

# LAND AT BUTSFORD BARTON, COLEBROOKE, CREDITON, DEVON

(Centred on NGR SS 7657 0053)

## Results of an Archaeological Trench Evaluation

West Devon District Council Planning Reference:  
18/01696/FULL (condition 3)

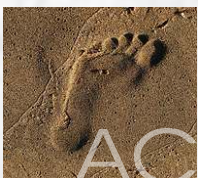
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Prepared by:  
Chris Caine

On behalf of:  
EJT Architectural Surveyors

Report No: ACD1972/2/0

Date: May 2019



archaeology

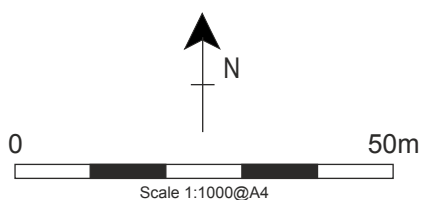
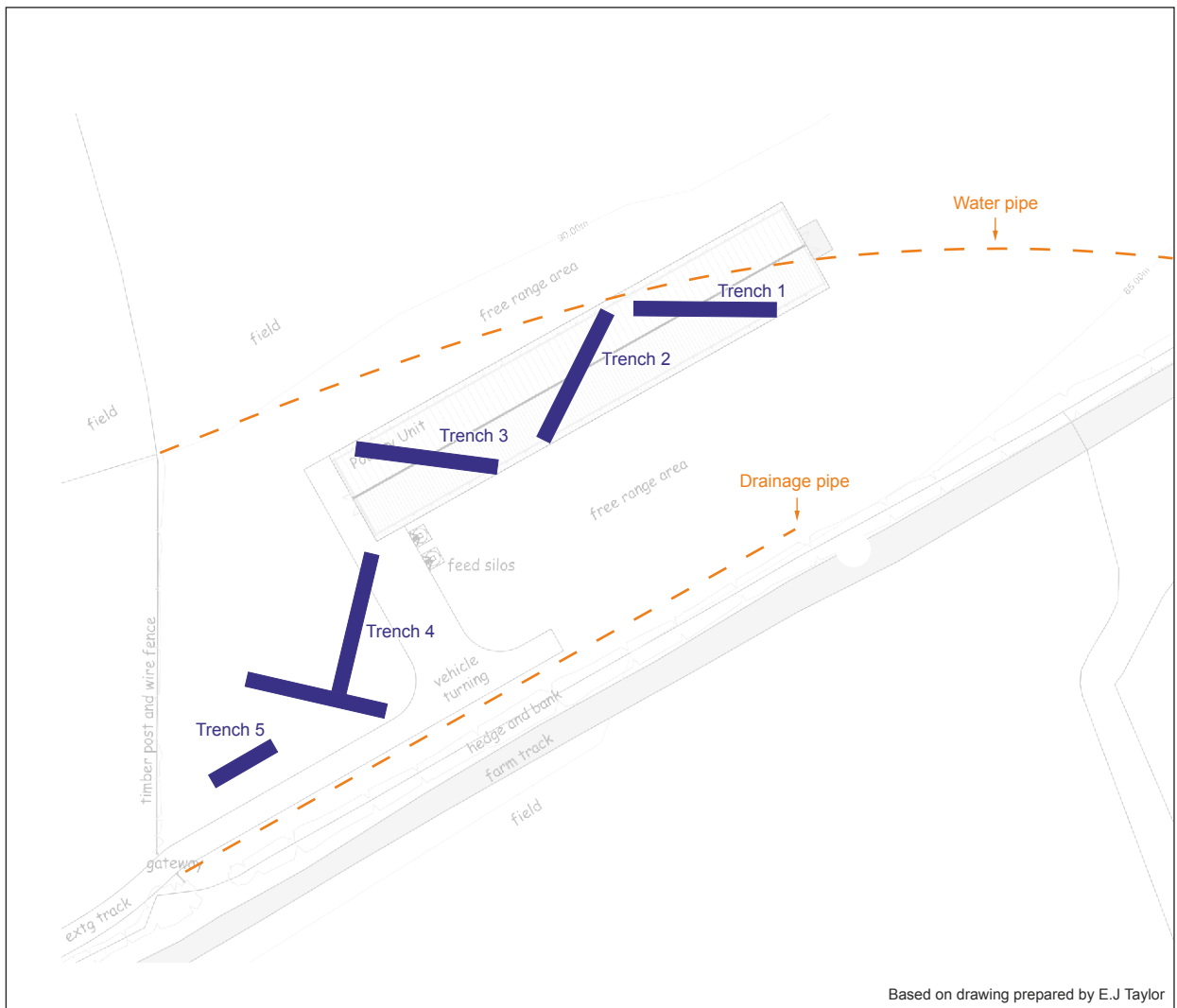
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# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Colebrooke, Mid Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SS 7657 0053	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Land at Butsford Barton, Colebrooke, Cridton, Devon: Results of an archaeological trench evaluation		<b>Photo attached</b> Plates 1-3
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 18/01696/FULL	<b>Recipient museum:</b> N/A	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 338911	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> N/A	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b>  ACD1972	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b>  23 April 2019	
<p><b>Introduction</b> (Fig. 1; Plate 1)</p> <p>An archaeological trench evaluation was carried out by AC archaeology in advance of the construction of a new poultry unit on land at Butsford Barton, Colebrooke, Cridton, Devon (SS 7657 0053). The site lies immediately to the northeast of Butsford Barton farm complex, which is situated some 600m to the northwest of Colebrooke and 6km west of Cridton. It comprised part of a wider pasture plot situated on ground that slopes gradually southeast towards Butsford Lane and a watercourse beyond.</p> <p>The work comprised the machine-excavation of five trial trenches totalling 110m in length, with each trench 1.2m wide. These were positioned to provide a sampled coverage of the proposed development area but avoiding existing services</p> <p>The site lies in an area containing several cropmark sites interpreted from aerial photographs as representing evidence for possible prehistoric to Romano-British activity. These are located within the field to the northwest of the site and include possible double-ditched D-shaped and rectangular enclosures situated on more elevated ground. To the southwest of these and close to Butsford Barton are further crop mark sites. These comprise a possible oval enclosure and two ring ditches representing potential plough levelled barrows</p> <p><b>Results</b> (Fig. 1; Plates 2-4)</p> <p>The trenches were excavated onto natural subsoil, which consisted of a weathered breccia in a dark brownish-red silty-sand matrix. This was exposed at a depth of approximately 0.5m below existing levels and was overlain by a 0.2m thick dark reddish-brown sandy-loam subsoil and a mid reddish-brown silty-loam topsoil.</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were exposed in any of the trenches. A single sherd of Staffordshire White Ware was recovered from the topsoil of Trench 4. This comprised the base of a china teacup, dating to post 1780.</p> <p><b>Comments</b></p> <p>The trenches exposed a simple sequence of agricultural soils sealing the weathered breccia geology. No evidence for prehistoric activity relating to the adjacent cropmark sites was exposed by the work.</p> <p>This report represents the archive for the project</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b>  Chris Caine, AC archaeology		<b>Date sent to HER:</b>  14 May 2019



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PROJECT

Land at Butsford Barton, Colebrooke, Crediton,  
Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site and  
trial trenches





Plate 1: General view of trial trenches, looking northwest from Trench 5



Plate 2: Trench 3, view to east  
(scales 1m and 0.5m)



Plate 3: Trench 3, representative section, view  
to south (scale 1m)

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