

# LAND AT RED LINHAY, CROWN HILL, HALBERTON, DEVON

(NGR SS 9949 1280 and SS 9968 1279)

Results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

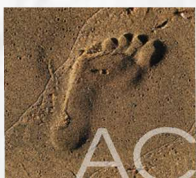
Mid Devon District Council Planning References  
19/01215/FULL (condition 4) and 20/00226/FULL  
(condition 3)

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Prepared by:  
Simon Hughes

Report No: ACD2267/2/0

Date: June 2021

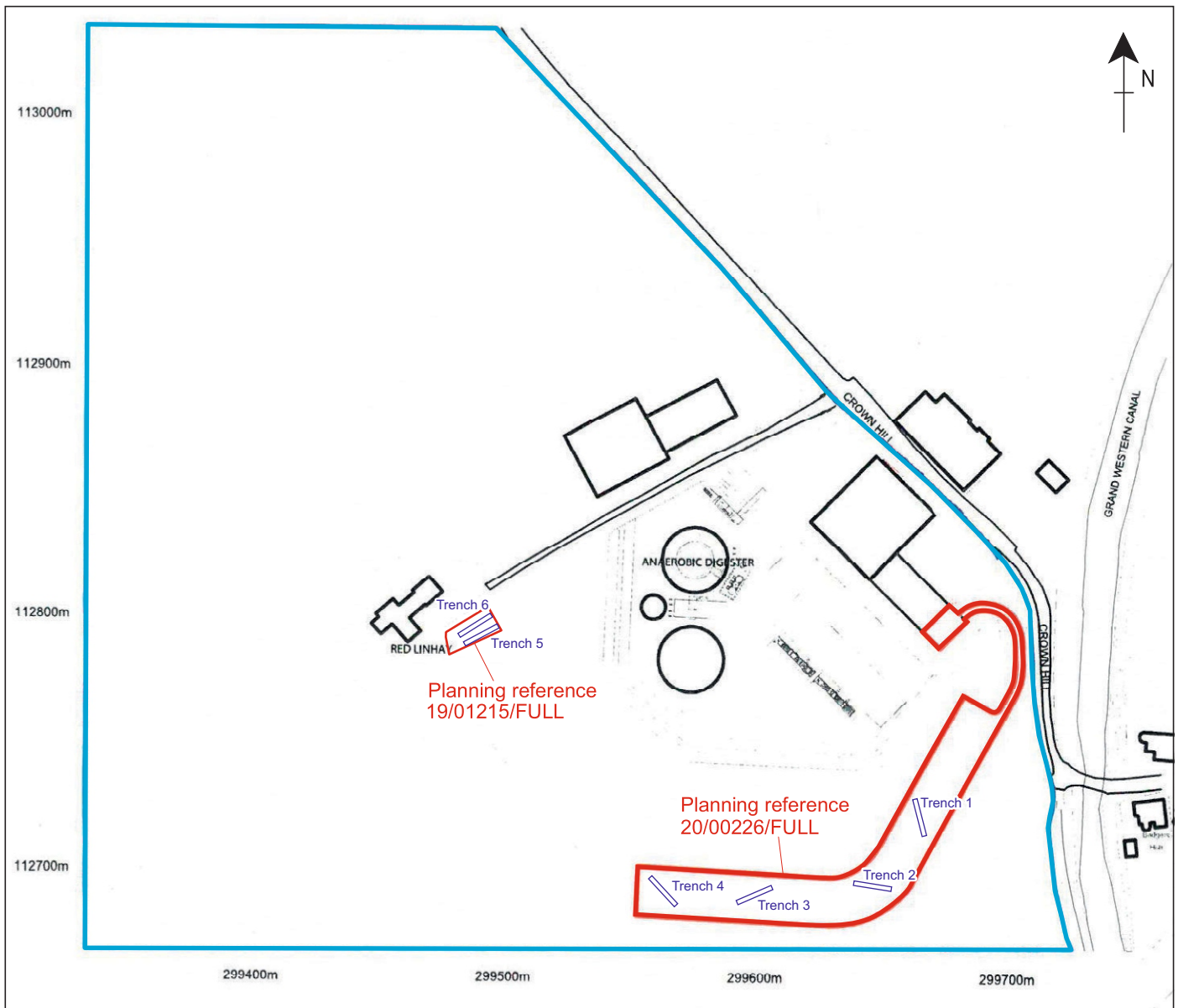
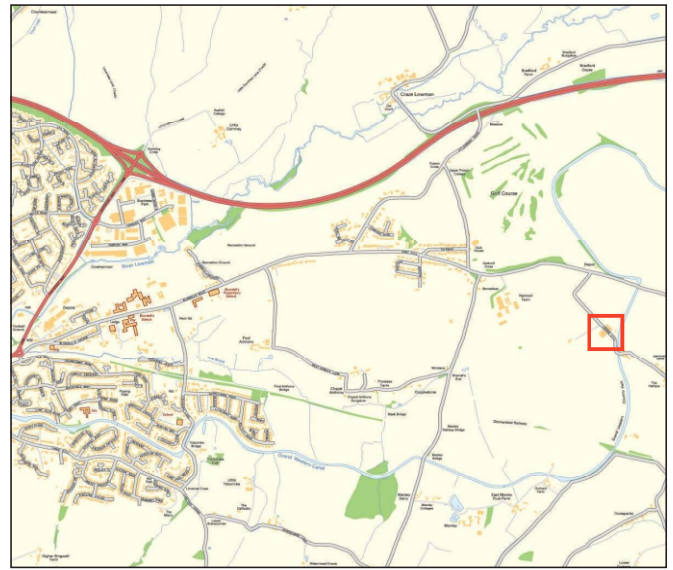
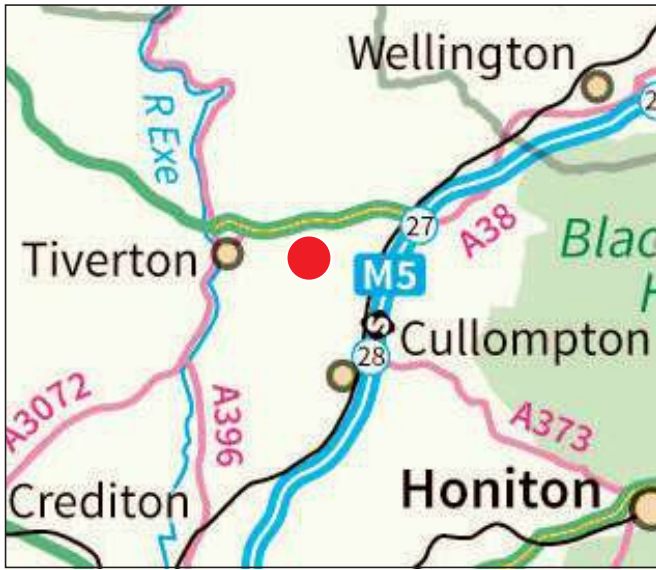


archaeology

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# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Halberton, Mid Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SS 9949 1280 and SS 9968 1279	<b>Number:</b> (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
<b>Subject:</b> Land at Red Linhay, Crown Hill, Halberton, Devon: Results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation		<b>Photo attached?</b> Plates 1-4
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 19/01215/FULL and 20/00226/FULL	<b>Recipient museum:</b> N/A	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 394263	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> N/A	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b>  ACD2267	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b>  11 June 2020 and 1 June 2021	
<p><b>Introduction</b> (Fig. 1)</p> <p>An archaeological trial trench evaluation was undertaken ahead groundworks associated with the construction of a new agricultural storage building and the extension of an existing agricultural building was undertaken by AC archaeology on land at Red Linhay, Crown Hill, Halberton, Devon (SS 9949 1280 and SS 9968 1279). Red Linhay lies to the west of Halberton, on land to the southwest of Crown Hill Road and south of Post Hill. The site comprises Red Linhay farmhouse to the west, with an anaerobic digester plant and agricultural barns to the east. It lies on ground that slopes down to the northwest between 92m and 87m aOD.</p> <p>The site is situated in an area containing extensive evidence for prehistoric activity. This includes the plot to the northwest of the site, where two ring ditches have been interpreted from a geophysical survey. Both are likely to represent the sites of former barrows. Subsequent evaluation of one of these exposed a corresponding 3.6m wide ditch from which Neolithic pottery and a worked chert flake were recovered. Archaeological trial trenching associated with the construction of the existing biodigester and monitoring of groundworks during the construction of a barn to the north recovered a small quantity of worked flints and prehistoric pottery (MDV119413 and MDV111019).</p> <p><b>Results</b> (Fig. 1; Plates 1-4)</p> <p>The trial trench evaluation comprised the machine-excavation of six trenches totalling 90m in length and with each trench measuring 1.8m wide. Trenches 1-4 were located within a pasture plot to the southeast and Trenches 5-6 to the northwest within an orchard area.</p> <p>Natural subsoil, which consisted of a mid-red loamy sand with gravel inclusions, was exposed in Trenches 1-4 at a depth of between 0.4m (Trench 1) and 0.58m (Trench 3) below existing levels. It was overlain by a mid-reddish-brown silty loam subsoil and a mid-brown silty loam topsoil. In Trenches 5 and 6, the natural subsoil was present at between 0.52m and 0.6m below subsoil and topsoil. No archaeological features or deposits were exposed. A small number of amorphous vegetation hollows were present in Trenches 5 and 6. These were all investigated. No finds were recovered.</p> <p><b>Comments</b></p> <p>The investigations exposed only a simple soil sequence overlying the natural subsoil in each of the trial trenches. Despite the nearby prehistoric activity, no further evidence for this was exposed by these investigations.</p> <p>This report comprises the archive for the project.</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b>  Simon Hughes, AC archaeology	<b>Date sent to HER:</b>  15 June 2021	



Based on drawing prepared by R Taylor Design Associates

PROJECT

Land at Red Linhay, Crown Hill, Halberton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site and trial trenches





Plate 1: General working view with Trench 4 in foreground, looking southeast



Plate 2: Trench 1, view to southwest (scale 1m)



Plate 3: General working view of Trenches 5 and 6, looking southwest



Plate 4: Trench 5 with vegetation hollow in foreground. View to northeast (scale 1m)

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