

# LAND ADJACENT TO LITTLE LIVERTON BUSINESS PARK, LIVERTON, DEVON

(Centred on NGR SX 817 744)

Results of an Archaeological Trench Evaluation

Teignbridge District Council Planning Reference:  
19/00122/MAJ

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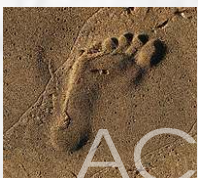
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On behalf of:  
Little Liverton SW Ltd

Report No: ACD2020/2/1

Date: June 2019



archaeology

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Checked by	John Valentin
Approved by	John Valentin

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The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of AC archaeology and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

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## Summary

*An archaeological trench evaluation was undertaken by AC archaeology during May 2019 on land adjacent to Little Liverton Business Park, Liverton, Devon (NGR SX 817 744). The evaluation comprised the machine excavation of twelve trenches totalling 418m in length, with each 1.6m wide. The site is located in a general area where the main archaeological interest relates to medieval and post-medieval tin works. A recent geophysical survey of the site, however, established the potential presence of anomalies that may relate to earlier buried archaeology. The anomalies included a possible oval enclosure of later prehistoric type.*

*The evaluation has established that the results interpreted from the geophysical survey were generally accurate, with corresponding archaeological features or deposits exposed in the majority of the targeted locations. The main findings of the evaluation are the confirmation of evidence for a prehistoric enclosure of possible Bronze Age date on the site, while tin streaming works was found across the southern part. Also present were former boundary or drainage ditches. There was only a small number of finds recovered, comprising one sherd of Bronze Age pottery, one sherd of post-medieval pottery and several pieces of worked wood. A soil sample from the enclosure ditch shows that there is potential for the survival of environmental remains.*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 An archaeological trench evaluation on land adjacent to Little Liverton Business Park, Liverton, Devon (NGR SX 817 744) was undertaken by AC archaeology during May 2019. The evaluation was required by Teignbridge District Council as supporting information for a planning application for new industrial units, following consultation with the Archaeology Officer, Devon County Council Historic Environment Team. The location of the site is shown on Fig. 1.
- 1.2 The archaeological work was commissioned by Little Liverton SW Ltd.
- 1.3 The site covers an area of approximately 6.2 hectares and is situated on the northwest side of the A38, to the northeast of the existing Business Park, with Trago Mills on the opposite side of the road (Plate 1). It is currently agricultural (pasture) land that slopes down to the north between 30m and 37m aOD (above Ordnance Datum), with the underlying solid geology comprising sand, silt and clay of the Bovey Formation (British Geological Survey Online Viewer 2019).

### 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The site is located in a general area where the main archaeological interest relates to medieval and post-medieval tin works, including streamworks, prospection pits, spoilheaps and extraction pits. A recent geophysical survey of the site itself (Edwards 2019) did not, however, clearly identify evidence for this activity, but established the presence of anomalies that may relate to earlier buried archaeology. The anomalies comprise a possible oval enclosure which may contain a roundhouse, with these of late prehistoric or Romano-British form. In addition, a possible further ring ditch lies beyond the enclosure, while a series of discrete anomalies to the southwest may represent pits. In the northeast part of the site, a series of linear anomalies may represent evidence for early land division or drainage.

### **3. AIMS**

- 3.1** The aim of the evaluation was to establish the presence or absence, extent, depth, character and date of any archaeological features, deposits or finds present, with particular reference to anomalies identified by the geophysical survey. The results of the work, as set out in this report, 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 evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluation* (revised December 2014). It comprised the machine-excavation of twelve trenches totalling 418m in length, with each 1.6m wide. Trenches were positioned to target the anomalies identified by the geophysics, as well as in blank areas to confirm the effectiveness of the survey (Fig. 1).
- 4.2** All trenches were located with a Leica Net rover GPS accurate to 1cm. The removal of soils within the trenches was undertaken in 20cm spits (maximum) under the control and direction of the site archaeologist. Stripping by mechanical excavator ceased at the level at which archaeological deposits or natural subsoil was exposed.
- 4.3** 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 and plans were produced at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20, while all site levels relate to Ordnance Datum (OD).

### **5. RESULTS**

#### **5.1 Introduction**

Archaeological features or deposits were exposed in most trenches, with the exception of Trenches 2 and 7. The trenches containing archaeology are described in detail below, while tabulated context descriptions for all trenches are provided in Appendix 1. Context numbers are prefixed by the relevant trench number (e.g. 100 for Trench 1, 200 for Trench 2 etc.).

The natural subsoil, where exposed, was varied across the site, although it was largely composed of varying colours of clay containing gravel, pebbles and cobbles and where seen, was exposed at a depth that ranged between 0.35m and 2.6m below existing ground levels. The natural subsoil was generally overlain by a consistent dark greyish-brown clayey loam topsoil. Natural subsoil was not exposed in Trenches 8, 9, 10 and 12.

#### **5.2 Trench 1** (Detailed plan Fig. 2a and sections Figs 2b-c; Plate 2)

This trench was located on the north side of the site and positioned across two approximately north to south aligned linear anomalies identified from the previous geophysical survey. It was excavated through topsoil (context 100) onto natural subsoil (101), which was present at a depth of 0.36m below the existing ground level. The anomalies corresponded with ditches F102 and F105.

#### Ditch F102

This measured 0.92m wide by 0.22m deep, was broadly north-south aligned and had steeply-sloping sides onto a concave base. The ditch was filled with a light brown silty clayey loam (103) that was overlain by a dark brown silty clayey loam (104). No finds were recovered.

#### Ditch F105

This measured 0.91m wide by 0.43m deep, was broadly north-south aligned and had steeply-sloping sides onto a flat base. The ditch was filled with a mid grey silty clay (106) that was overlain by a mid brown silty clayey loam (107). No finds were recovered.

### **5.3 Trench 3** (Detailed plan Fig. 3a and sections Figs 3b-c)

This trench was located in the northeast part of the site and positioned to investigate a linear anomaly and a cluster of discrete geophysical anomalies. It was excavated through topsoil (context 300) onto natural subsoil (301), which was present at a depth of 0.45m below the existing ground level. The anomalies corresponded with a possible pit (F302) and ditch (F304).

#### Possible pit F302

This was not fully revealed in the trench, was irregular in plan and measured 2.59m across and 0.16m deep, with steeply sloping sides onto a flat base. The feature was filled with a dark grey clay (303), which contained one sherd of late post-medieval pottery.

#### Ditch F304

This measured 2.32m wide by 0.15m deep, was northeast-southwest aligned and had steeply-sloping sides onto a flat base. The ditch was filled with a mid grey silty clay (305) containing abundant ferrous nodules. No finds were recovered.

### **5.4 Trench 4** (Detailed plan Fig. 4a and section Fig. 4b)

This trench was located in the centre of the site and positioned to investigate a blank area as identified by the interpreted results of the geophysical survey. It was excavated through topsoil (context 400) onto natural subsoil (401), which was present at a depth of 0.4m below the existing ground level. A ditch (F402) was present.

#### Ditch F402

This measured 1.05m wide by 0.15m deep, was broadly north-south aligned and had shallow-sloping sides onto a flat base. The ditch was filled with a mid brownish-grey silty clay (403). No finds were recovered.

### **5.5 Trench 5** (Detailed plan Fig. 5a and sections Figs 6a-e; Plate 3)

This trench was located on the west side of the site and positioned to investigate two linear anomalies and a curvi-linear example. It was excavated through topsoil (context 500) onto natural subsoil (501), which was present at a depth of 0.35m below the existing ground level. Three ditches (F502, F505 and F508), a probable ditch terminal (F510) and a natural tree throw or root hollow (513) were exposed.

#### Ditch F502

This measured 1.3m wide by 0.44m deep, was broadly north-south aligned and had moderately-sloping sides onto a flat base. The ditch was filled with a mid brownish-grey silty clay (503) that was overlain by a mid greyish-brown clayey silt (504). No finds were recovered.

#### Ditch F505

This measured 0.75m wide by 0.4m deep, was broadly northwest-southeast aligned and had moderately-sloping sides onto a concave base. The ditch was filled with a mid greyish-brown silty clay (506) that was overlain by a mid brown clayey silt (507). No finds were recovered.

#### Ditch F508

This measured 0.7m wide by 0.32m deep, was broadly east-west aligned and had steeply-sloping sides onto a concave base. The ditch was filled with a mid grey silty clay (509). No finds were recovered.

#### Ditch terminal F510

This measured 1.5m long by 0.7m wide by 0.32m deep, was broadly northwest-southeast aligned and had steeply-sloping sides and concave base. The feature was filled with a mid yellowish-brown sandy silty clay (511) that was overlain by a mid brown silty clay (512). No finds were recovered.

#### Tree throw 513

This measured 1.15m long by 0.66m wide by 0.13m deep with gradually-sloping sides and irregular base. It was filled with a mid greyish-brown silty clay (514). No finds were recovered.

### **5.6 Trench 6** (Detailed plan Fig. 7a and sections Figs 8a-d; Plates 4-5)

This trench was located in the southwest part of the site and positioned to target a possible enclosure ditch and other discrete geophysical anomalies. It was excavated through topsoil (context 600), a 0.05m thick natural subsoil transition layer (601) composed of a light brown silty clay, onto natural subsoil (601), which was present at a depth of 0.46m below the existing ground level. The enclosure ditch was exposed in two segments (F603 and F616) along with a ditch terminal (F609), a possible ditch terminal (F612) and a waste deposit (615). In the southwest part of the trench natural subsoil was not exposed.

#### Enclosure ditch (F603 and F616)

This had steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. In segment F603 it measured 1.96m wide by 0.89m deep and in F616 it was 1.5m wide by 1.1m deep. In F603 it had five fills (604-8), but only a single fill (617) in F616. One sherd of prehistoric pottery of Bronze Age type was recovered from fill 607 in segment F603. Segment F616 was sealed by deposit 615. Fill 608 in segment F603 contained palaeoenvironmental remains including oak charcoal and hazelnut shell.

#### Ditch terminal F609

This measured 1.23m long by 0.5m wide by 0.24m deep, was broadly north-south aligned and had steeply-sloping sides and concave base. The feature was filled with a light grey clay (610) that was overlain by a dark greyish-brown clay (611). No finds were recovered.

#### Possible ditch terminal F612

This measured 0.6m long by 0.42m wide by 0.09m deep, was broadly north-south aligned and had moderately-sloping sides and flat base. The ditch was filled with a mid greyish-brown silty clay (613). No finds were recovered.

#### Deposit F614

This measured 27m+ long by 1.6m+ wide and up to 0.5m thick. It was composed of various lenses of sands, gravels, clays and silty clay (615). No finds were recovered.

In the northeast-southwest aligned arm of the trench, this deposit was overlying enclosure ditch F616.

#### **5.7 Trench 8** (Detailed plan Fig. 9a and sections Figs 9b-c)

This trench was located in the southwest part of the site and positioned to target a number of discrete geophysical anomalies. It was generally excavated through topsoil (context 800) to a depth of 0.36m onto a series of deposits, comprising a possible ditch (F802) and a mixed waste deposit (806).

##### Possible ditch F802

This measured 1.95m wide by 0.3m deep, was broadly northeast-southwest aligned and had steeply-sloping sides onto an uneven base. The feature contained three sand and silty clay fills (803-5). No finds were recovered.

##### Deposit 806

This measured 25m+ long by 1.6m+ wide and 0.6m thick. It was composed of lenses of mid yellowish-brown sand, mid grey sand and mid grey clay. No finds were recovered.

##### Dump deposits (807, 808 and 809)

Three discrete dump deposits of sand and clay were uncovered in a sondage and were between 0.3m and 0.6m thick (total thickness 1.2m). An assemblage of worked wood was recovered from deposit 808.

#### **5.8 Trench 9** (Detailed plan Fig. 10a and section Figs 10b-c)

This trench was located in the southeast corner of the site and positioned to target a pair of discrete geophysical anomalies. It was excavated through topsoil (context 900) to a depth of 0.4m below the existing ground level. Natural subsoil was not exposed. A possible ditch (F902), a waste deposit (901) and discrete dump deposit (905) were present.

##### Possible ditch F902

This measured 2.8m wide by 0.3m deep, was broadly northwest-southeast aligned and had steeply-sloping sides onto a concave uneven base. The feature was filled with a dark grey sandy loam (903) that was overlain by a mid greyish-brown silty sand (904). No finds were recovered.

##### Deposit 901

This measured 34m+ long by 1.6m+ wide and 1.7m+ thick. It was composed of light grey sand. No finds were recovered.

##### Dump deposit 905

This measured 1.5m+ long by 1m+ wide and 0.9m+ thick. It was composed of mid grey clay. No finds were recovered.

#### **5.9 Trench 10** (Plate 6)

This trench was located in the central part of the site, in an area where no geophysical anomalies were recorded. It was excavated through topsoil (context 1000) to a depth of 0.36m below the existing ground level onto a mixed deposit composed of lenses of sands, gravels, clays and silty clay (1001). These are likely to represent tin streaming deposits. No finds were recovered from the trench.

#### **5.10 Trench 11** (Plate 7)

This trench was located in the separate small field in the northeast corner of the site and positioned in an area of discrete geophysical anomalies. It was excavated through



topsoil (context 1100) to a depth of 0.5m below the existing ground level. Made ground (1101), probably associated with the construction of the A38, was present to a depth of 1.7m, which sealed silts and clays (1102-4) possible tin streaming deposits. Natural subsoil (1105), composed of yellow clay, was revealed at a depth of 2.6m. No finds were recovered from the trench.

### 5.11 Trench 12 (Plate 8)

This trench was located in the separate small field in the northeast corner of the site and positioned in an area of discrete geophysical anomalies. It was excavated through topsoil (context 1200) to a depth of 0.24m below the existing ground level. Three layers of made ground (1201-3), probably associated with the construction of the A38, was present to a depth of 1.5m, which sealed silt and clays (1204-6) possible alluvial deposits to 2.5m. Natural subsoil was not exposed. No finds were recovered from the trench.

## 6. THE FINDS *by Naomi Payne*

### 6.1 Introduction

All finds recovered on site during the evaluation have been retained, cleaned and marked where appropriate. They have been quantified according to material type within each context and the assemblage examined to extract information regarding the range, nature and date of artefacts represented. The collection of finds is summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Summary of finds by context

Context	Context description	Prehistoric pottery		Post-medieval pottery		Worked wood	
		No.	Weight	No.	Weight	No.	Weight
303	Fill of possible pit F302			1	12		
607	Fill of enclosure ditch F603	1	5				
808	Tin streaming deposit					20	3226
Totals		1	5	1	12	20	3226

### 6.2 Prehistoric pottery

A single small sherd (5g) of prehistoric pottery was recovered from context 607. This is a small body sherd containing moderate angular quartzite up to 12mm and moderate angular quartz up to 4mm. The fabric is of Bronze Age type.

### 6.3 Post-medieval pottery

A single sherd (12g) of post-medieval pottery was recovered from context 303. This is a body sherd of coarse glazed earthenware of South Somerset type. It is likely to date from the 18th or 19th century.

### 6.4 Worked wood

20 pieces (3226g) of wood were recovered from possible tin streaming tailings 808 in Trench 8. There are three larger pieces, all circular in profile, with diameters between 90-95mm. Two of the pieces appear to have been chopped through at one end. The other ends are broken. None of the large pieces join. There are 13 rod fragments with diameters between 24-36mm, which may be pieces of pollarded poles. Several of these join. There are also four small amorphous fragments.

## 7. PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT *by Cressida Whitton*

### 7.1 Introduction

Three bulk soil samples were recovered during the evaluation. One priority sample from enclosure ditch F603 was selected for processing in order to assess the potential for the survival of palaeoenvironmental remains within the prehistoric enclosure ditch.

### 7.2 Method

The sample was processed by flotation and sieving in a siraf-type tank, using standard AC archaeology methods. The largest residue (5.6mm mesh) was dried and hand-sorted for artefacts and ecofacts using an illuminated hand lens, and sterile waste was discarded. The dried flots (250/500 micron) and smaller residues (2mm and 500 micron) were 100% or part- sorted (depending on size), using a stereo-binocular microscope (10-30 x magnification).

### 7.3 Results

The results are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Results of the palaeoenvironmental assessment

Sample no.	Context no.	Description	Sample volume Litres (Lts.) processed & % of Flot assessed (scanning & sorting) Small flot – 0.25 -0.5ml Large flot – 0.5 litre +	Ecofacts Charcoal fragments - size (mm) type eg trunk/branchwood (t/bwd). xxx – frequent (500+ fragments) Charred Plant Macrofossils (CPM) - weed seed, nut (eg Hazelnut (HNS))
2	608	Fill of enclosure ditch F603	7 litres processed (25% of sample). 100% of medium - large flot (250ml), sorted 100% 5.6mm residue sorted. 50% 2mm residue sorted. 500 micron residue – scanned only	x - Charcoal, small - large size (<5mm – 20mm), trunk/branchwood (t/bwd) fragments (no roundwood charcoal) CPM – 1 x HNS fragment CPM – 2 x ? HNS fragments CPM – 2 x weed seeds (uncharred)

### 7.4 Comments

Overall, the sample showed a limited level of palaeoenvironmental potential, with frequent and variable-size charcoal fragments, all of trunk/branchwood type. Although the sample was relatively charcoal-rich, the fragments were generally poorly-preserved and friable, but it was possible to split some larger charcoal which were identified as a ring-porous wood species, and mostly likely oak, due to the strong rays in the transverse section. Charcoal waste concentrations containing oak charcoal are typically recovered from prehistoric enclosures in the south-west region and probably indicate the widespread use of locally-available oak wood in domestic hearths and/or other settlement activities.

In comparison to charcoal, the sample contained very limited charred plant macrofossil ecofacts, with only a single hazelnut shell (HNS) fragment and occasional small, uncharred weed seeds.

## **8. DISCUSSION**

- 8.1** The evaluation has established that the results interpreted from the geophysical survey were generally accurate, with corresponding archaeological features or deposits exposed in the majority of the targeted locations.
- 8.2** The main findings of the evaluation are the confirmation of a prehistoric enclosure on the site and the evidence for probable tin streaming works found across the southern part. Also present were former boundary or drainage ditches.
- 8.3** The ditch of the prehistoric enclosure was excavated in two segments within Trench 6. A single sherd of pottery from a middle fill of the ditch is from the Bronze Age period and may indicate that the enclosure is of that date. The extrapolated evidence from the geophysical survey indicates an oval enclosure measuring approximately 50m long by 30m wide.
- 8.4** Enclosures of this date in lowland areas of Devon are relatively rare, but examples have been identified in the county at Old Rydon Lane, Exeter (Gilbert 2012), Otter Farm, Colaton Raleigh (Farnell and Quinnell 2015), Farleigh Meadows, Tiverton (Rainbird 2014) and Station Hill/Oldway Lane, Chudleigh (Rainbird 2017). On nearby Dartmoor, Bronze Age enclosures are well attested and typically enclose one or more roundhouses (Newman 2011). Although undated the pair of small ditch terminals (F609 and F612) identified within the enclosure may be contemporary with the enclosure ditch and indicate the potential for some survival of evidence for structures within.
- 8.5** Ditch F502 in Trench 5, from the evidence of the geophysical survey, appears to stop at the prehistoric enclosure and may be contemporary with it. Ditch F505, also exposed in Trench 5, runs at right angles to F502 and may also be contemporary with it and the enclosure. They may represent the remains of a pattern of prehistoric fields. On Dartmoor small rectilinear Bronze Age fields are defined by stone walls (known as 'reaves') (Fleming 2008). Ditch F508 may relate to a curvi-linear horseshoe shaped feature open to the west interpreted from the results of the geophysical survey. However, the other side of this feature was not identified in the trench and this was a very weak anomaly and ditch F508 may instead also be the remains of a field boundary ditch.
- 8.6** Deposits exposed in Trenches 6, 8, 9 and 10 probably relate to tin extraction dating to the late medieval and early post-medieval periods. Tin streaming is known to have taken place extensively in the area. Shallow deposits of low grade tin ore were being exploited from the 14th to the 17th centuries and was one of the major locations for tin working in Devon (Greeves 2008). The tin ore was found at a depth of less than 4m and the largest of the open gullies surveyed to the east of the A38 measure over 65m long by 12m wide and up to 2.2m deep (Newman 2015). Adjacent to Drum Bridges the fills of the working gullies appear to be tailings, which indicates that they were backfilled during the lifetime of the tinworks as new gullies were opened up (Rainbird 2016). The potential spread of the tin working area evidence within the proposed development area is suggested on Fig. 11, where the 1839 parish tithe map has field names Sand Plot' and 'Sand Plot Wood'. The 'sand' elements could conceivably relate to the presence of fine sands identified within the tin streaming deposits identified during the trenching and the northern boundary to these fields and the adjacent one to the west broadly corresponds with where the tin streaming works overly and probably cut the prehistoric enclosure. The area to the south of this boundary is therefore likely to contain tin streaming workings. This area appears to have been largely rehabilitated for agricultural purposes following the abandonment of tin working.

- 8.7 The ditches exposed in Trenches 1 (F102 and F105), 3 (F304), 4 (F402), 5 (F510), 8 (F802) and 9 (F902) likely represent former agricultural boundaries or drains. These are undated, but probably are of medieval or post-medieval date. The IIsington tithe map of 1839 shows that the proposed development area was formerly divided in to five plots with parts of a further three falling within the area at that time. This was all within the ownership of the Duke of Somerset. Ditch F402 in Trench 4 appears to broadly fall on the line of one of the boundaries for these plots all of which, except the ones marking the west, north and east edges of the development area, were removed by the time of the publication of the first edition Ordnance Survey 25-in map in 1888. The boundary currently defining the separate northeast field was added by this time. (The majority of the historic north boundary was removed when the road was straightened, by-passing Benedict's Bridge, before 1938.) The reason for this major landscape transformation, including the felling of plots of woodland on the west side of the site, is not known. The larger part of the development area is in arable cultivation according to the IIsington tithe apportionment of 1838, although two of the larger plots under arable have marsh names ('Long Marsh' and 'Round Marsh') indicating that drainage had probably been required to bring them into agricultural production. Pit F302 in Trench 3 contained one sherd of late post-medieval pottery and is of this date or later, and probably relates to the agricultural activities on the site.
- 8.8 In Trenches 11 and 12, modern made ground, probably from the construction of the A38, was sealing what appear to be alluvial deposits at depth. This field is adjacent to the stream forming the eastern boundary of the site.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 The prehistoric archaeology identified on this site is related to an enclosure, probably for settlement during the Bronze Age, within a localised pattern of fields. Although few sites of this type and date have been excavated in lowland Devon, settlement sites of this form, typically enclosing one or more roundhouses, are well known on nearby Dartmoor. Although some truncation of buried features due to later industrial and agricultural use has occurred, a small amount of evidence was uncovered to indicate that features, perhaps relating to structures, survive within the enclosure. The assessment of the palaeoenvironmental remains also suggests some potential for recovering charcoal which will indicate the fuel used for fires and the types of trees present in the local landscape at that time.
- 9.2 Elsewhere on the site, the evaluation uncovered evidence for the medieval and post-medieval tin streaming and agricultural use of the site. The tin streaming was probably part of extensive works in the area dating to the late medieval and early post-medieval periods. Agricultural use of the site was probably not straightforward, as the damp land required improvement, but after 1839 and before 1888 there was major transformation of the landscape with the wholesale removal of historic field boundaries and woodland to create much larger fields.

## 10. ARCHIVE AND OASIS

- 10.1 The finds, paper and digital archive is currently held at the offices of AC archaeology Ltd, at 4 Halthaies Workshops, Bradninch, near Exeter, Devon, EX5 4LQ under the unique project code of **ACD2020**. It will be held until it is known if any further archaeological work on the site is required. On completion of all archaeological work the finds and paper archive will be offered to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM), Exeter under temporary reference number **RAMM: 19/22**. Also at this stage,

if required a digital archive will be compiled in accordance with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) standards, guidelines and the *AC archaeology Data Management Plan for Digital Archives* (Coles 2018).

- 10.2** An online OASIS entry has been completed using the unique identifier **350462**, which includes a digital copy of this report.

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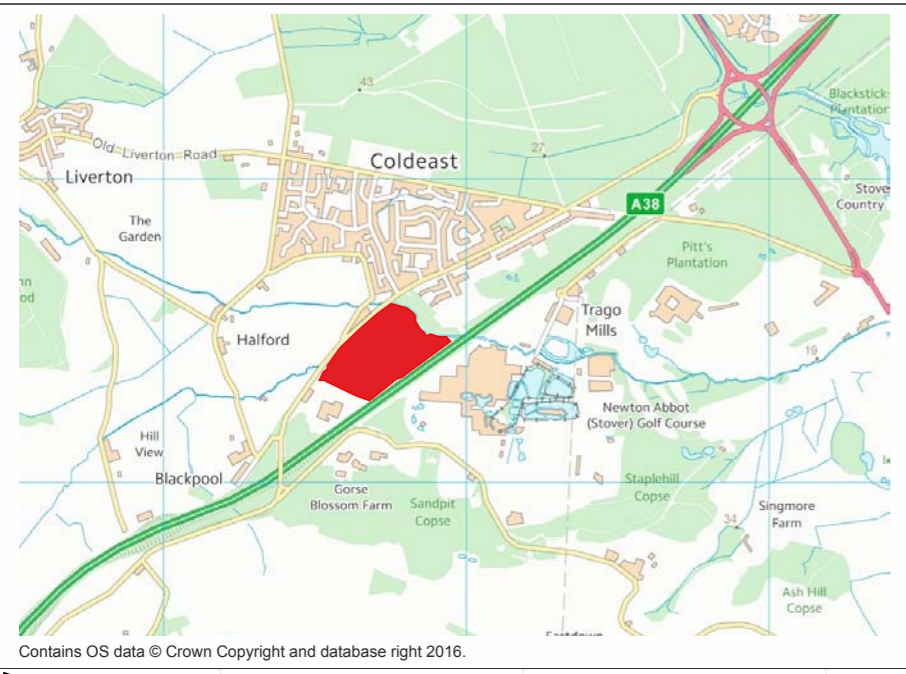
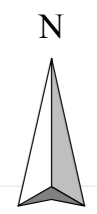
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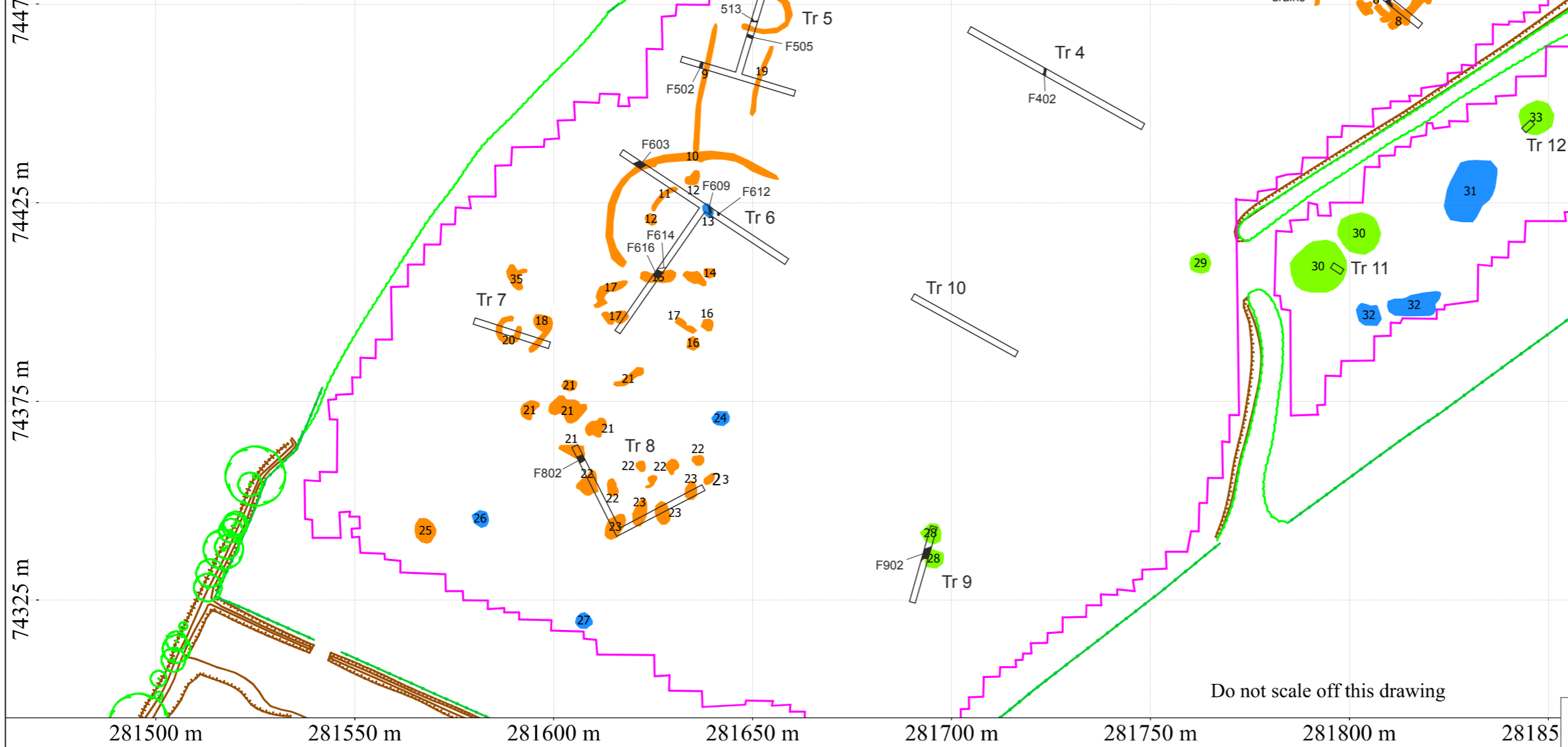
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**Gradiometer survey**  
 Potential archaeology  
*certainty, anomaly type (2)*

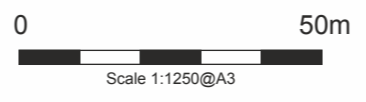
- █ likely, dipolar
- █ possible, dipolar
- █ possible, positive

**Services and modern**

- █ likely, dipolar
- █ gradiometer survey area

**Legend**

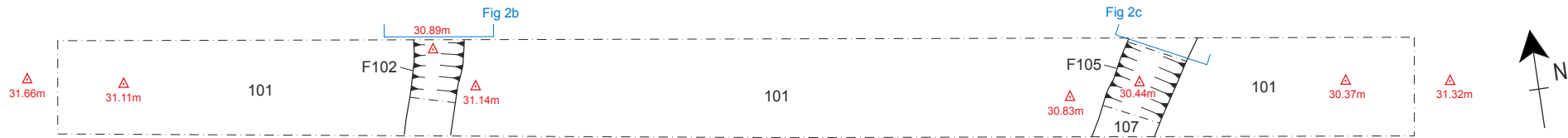
Trenches with archaeological features identified



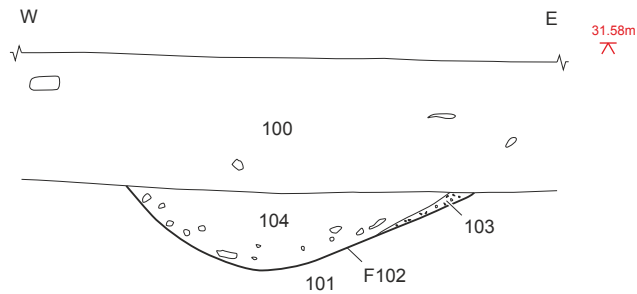
PROJECT  
 Land adjacent to Liverton Business Park,  
 Liverton, Devon

TITLE  
 Fig. 1: Location of site and trenches,  
 showing archaeological features in relation  
 to the geophysics interpretation

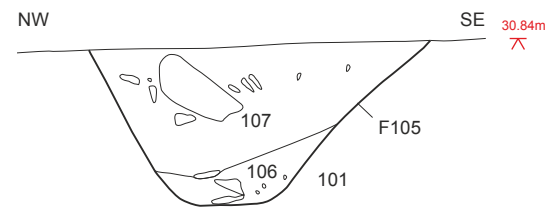
a) Trench 1, plan



b) Section of ditch F102



c) Section of ditch F105



Key to all figures	
	Stones
	Charcoal
	Ferrous stone

0 Plan 5m

Scale 1:100@A4

0 Sections 1m

Scale 1:20@A4

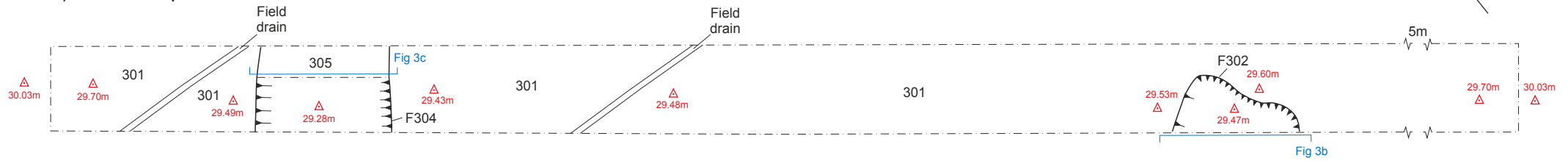
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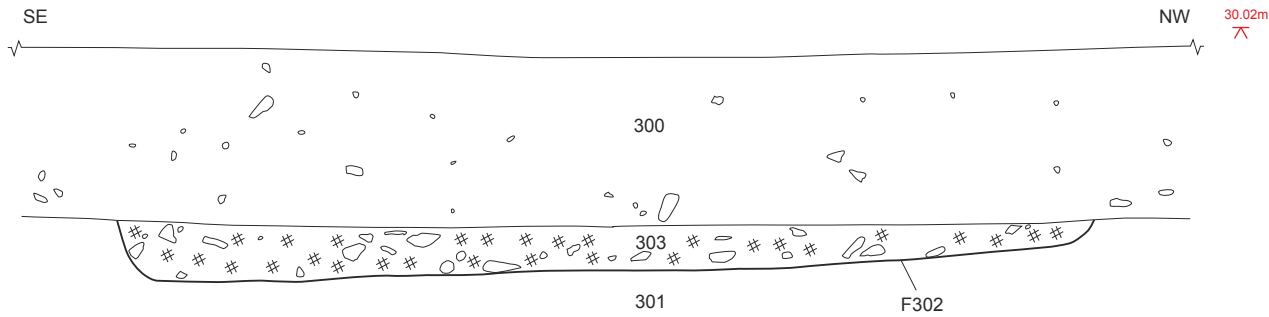
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Fig. 2: Trench 1, plan and sections

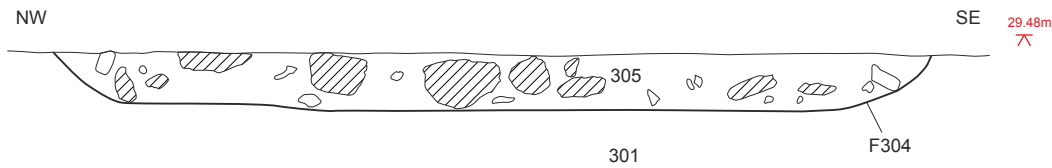
a) Trench 3, plan



b) Section of pit F302



c) Section of ditch F304



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0 Sections 1m

Scale 1:20@A4

PROJECT

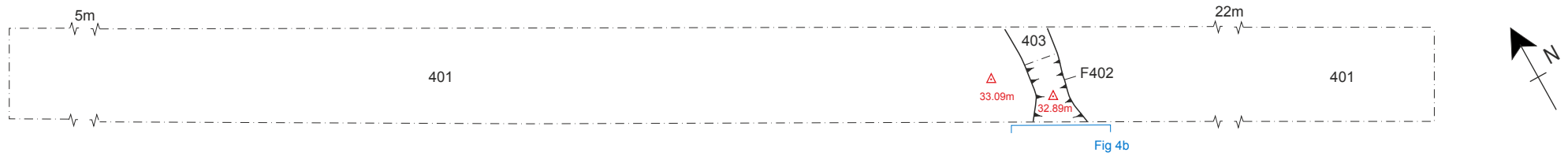
Land adjacent to Little Liverton Business Park, Liverton, Devon

TITLE

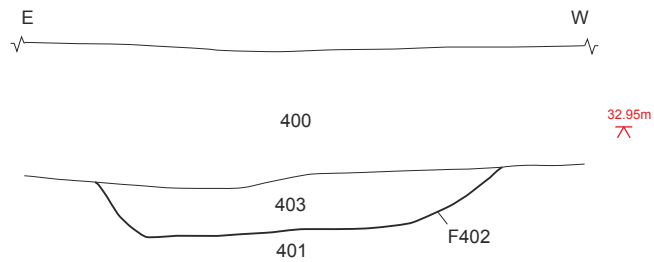
Fig. 3: Trench 3, plan and sections



a) Trench 4, plan



b) Section of ditch F402



0 Plan 5m

Scale 1:100@A4

0 Section 1m

Scale 1:20@A4

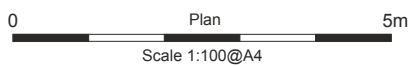
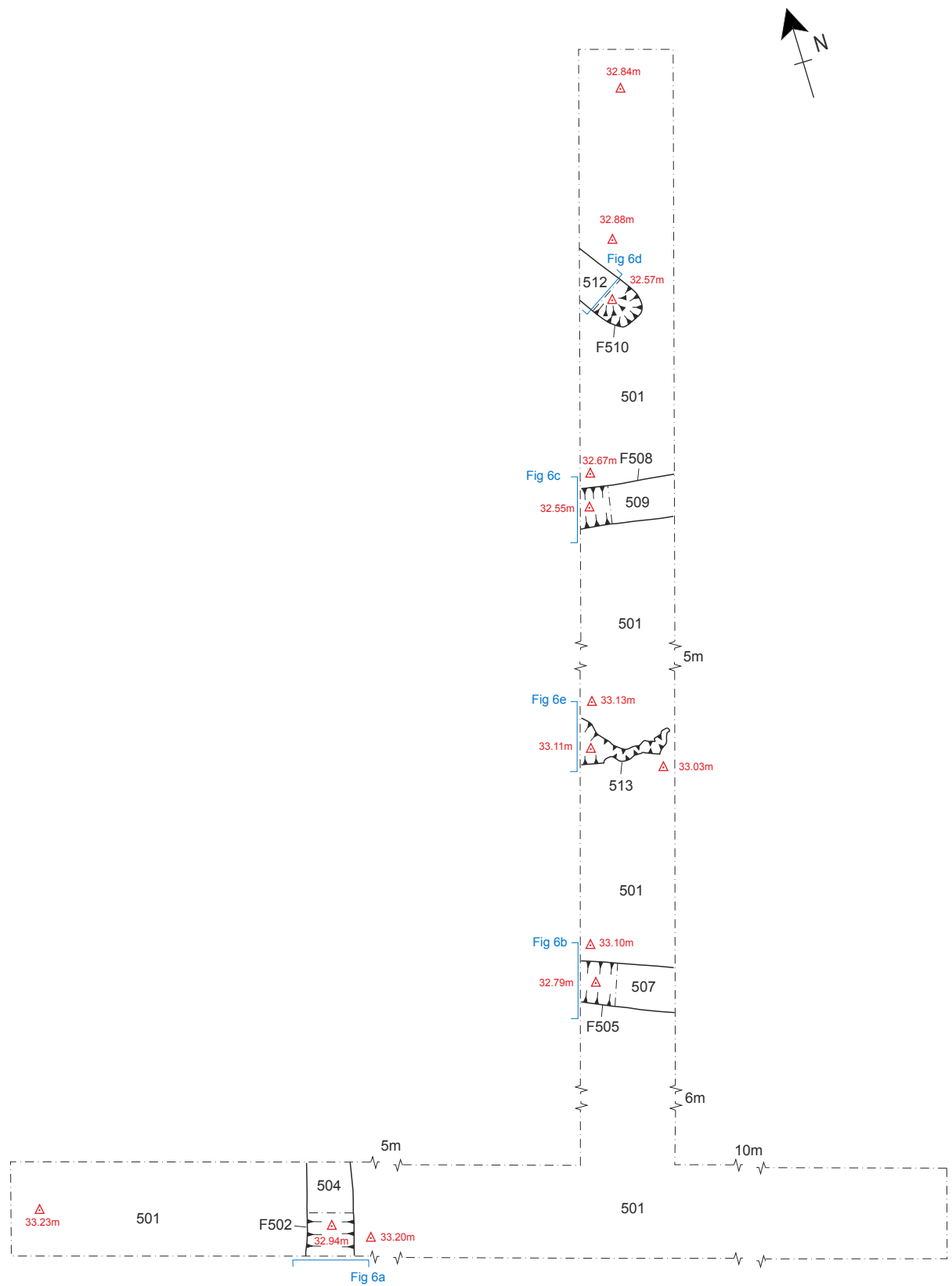
PROJECT

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TITLE

Fig. 4: Trench 4, plan and section

a) Trench 5, plan

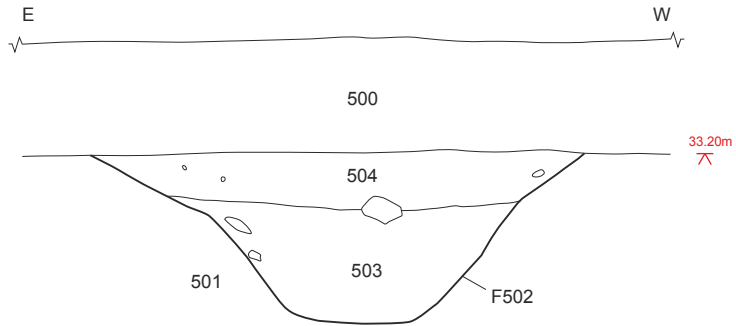


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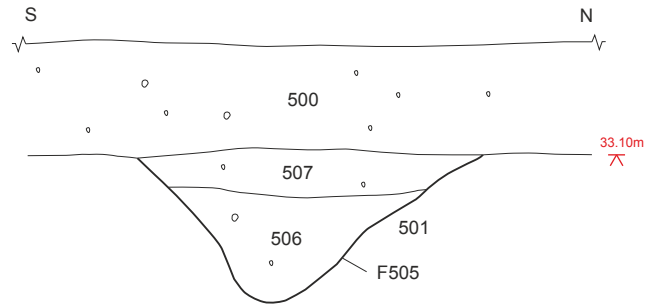
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Fig. 5: Trench 5, plan



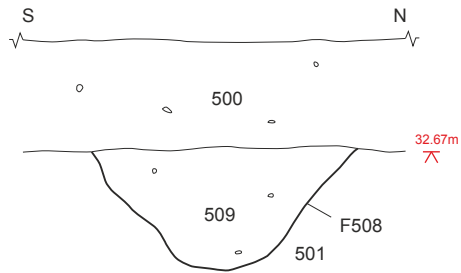
a) Section of ditch F502



b) Section of ditch F505



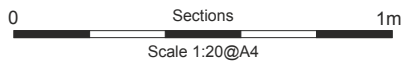
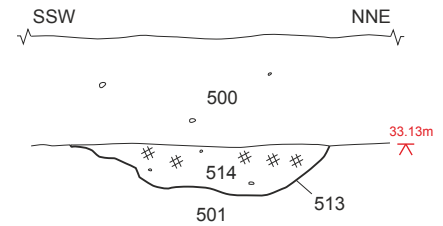
c) Section of ditch F508



d) Section of ditch terminal F510



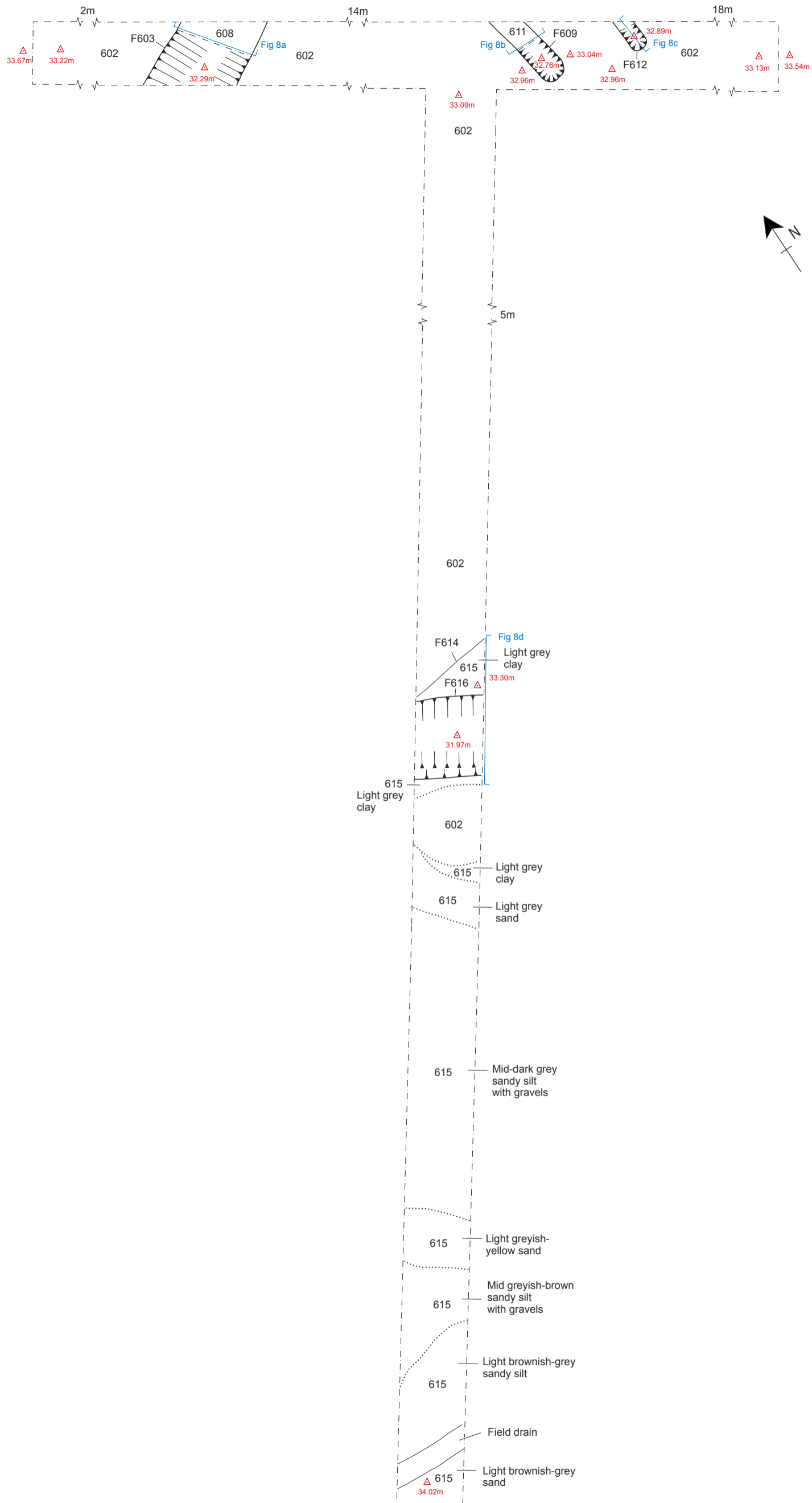
e) Section of tree throw 513



PROJECT  
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Park, Liverton, Devon

TITLE  
Fig. 6: Trench 5, sections

a) Trench 6, plan



0 Plan 5m  
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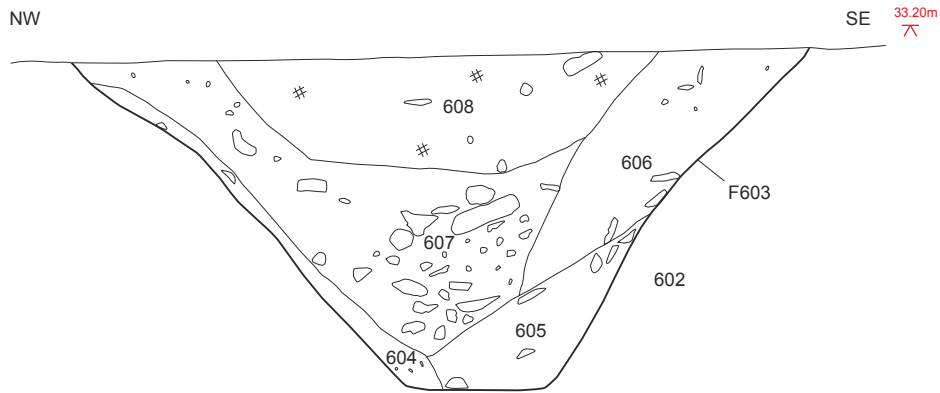
PROJECT  AC archaeology

Land adjacent to Little Liverton Business Park, Liverton, Devon

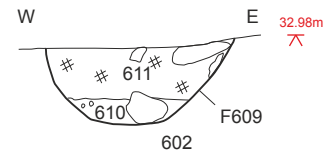
TITLE

Fig. 7: Trench 6, plan

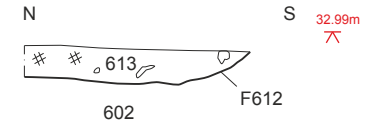
a) Section of enclosure ditch F603



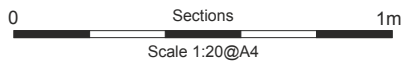
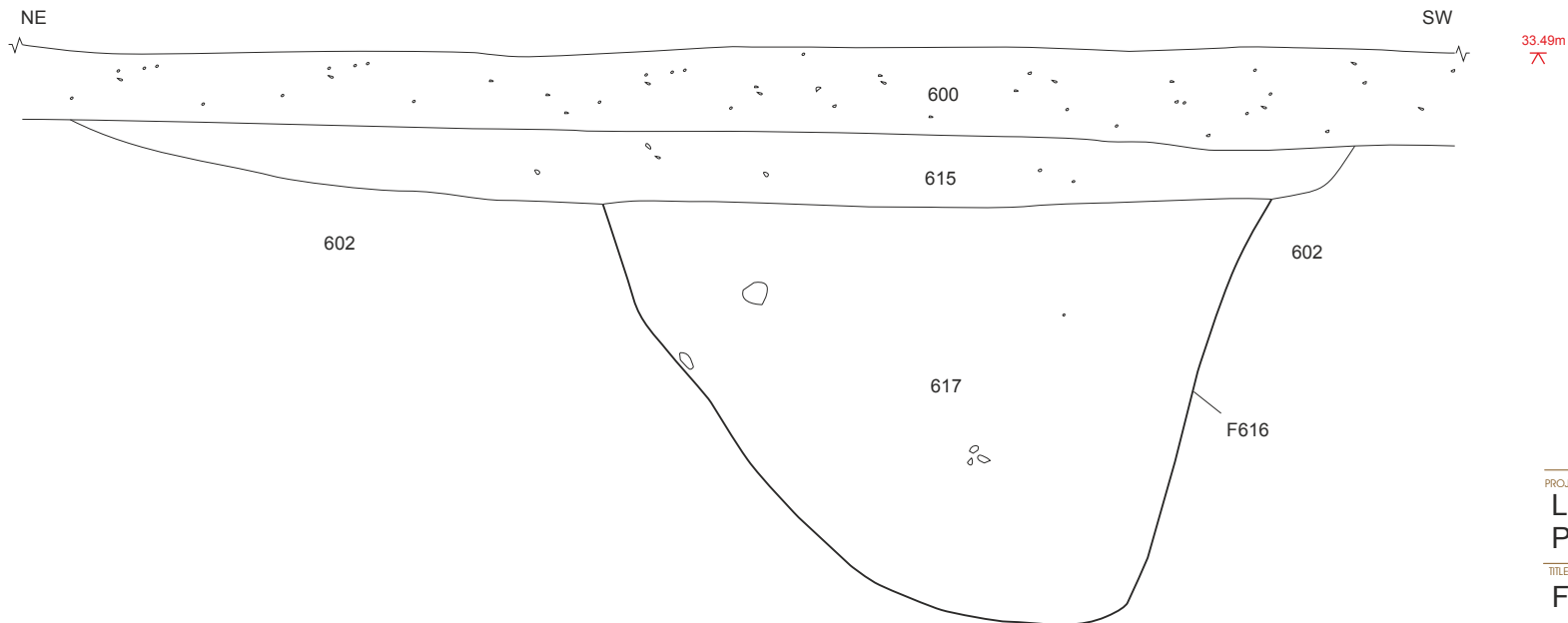
b) Section of ditch F609



c) Section of ditch F612



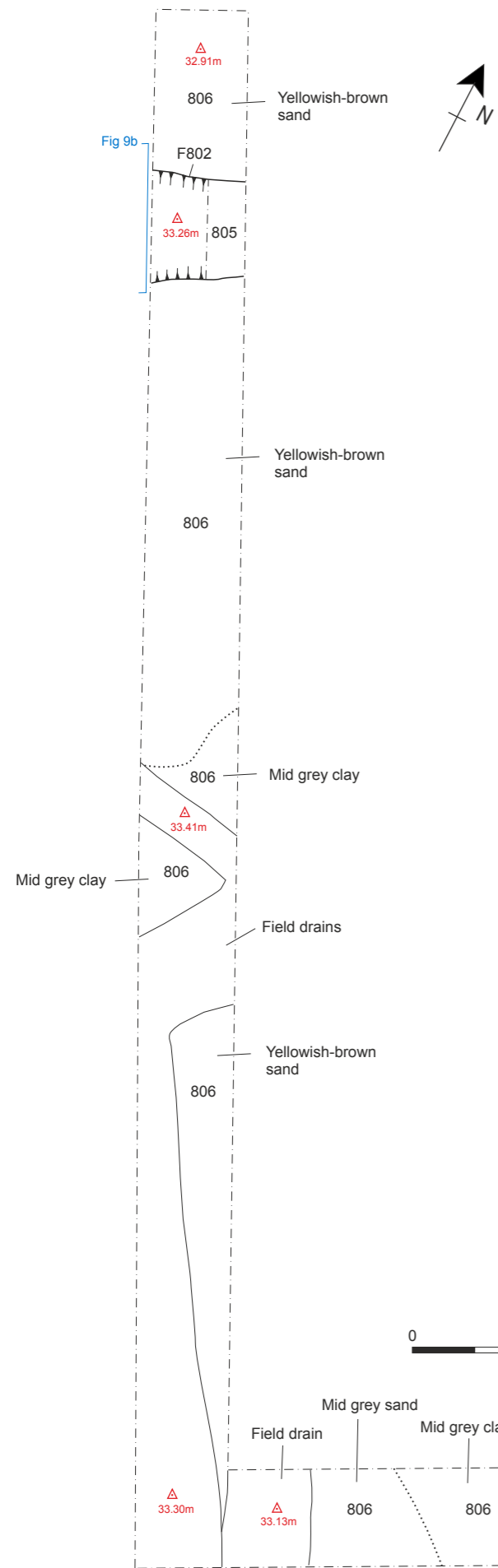
d) Section of enclosure ditch F616



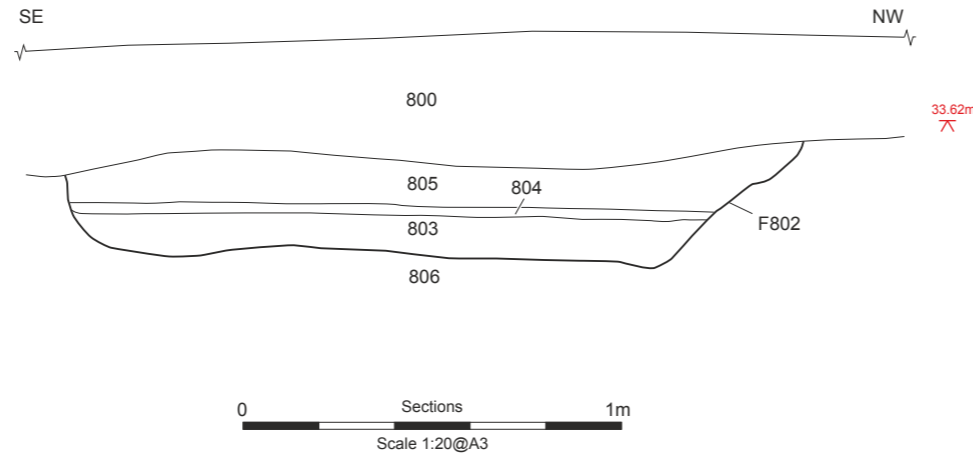
PROJECT  
Land adjacent to Little Liverton Business  
Park, Liverton, Devon

TITLE  
Fig. 8: Trench 6, sections

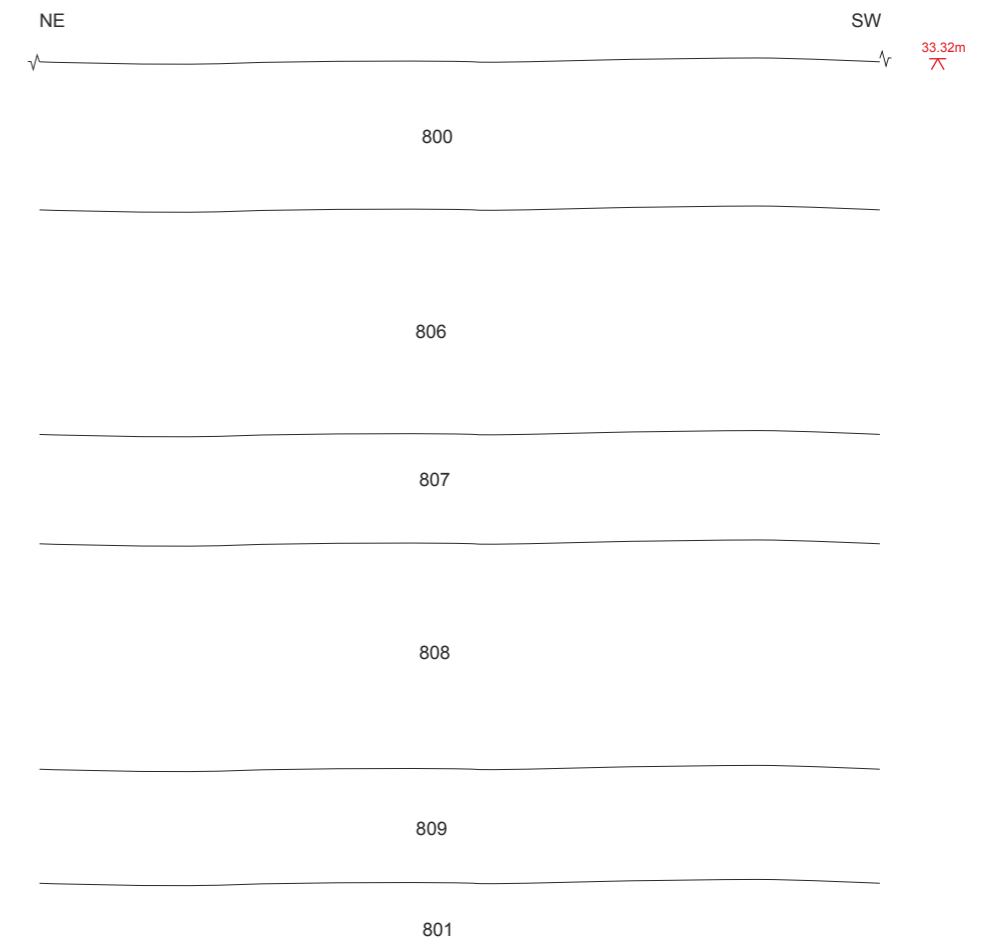
a) Trench 8, plan



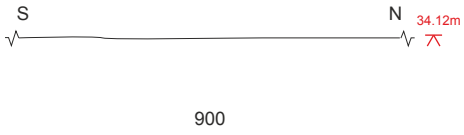
b) Section of ditch F802



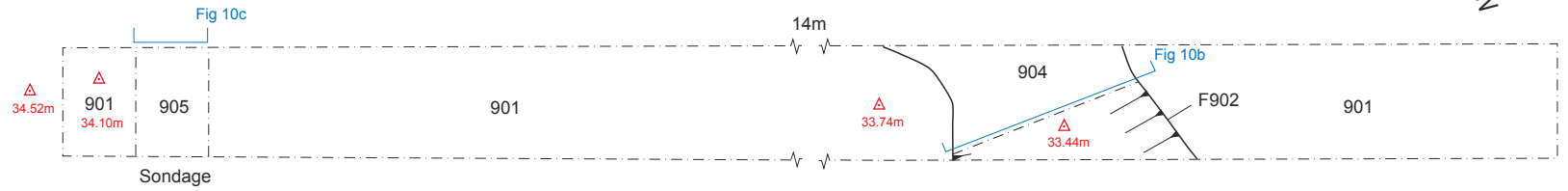
c) Section through sondage



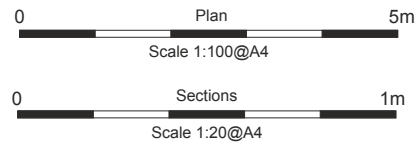
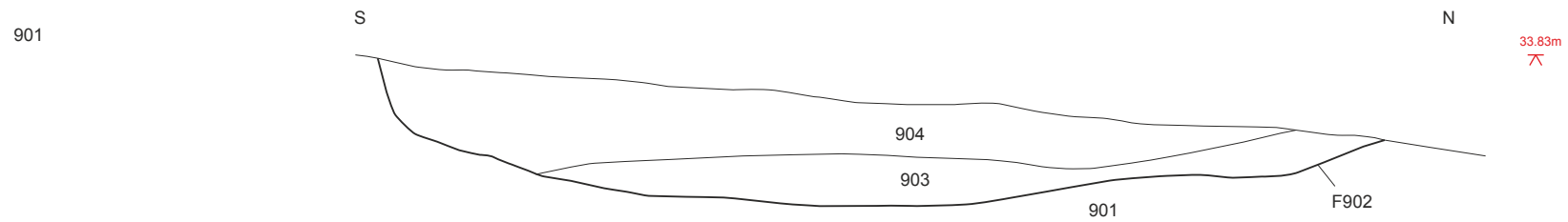
c) Section through sondage



a) Trench 9, plan



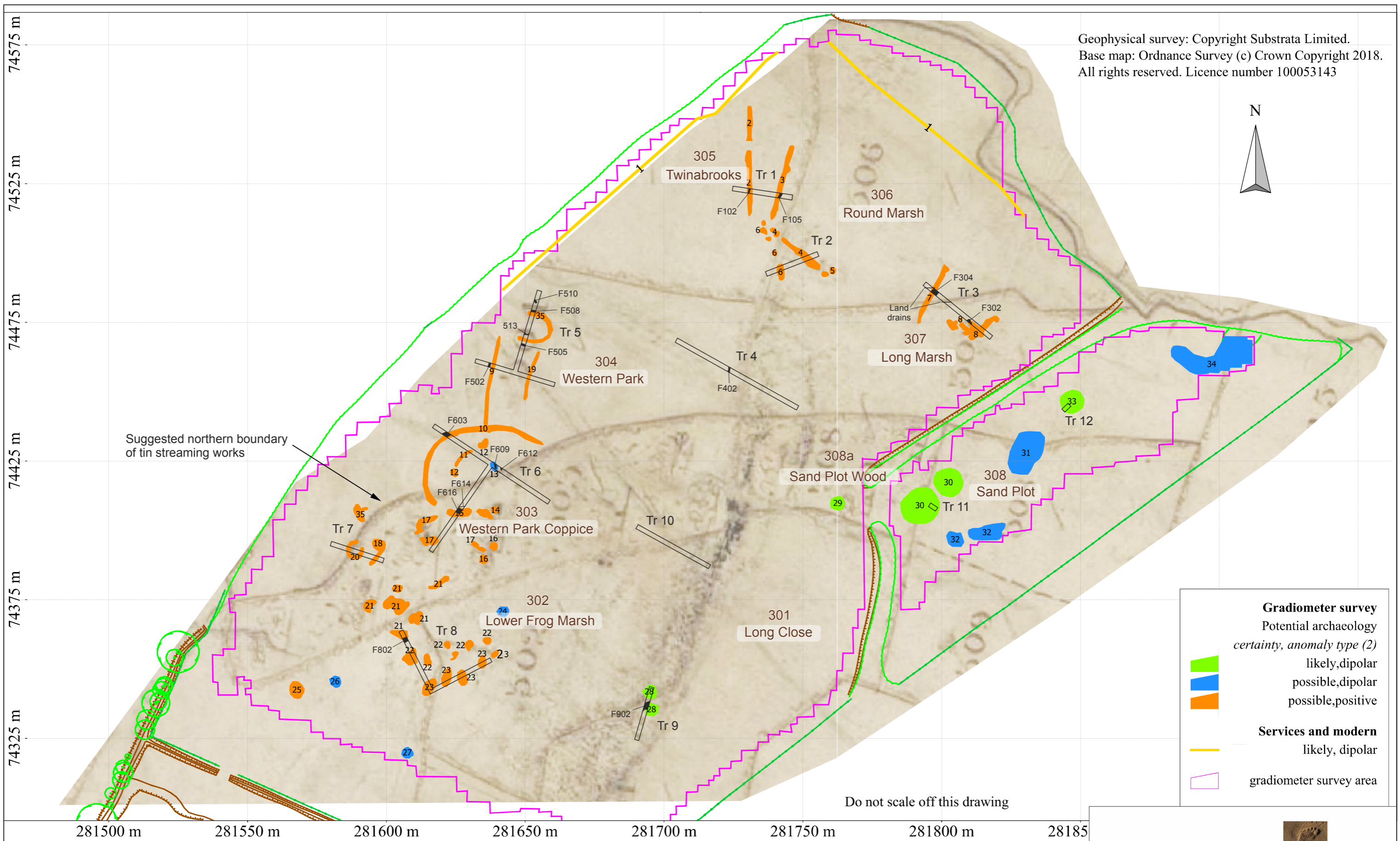
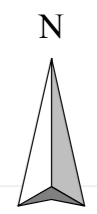
b) Section of ditch F902



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TITLE  
Fig. 10: Trench 9, plan and sections

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Suggested northern boundary of tin streaming works

Do not scale off this drawing

**Gradiometer survey**

- Potential archaeology
- certainty, anomaly type (2)*
- likely, dipolar
- possible, dipolar
- possible, positive

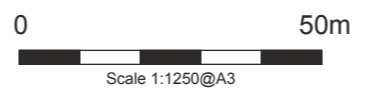
**Services and modern**


- likely, dipolar

gradiometer survey area

**Legend**

Trenches with archaeological features identified



PROJECT  AC archaeology

Land adjacent to Liverton Business Park,  
 Liverton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 11: Location of trenches, showing archaeological features in relation to the Ilington tithe map, 1839





Plate 1: General view of the site, with backfilled Trench 12 in the left foreground, looking west



Plate 2: Trench 1, looking east (1m scale)



Plate 3: Trench 5, ditch F505, looking southwest (1m scale)



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



Plate 5: Trench 6, ditch segment F603 of the probable Bronze Age enclosure, looking east (1m scale)



Plate 6: Trench 10, showing tin streaming tailings, looking northwest (1m x 1m scales)



Plate 7: Trench 11, northeast facing section, showing layers of made ground (1m scale)



Plate 8: Trench 12, northeast facing section, showing layers of made ground (1m scale)

# Appendix 1

Tabulated Context Descriptions by Trench



## APPENDIX 1: TABULATED CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS BY TRENCH

Trench 1		Length 20m	Width 1.6m	Alignment E - W
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
100	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.36m	Topsoil	
101	Light brown silty clayey loam with abundant gravel and pebbles and common cobbles	0.36m+	Natural subsoil	
F102	Linear cut approximately N-S aligned and 0.92m wide x 0.22m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and concave base	0.36-0.58m	Cut of ditch	
103	Light brown silty clayey loam	0.48-0.58m	Basal fill of ditch F102	
104	Dark brown silty clayey loam	0.36-0.58m	Upper fill of ditch F102	
F105	Linear cut approximately N-S aligned and 0.91m wide x 0.43m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and flat base	0.36-0.79m	Cut of ditch	
106	Mid grey silty clay	0.58-0.79m	Basal fill of ditch F105	
107	Mid brown silty clayey loam	0.36-0.71m	Upper fill of ditch F105	

Trench 2		Length 20m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NE - SW
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
200	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.38m	Topsoil	
201	Mid reddish-brown clay with abundant gravel and pebbles and common cobbles	0.38m+	Natural subsoil	

Trench 3		Length 30m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NW - SE
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
300	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.45m	Topsoil	
301	Mid reddish-brown clay with abundant gravel and pebbles and common cobbles	0.45m+	Natural subsoil	
F302	Irregular in plan, not fully revealed in trench, 2.59m across x 0.16m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and flat base	0.45-0.51m	Possible pit	
303	Dark grey clay	0.45-0.51m	Fill of possible pit F302	
F304	Linear cut approximately NE-SW aligned and 2.32m wide x 0.15m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and flat base	0.45-0.50m	Cut of ditch	
305	Mid grey silty clay	0.45-0.50m	Fill of ditch F304	

Trench 4		Length 50m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NW - SE
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
400	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.4m	Topsoil	
401	Mid yellow silty clay with abundant gravel and pebbles and common cobbles	0.4m+	Natural subsoil	
F402	Linear cut approximately N-S aligned and 1.05m wide x 0.15m deep. Shallow-sloping irregular sides and concave base	0.4-0.55m	Cut of ditch	
403	Mid brownish-grey silty clay	0.4-0.55m	Fill of ditch F402	

b.g.s = below ground surface

## APPENDIX 1: TABULATED CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS BY TRENCH

Trench 5		Length 30m 30m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NE – SW SE - NW
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
500	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.35m	Topsoil	
501	Mid yellowish-brown silty clay	0.35m+	Natural subsoil	
F502	Linear cut approximately N-S aligned and 1.3m wide x 0.44m deep. Moderately-sloping sides and flat base	0.35-0.79m	Cut of ditch	
503	Mid brownish-grey silty clay	0.49-0.79m	Basal fill of ditch F502	
504	Mid greyish-brown clayey silt	0.35-0.5m	Upper fill of ditch F502	
F505	Linear cut approximately NW-SE aligned and 0.75m wide x 0.4m deep. Moderately-sloping sides and concave base	0.35-0.75m	Cut of ditch	
506	Mid greyish-brown silty clay	0.5-0.75m	Basal fill of ditch F505	
507	Mid brown clayey silt	0.35-0.5m	Upper fill of ditch F505	
F508	Linear cut 0.7m wide x 0.32m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and concave base	0.35-0.67m	Cut of ditch	
509	Mid grey silty clay	0.35-0.67m	Fill of ditch F508	
F510	Linear terminal cut approximately NW-SE aligned and 1.5m long x 0.7m wide x 0.32m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and concave base	0.35-0.67m	Cut of ditch terminal	
511	Mid yellowish-brown sandy silty clay	0.45-0.67m	Basal fill of ditch F510	
512	Mid brown silty clay	0.35-0.54m	Upper fill of ditch F510	
513	Amorphous hollow approximately E-W aligned and 1.15m long x 0.66m wide x 0.13m deep. Gradually-sloping sides and irregular base	0.35-0.48m	Tree throw	
514	Mid greyish-brown silty clay	0.35-0.48m	Fill of 513	

Trench 6		Length 50m 40m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NW – SE NE - SW
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
600	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.41m	Topsoil	
601	Light brown silty clay	0.41-0.46m	Natural subsoil transition	
602	Mid reddish-brown clay with abundant gravel and pebbles and common cobbles	0.46m+	Natural subsoil	
F603	Linear cut approximately NE-SW aligned and 1.96m wide x 0.89m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and flat base	0.46-1.35m	Cut of enclosure ditch	
604	Mid yellowish-brown silty clay loam	0.51-1.35m	Fill of ditch F603	
605	Mid brownish-grey clay	0.85-1.35m	Fill of ditch F603	
606	Light yellowish-brown silty clay	0.46-1.15m	Fill of ditch F603	
607	Mid grey clay	0.46-1.25m	Fill of ditch F603	
608	Dark brown silty clay	0.46-0.78m	Fill of ditch F603	
F609	Linear cut approximately N-S aligned and 1.23m long x 0.5m wide x 0.24m deep. Steeply-sloping concave sides and concave base	0.46-0.68m	Cut of ditch terminal	
610	Light grey clay	0.6-0.68m	Basal fill of ditch F609	
611	Dark greyish-brown clay	0.46-0.66m	Upper fill of ditch F609	
F612	Linear cut approximately N-S aligned and 0.6m long x 0.42m wide x 0.09m deep. Steeply-sloping concave sides and flat base	0.46-0.55m	Cut of possible ditch terminal	
613	Mid greyish-brown clay	0.46-0.55m	Fill of ditch F612	
F614	Edge of 615	0.5m+	Edge of tailings	
615	Mixed deposit composed of lenses of sands, gravels, clays and silty clay. 27m+ long x 1.6m+ wide x 0.5m+ thick	0.3-0.5m	Tin streaming tailings	
F616	Linear cut approximately NW-SE aligned and 1.5m wide x 1.1m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and flat base	0.5-1.6m	Cut of enclosure ditch	
617	Dark greyish-brown silty clay	0.5-1.6m	Fill of ditch F616	

b.g.s = below ground surface

## APPENDIX 1: TABULATED CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS BY TRENCH

Trench 7		Length 20m	Width 1.6m	Alignment WNW - SSE
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
700	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.22m	Topsoil	
701	Mid reddish-brown clay with abundant gravel and pebbles and common cobbles	0.22m+	Natural subsoil	

Trench 8		Length 25m 25m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NW – SE NE - SW
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
800	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.36m	Topsoil	
801	Mid reddish-brown clay with abundant gravel and pebbles and common cobbles	2.2m+	Natural subsoil	
F802	Linear cut approximately NE-SW aligned and 1.95m wide x 0.3m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and uneven base	0.36-0.66m	Cut of possible ditch	
803	Mid grey sand	0.54-0.66m	Fill of ditch F802	
804	Mid grey silty clay	0.5-0.54m	Fill of ditch F802	
805	Light grey sand	0.36-0.5m	Fill of ditch F802	
806	Mixed deposit of mid yellowish-brown sand, mid grey clay and mid grey sand, 25m+ long x 1.6m+ wide x 0.2m thick	0.36-0.56m	Tin streaming tailings?	
807	Deposit of mid grey clay 1.5m+ long x 1m+ wide x 0.3m thick	0.36-0.66m	Tin streaming tailings?	
808	Deposit of mid grey sand 1.5m+ long x 1m+ wide x 0.6m thick	0.36-0.96m	Tin streaming tailings?	
809	Deposit of mid grey clay 1.5m+ long x 1m+ wide x 0.3m thick	0.36-0.66m	Tin streaming tailings?	

Trench 9		Length 34m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NNE - SSW
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
900	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.4m	Topsoil	
901	Deposit of light grey sand 34m+ long x 1.6m+ wide x 1.7m+ thick	0.4-2.1m+	Tin streaming tailings	
F902	Linear cut approximately NW-SE aligned and 2.8m wide x 0.3m deep. Steeply-sloping sides and concave uneven base	0.4-0.7m	Cut of possible ditch	
903	Dark grey sandy loam	0.54-0.7m	Basal fill of ditch F902	
904	Mid greyish-brown silty sand	0.4-0.68m	Upper fill of ditch F902	
905	Deposit of mid grey clay 1.5m+ long x 1m+ wide x 0.9m+ thick	2.1m+	Tin streaming tailings	

Trench 10		Length 38m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NW - SE
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
1000	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.36m	Topsoil	
1001	Mixed deposit composed of lenses of sands, gravels, clays and silty clay	0.36m+	Tin streaming tailings	



## APPENDIX 1: TABULATED CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS BY TRENCH

Trench 11		Length 3m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NE - SW
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
1100	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.5m	Topsoil	
1101	Dark brown silty clay	0.5-1.7m	Made ground	
1102	Mixed dark brown and grey sandy silty clay	1.7-1.9m	?tin streaming deposits	
1103	Dark grey sandy silt	1.9-2.3m	?alluvial deposit	
1104	Mid grey clay	2.3-2.6m	?alluvial deposit	
1105	Yellow clay	2.6m+	Natural subsoil	

Trench 12		Length 3m	Width 1.6m	Alignment NE - SW
Context	Description	Depth b.g.s	Interpretation	
1200	Mid greyish-brown clayey loam	0-0.24m	Topsoil	
1201	Mixed dark brown and yellowish-red silty clay	0.24-0.8m	Made ground	
1202	Mid grey sand	0.8-1.24m	Made ground	
1203	Mid brown silty clay	1.24-1.5m	Made ground	
1204	Mixed red and grey clay	1.5-2m	?alluvial deposit	
1205	Mid brownish-yellow clay	2-2.3m	?alluvial deposit	
1206	Mid brown sandy silty clay	2.3-2.5m+	?alluvial deposit	

b.g.s = below ground surface

### Devon Office

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