabeth Patkai.

## 10. REFERENCES

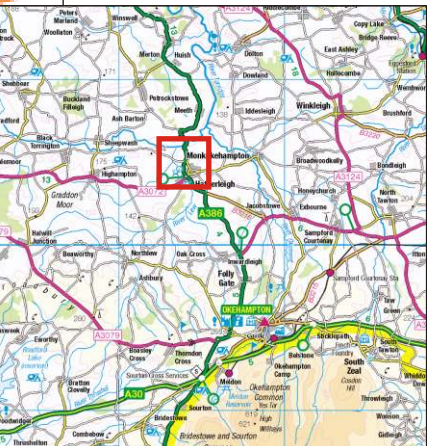
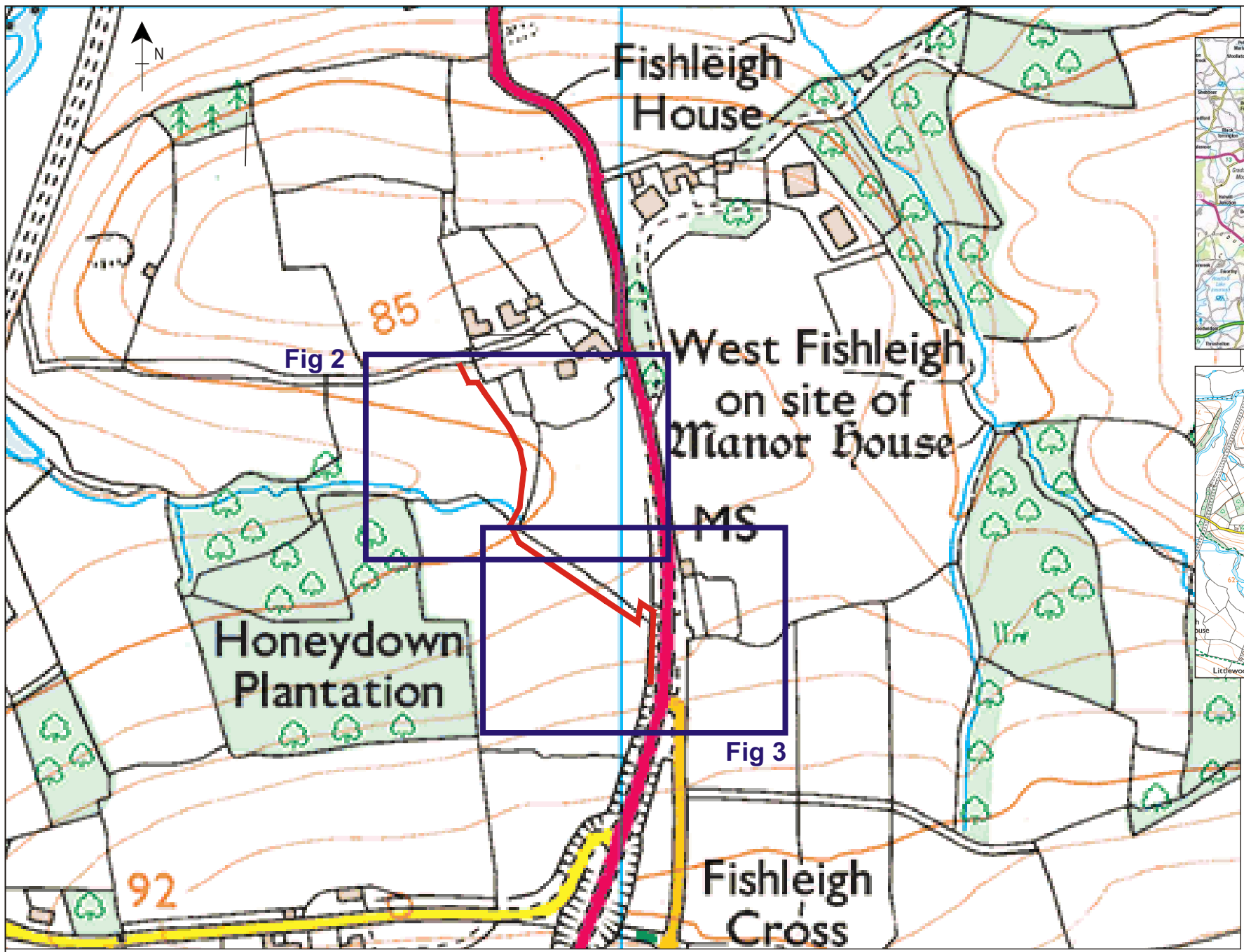
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DRO, Hatherleigh parish tithe map 1839

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 Cycleway route

PROJECT  
West Fishleigh Farm,  
Hatherleigh, Devon

TITLE  
Fig. 1: Site location

0 250m

Scale 1:5000@A4



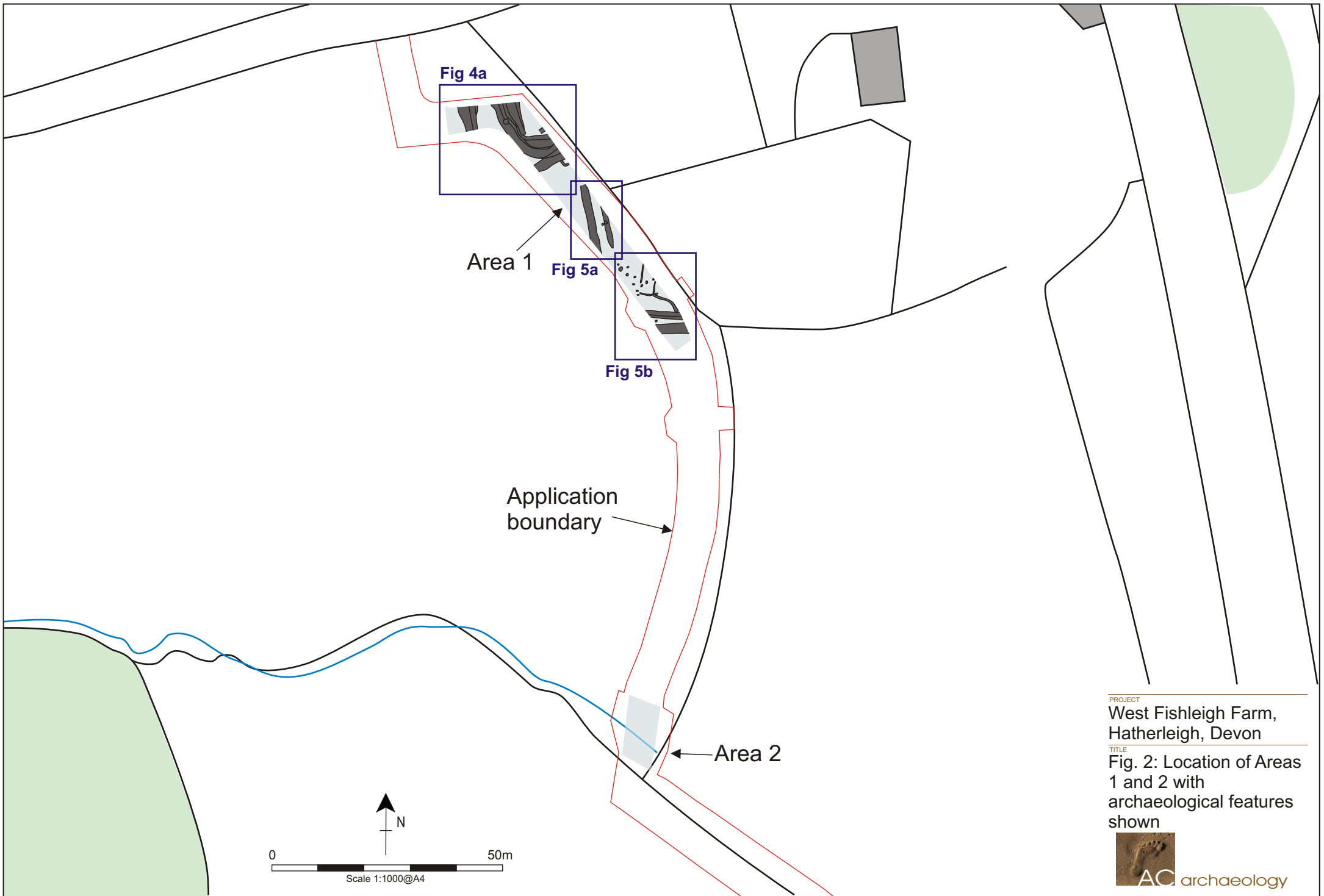


Fig 4a

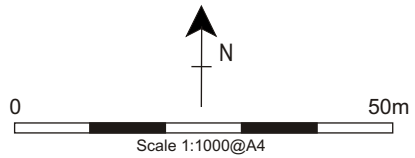
Area 1

Fig 5a

Fig 5b

Application boundary

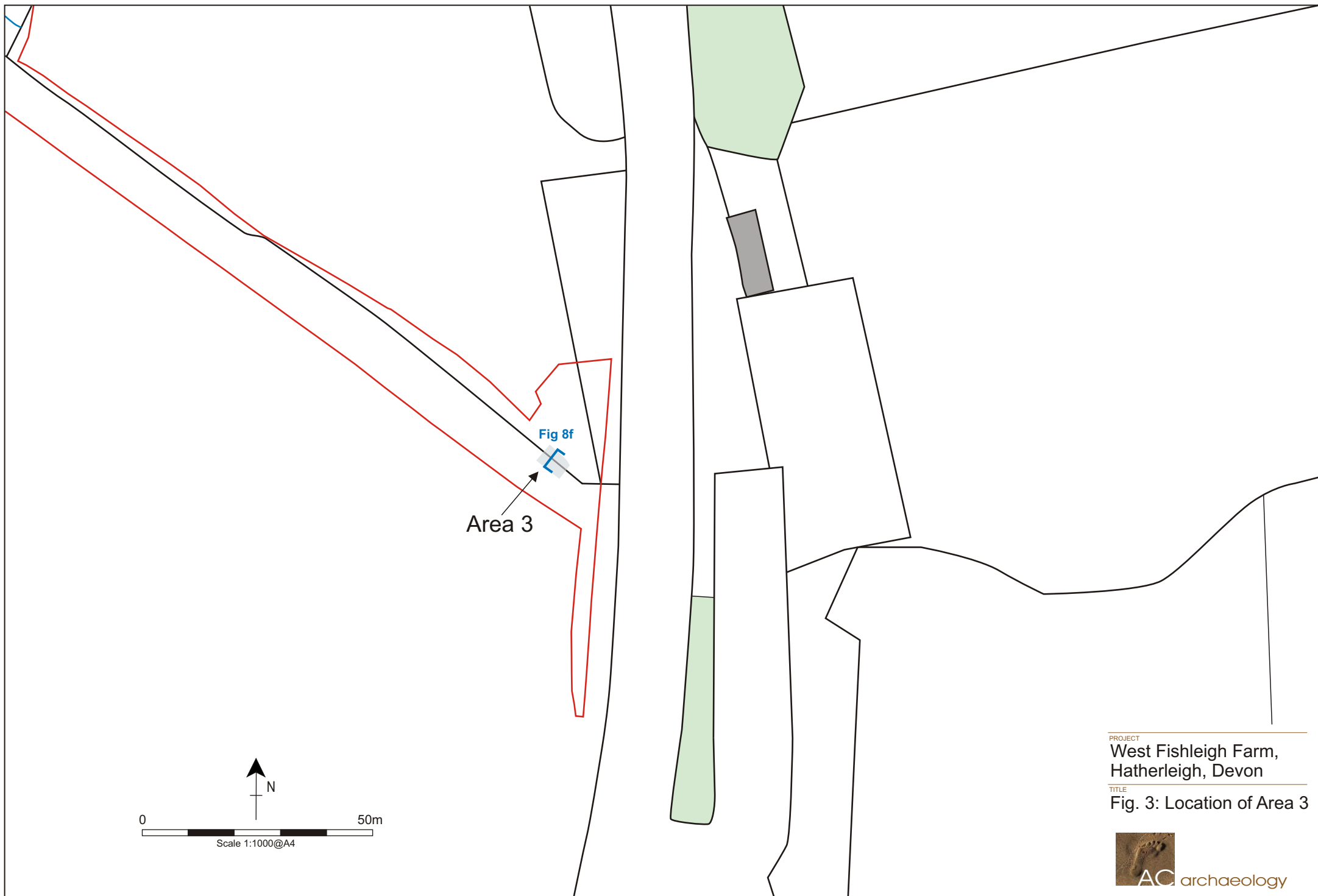
Area 2



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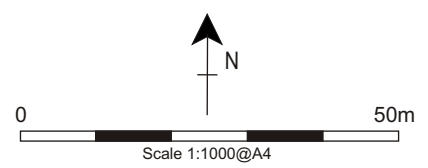
TITLE  
Fig. 2: Location of Areas  
1 and 2 with  
archaeological features  
shown





Area 3

Fig 8f

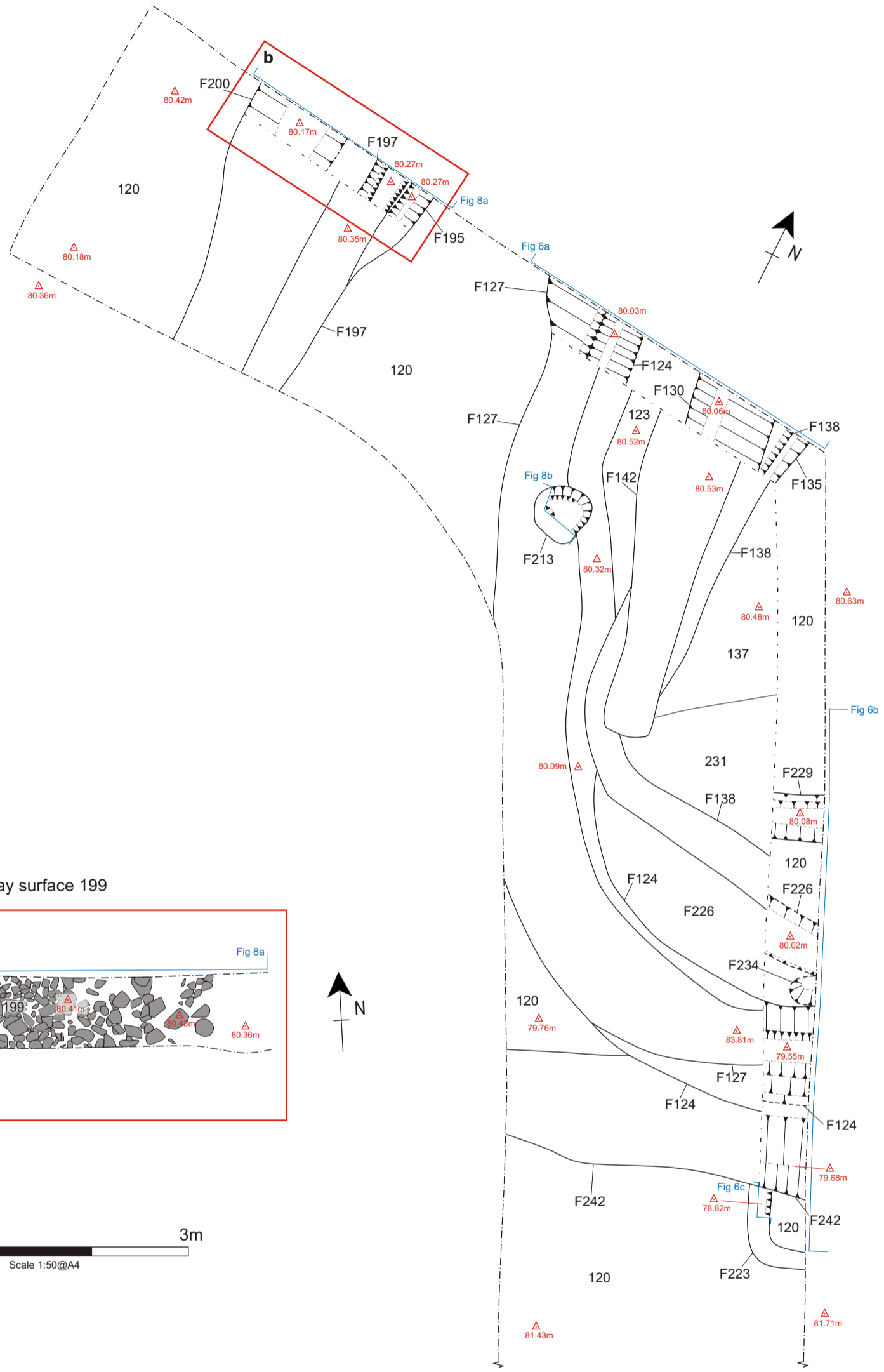


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Hatherleigh, Devon

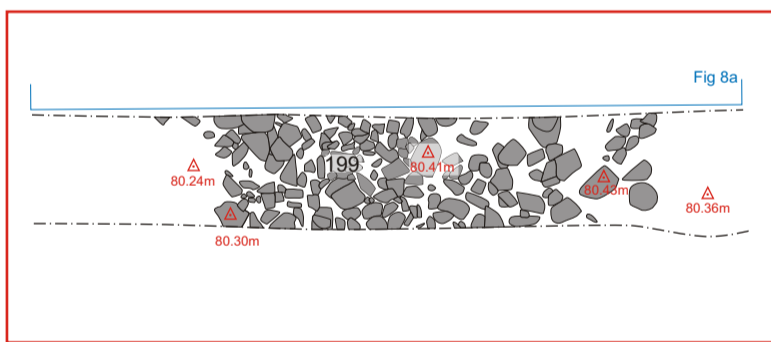
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Fig. 3: Location of Area 3



a) Plan of Area 1 north

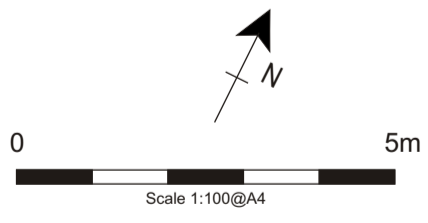
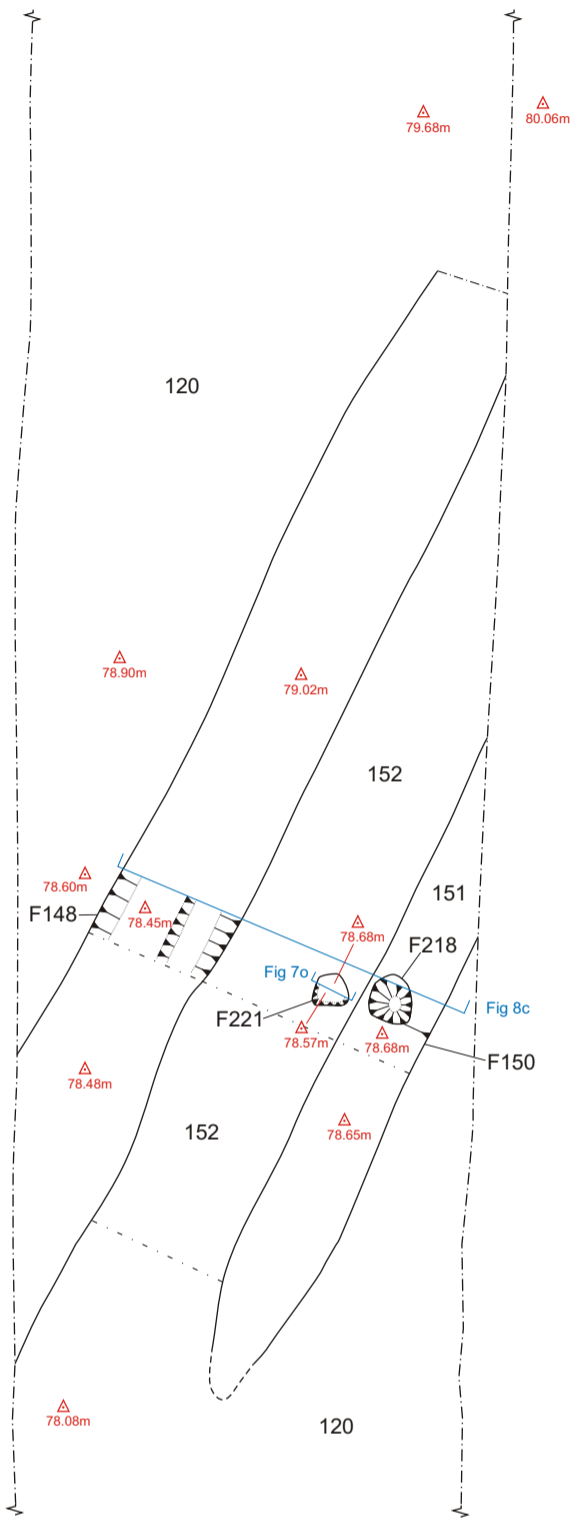


b) Plan of possible trackway surface 199

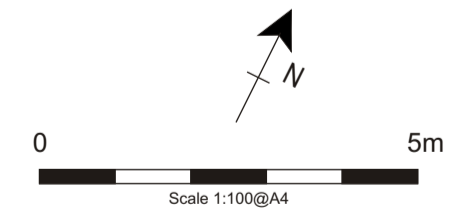
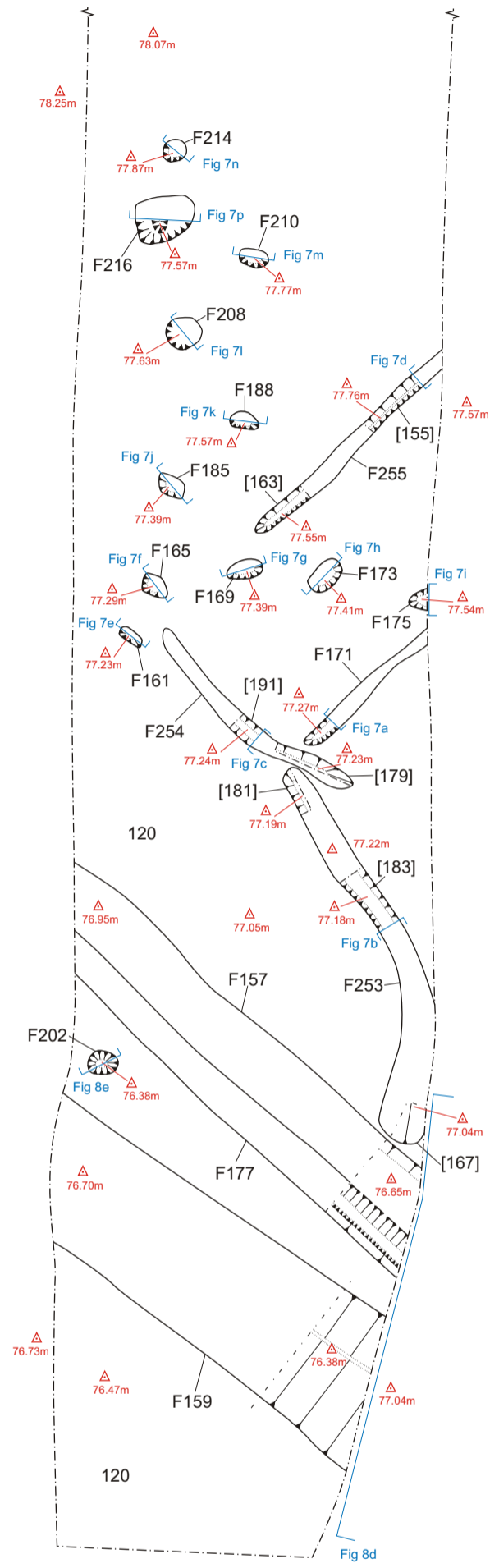




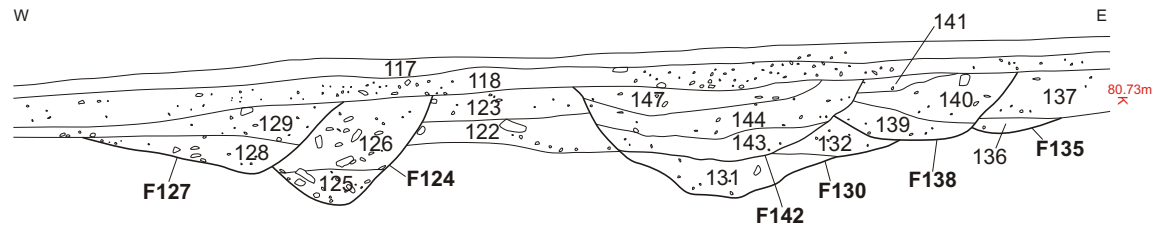
a) Plan of Area 1 central



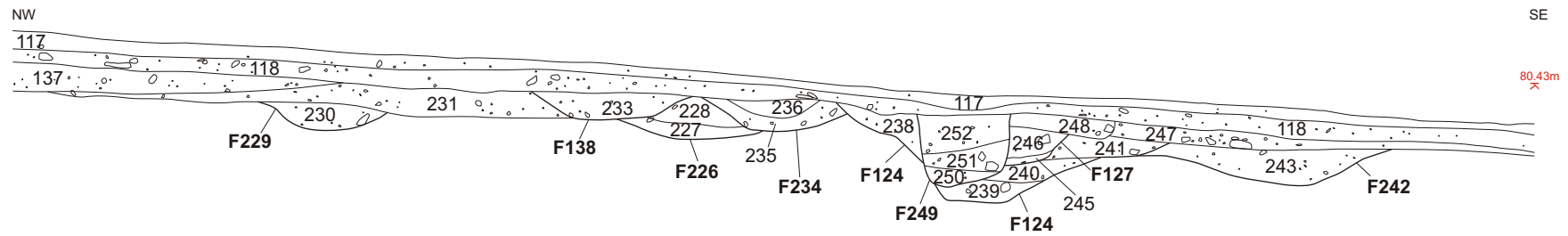
b) Plan of Area 1 south



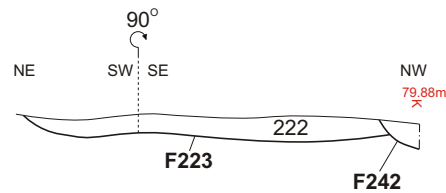
a) Section of ditches F135, F130, F124, F127, F138 and F142



b) Section of ditches F229, F242, F226, F124, F127, F138, pit of ditch terminal F234 and pit F249



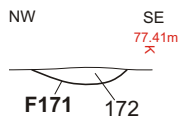
c) Section of F223 and F242



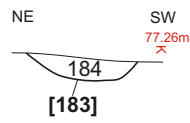
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Fig. 6: Sections

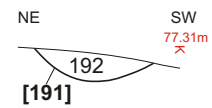
a) Section of ditch F171



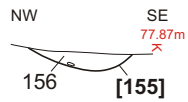
b) Section of ditch F253, segment [183]



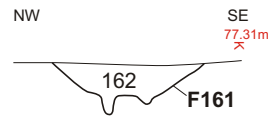
c) Section of ditch F254, segment [191]



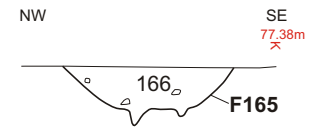
d) Section of ditch F255, segment [155]



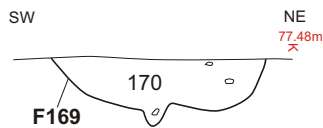
e) Section of posthole F161



f) Section of posthole F165



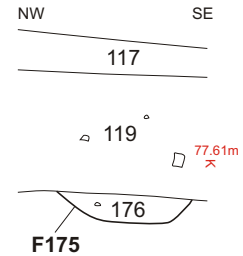
g) Section of posthole F169



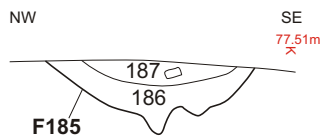
h) Section of posthole F173



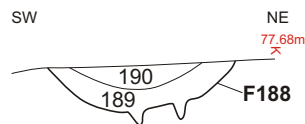
i) Section of posthole F175



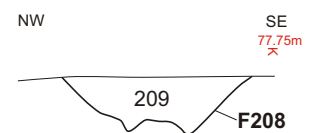
j) Section of posthole F185



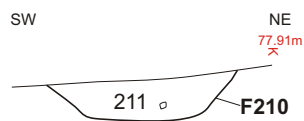
k) Section of posthole F188



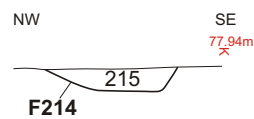
l) Section of posthole F208



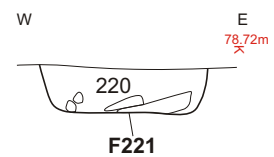
m) Section of posthole F210



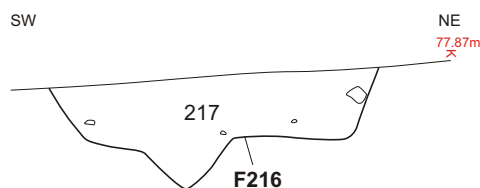
n) Section of posthole F214



o) Section of posthole F221



p) Section of pit F216



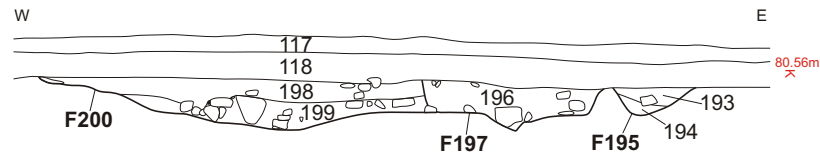
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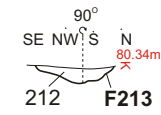
TITLE

Fig. 7: Sections

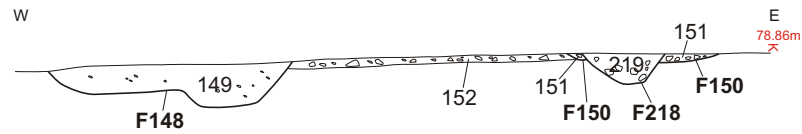
a) Section of hollow F200 and ditches F197 and F195



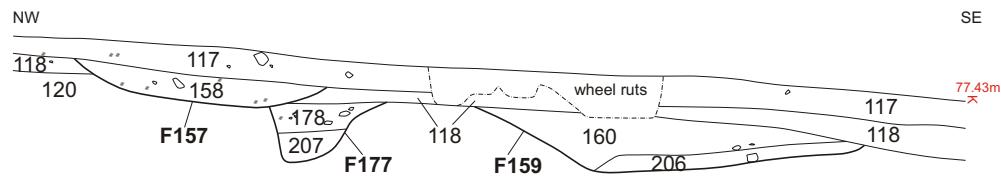
b) Section of pit F213



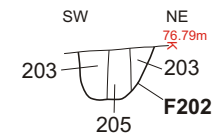
c) Section of ditches F148, F150 and posthole F218



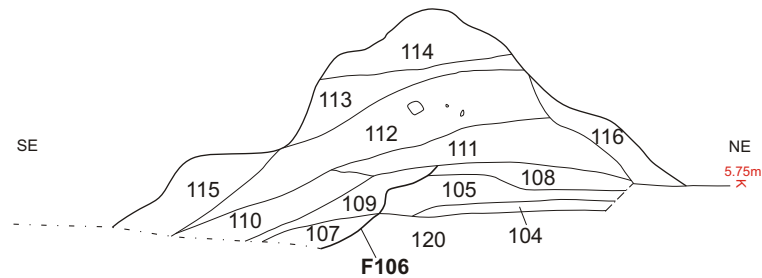
d) Section of ditches F157, F177 and F159



e) Section of posthole F202



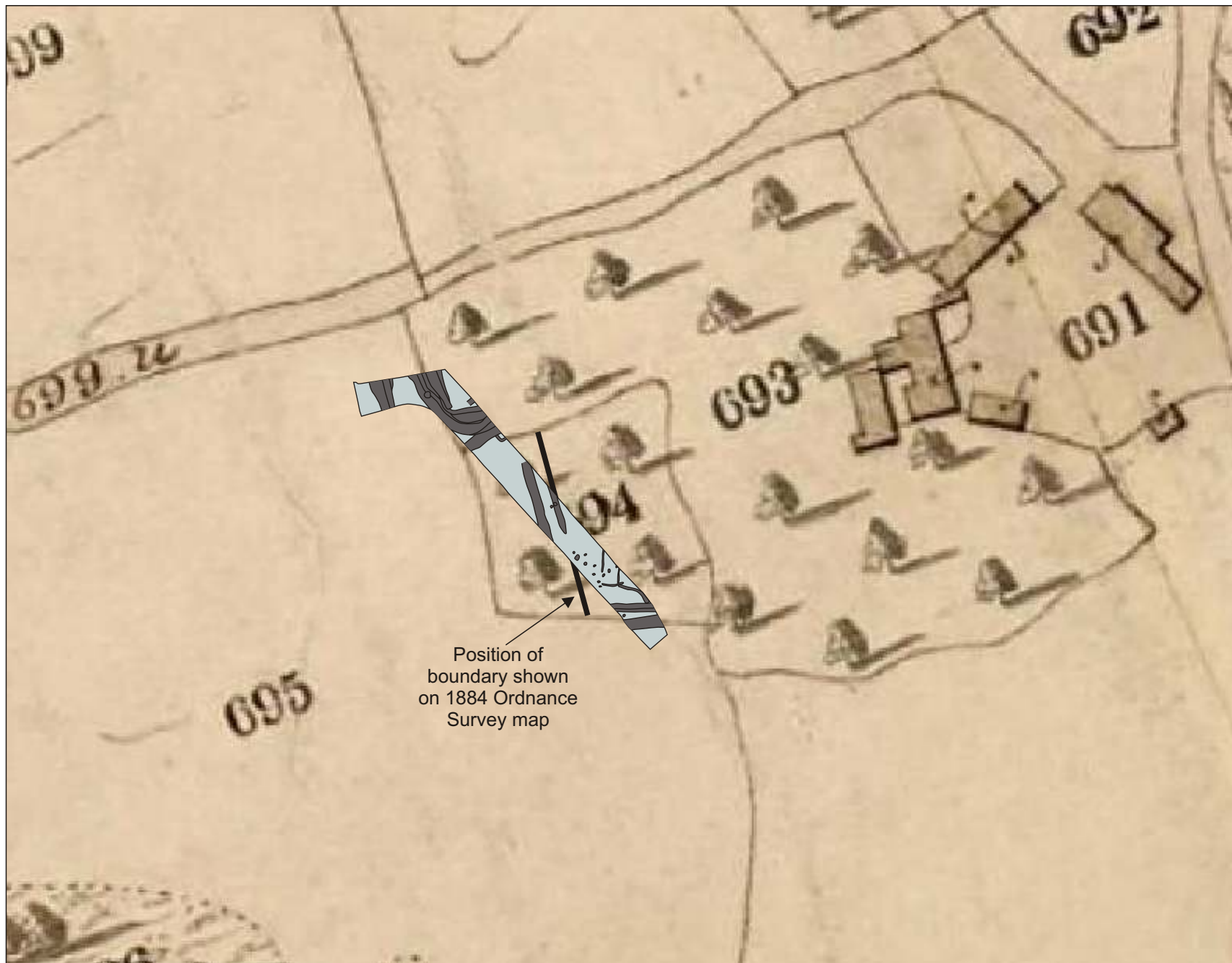
f) Section of Area 3 hedgebank breach



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Fig. 8: Sections





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Fig. 9: Extract from 1839  
Hatherleigh Parish tithe  
map with Area 1 location  
shown



Plate 1: View of north section of Area 1. Looking southeast (scales 2 x 1m)



Plate 2: View of south section of Area 1. Looking northwest (scales 2 x 1m)



Plate 3: Area 1, showing section through intercutting ditch sequence, view to northwest (scale 2m)



Plate 4: Area 1, showing section through intercutting ditch sequence, view to north (scale 2m)



Plate 5: Area 1, view of ditch terminals F171, F254 and F253. Looking north (scale 2m)



Plate 6: Area 1, showing concentration of postholes with F181 in foreground. View to north (scale 1m)



Plate 7: Area 1, showing possible surface 199. View to west (scale 2m)



Plate 8: Area 3, showing section through hedgebank. View to northeast (scale 1m)

# Appendix 1

## Finds Quantifications and Tables





**APPENDIX 1: FINDS QUANTIFICATIONS AND TABLES**

199	Possible surface					13	66												
205	Fill of post-hole F202										1	464							
212	Fill of pit F213							7	73										
219	Fill of post-hole F218					2	1	1	1										
233	Fill of ditch F138					3	16	1	45										
241	Fill of ditch F138					2	13	1	4										
243	Fill of ditch F242					9	83												
245	Fill of ditch F127					2	7												
248	Buried soil					1	4	6	60										
<b>Total</b>		<b>17</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>703</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## APPENDIX 1: FINDS QUANTIFICATIONS AND TABLES

Table 2. Summary of medieval and post-medieval pottery by context

Context	No. of sherds	Fabric type	Comments
118	1	NDIW	C19th
119	1	NDMC	
122	9	NDMC	1 jug
123	5	NDMC	1 sherd with horizontal strip, 1 sooted
126	16	NDMC	1 jug, 1 jar
132	3	NDMC	
132	2	NDGT	1 jar glazed, after 1500
137	3	NDMC	
137	1	NDGT	After 1500
147	4	NDMC	1 sooted
149	4	NDMC	1 sooted
151	1	NDGT	Chamber pot type 7, C16th-17th
152	8	NDMC	Flat handle jug, 1 jar
156	6	NDMC	1 sooted
158	3	NDMC	1 sherd with applied strip 1250-1450
160	2	NDMC	
160	1	NDGF	1 jar C16th-early 17th
170	1	NDMC	Wheel-thrown? C15th
172	1	NDMC	
180	2	UGSD	Oxidised; C11th-12th
180	2	NDMC	
182	1	NDMC	
193	3	NDMC	1 sooted base 1200-1450
198	20	NDMC	6 sooted sherds 1200-1450
199	13	NDMC	1 jar with applied thumbled strip and 1 sooted sherd
212	7	NDGF	Jug sherds
219	2	NDMC	Very worn, residual
219	1	Creamware	After 1770
233	1	NDGT	After 1500
233	3	NDMC	
241	2	NDMC	
241	1	NDGT	After 1500
243	9	NDMC	2 sherds sooted, 1 jar rim
245	2	NDMC	
248	1	NDMC	
248	6	SWW	C19th
Total	148		

Abbreviations:

NDMC = North Devon Medieval Coarseware

NDGT = North Devon Gravel-Tempered

NDGF = North Devon Gravel Free

NDIW = North Devon Industrial Ware (i.e. even dark-brown glazed wares fired in industrial kilns, 19th–20th century)

UGSD = Upper Greensand-Derived

SWW = Staffordshire White Ware

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