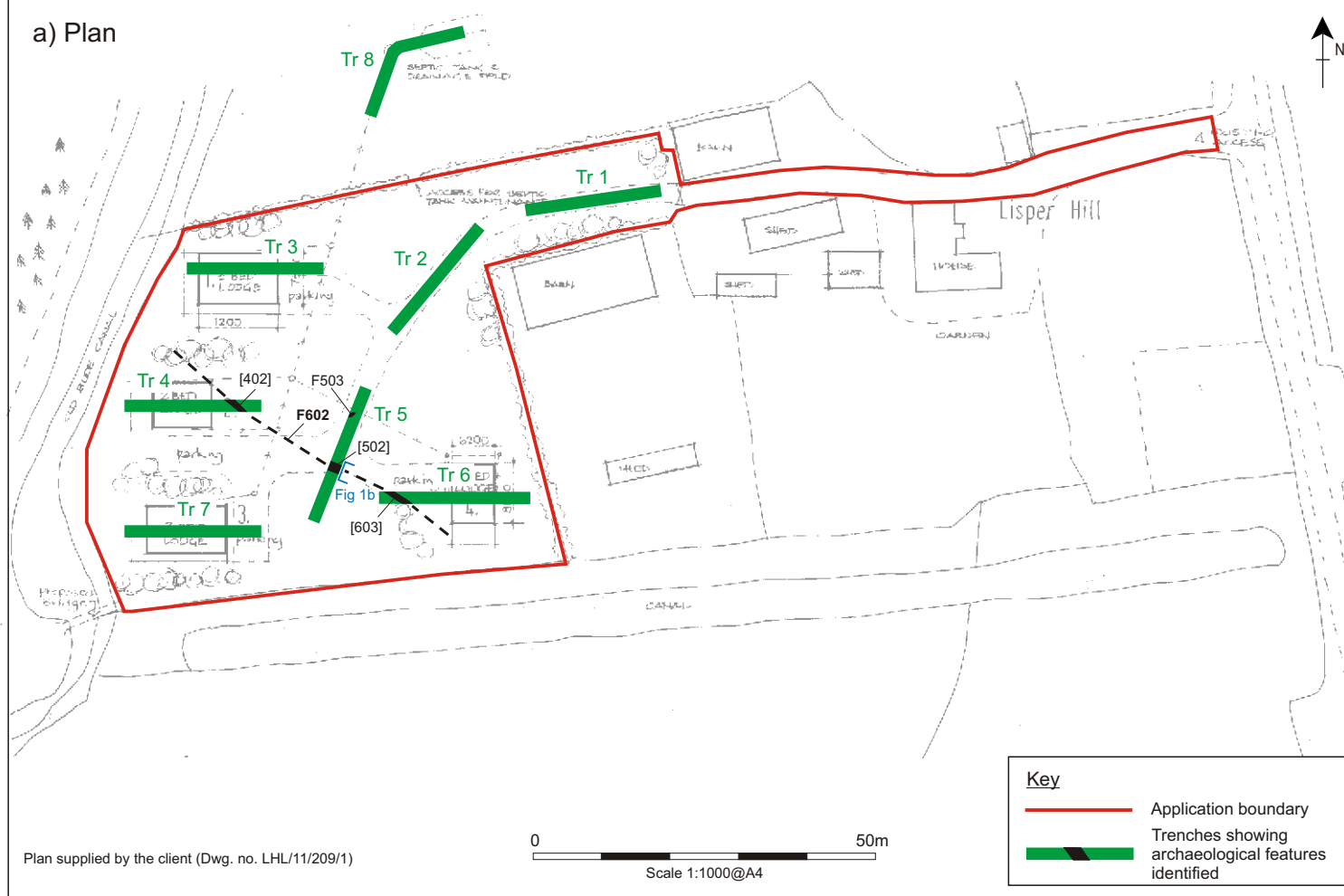


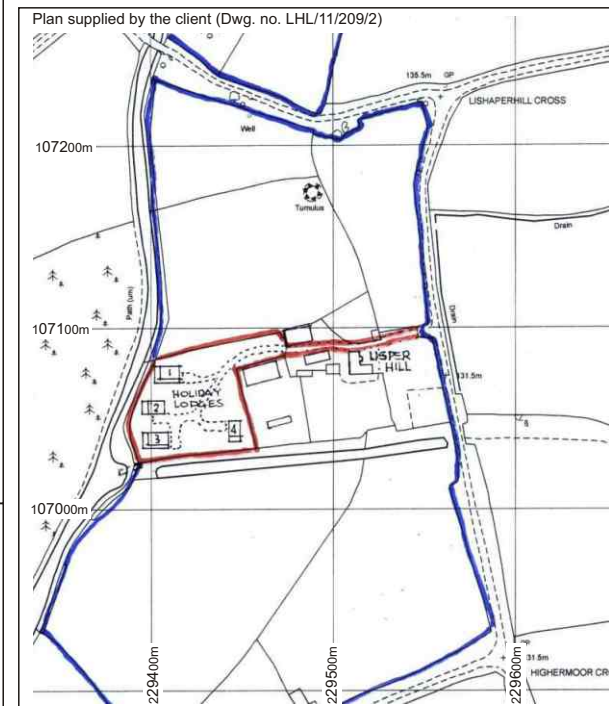
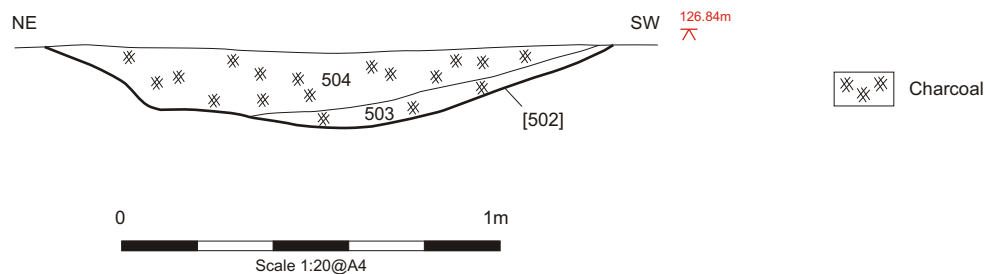
Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

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|--|---|--|
| Civil Parish & District: Pancrasweek, Torridge | National Grid Reference SS 2943 0706 | Number: |
| Subject: Land at Lisper Hill, Pancrasweek, Holsworthy: Results of an Archaeological Trench Evaluation | | Photo attached: Plates 1 and 2 |
| Scheduled Monument no: N/A | Recipient museum: N/A | |
| OASIS ID: 259634 | Museum Accession no: N/A | |
| Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1425 | Dates fieldwork undertaken: 15th July 2016 | |
| <p>An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken in advance of the construction of four holiday lodges and associated works on land at Lisper Hill, Pancrasweek. The works were carried out by AC archaeology for Mr Tim Bacon and required as a condition (no. 4) of planning permission (Torridge District Council 1/0699/2012/FUL). The site is a small pasture field of some 0.3 hectares, lying at around 130m above Ordnance Datum. The underlying solid geology comprises sandstones of the Upper Carboniferous Crackington Formation.</p> <p>The site is situated approximately 80m to the south of Scheduled Monument (SM) no. 1020083, an extant Bronze Age bowl barrow. There are two further ploughed out barrows nearby (Devon County Council Historic Environment Record [DCCHER] refs MDV16463 and 64815). Approximately 200m to the southeast is SM no. 1020608, comprising three Bronze Age barrows. To the southwest of these a further two barrows are present (DCCHER refs MDV60124 and 76198). Further prehistoric activity, comprising worked flint scatters, has been recorded not far to the west (DCCHER refs MDV75312 and 75316).</p> <p>Results</p> <p>The work comprised the machine excavation of eight trenches totalling 160m in length, with each trench 20m long and 1.6m wide (Fig. 1). Trenches were positioned in areas to be affected by development, as well as to provide representative coverage. In addition, one of the trenches was located in the field immediately to the north where a septic tank and drainage run was proposed.</p> <p>Natural subsoil, consisting of pale greyish yellow silty clay, was revealed in all trenches beneath 0.26-0.40m of ploughsoil comprising dark greyish brown clayey loam. Archaeological features present comprised a ditch (F602) and a tree throw F505 and are described below.</p> <p>Ditch F602 was exposed in Trenches 4, 5 and 6 and excavated in segments 402, 502 and 603. It was oriented NW-SE and measured approximately 0.80m wide by 0.20m deep, with moderately steep sides and a rounded base (Fig. 1b). It contained up to three fills, generally consisting of dark brown loam with common charcoal fragments and re-deposited natural subsoil. There were no finds.</p> <p>Tree throw F505 was only partly revealed towards the northeast end of Trench 5. It was amorphous in plan with maximum dimensions within the trench of 1m long by 0.80m wide and 0.05m deep, with shallow sides and an irregular base. It had a single fill (506) consisting of mottled light brownish grey and light greyish yellow silty clay. The physical characteristics indicate that this was a natural tree throw feature of unknown date. There were no finds.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>No evidence was found to indicate prehistoric activity in the area. All finds were from the overlying layers and comprise two sherds of modern pottery which have not been retained. Ditch F602 has the appearance of a ditch which formerly drained in both directions to the Bude Canal in the northwest and the Holsworthy Canal to the southeast. These canals were completed in 1825 indicating that the ditch probably belongs to a period after this date.</p> | | |
| Recorder: Elizabeth Govier, AC archaeology | | Date sent to HER: 10 August 2016 |

a) Plan



b) Northwest-facing section of ditch F602



PROJECT

Land at Lisper Hill, Pancrasweek, Holsworthy, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of trenches and archaeological features observed





Plate 1: General view of the site, looking northwest



Plate 2: Trench 4, ditch F602, looking west
(scales 2x1m)