

Diane' Collison

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

RINGMORE

**Summary Table:-**

Property Part: RINGMORE

Property: ERME TO AVON

Region: (SOUTH) DEVON

NT SITE NO	SITE NAME	SITE TYPE	GENERAL PERIOD	NGR
	OS 1:10000 SHEET	SITE STATUS	NT GRADE	
104 075	Extant buildings and structures at Noddonmill	Watermill	Post-medieval	
	SX 648 464 SX 64 NW	None		
104 076	Field named @Beacon above Ayrmer Cove	Field Name	Post-Medieval	
	SX 642 454 SX 64 NW	None		
104 077	Enclosure above Brook Brake quarry	Enclosure	?Prehistoric	SX 645 463
	SX 64 NW	None		
104 078	Extant leat, Middle Manor Farm	Leat	Post-medieval	
	SX 648 459 SX 64 NW	None	Not NT: disappears before it reaches NT	
<b>land</b>				
104 079	Extant stone-built butterwell, Middle Manor Farm	Butterwell	Post-medieval	
	SX 648 459 SX 64 NW	None	Not NT	
104 080	@Kennel Field, Lower Manor Farm	Field Name	Post-medieval	
	SX 647 461 SX 64 NW	None		
104 081	Remains of stone-built kennels, Lower Manor Farm	Kennels	Post-medieval	
	SX 647 460 SX 64 NW	None		
104 082	Site of @Pegs Cottage	Cottage	Post-medieval	SX 648 461
	SX 64 NW	None		
104 083	Site of cottage and barn			
104 083a	Cottage	Post-medieval	SX 648 460	SX 64 NW
	None			
104 083b	Barn	Post-medieval	SX 648 460	SX 64 NW
	None			
104 084	Ruined limekiln at Challaburgh	Limekiln	Post-medieval	
	SX 648 450 SX 64 NW	None	Not NT	
104 085	Site of @Willow Beer plantation, Lower Manor Farm	Plantation Field Name		
	Medieval to Post-medieval	SX 648 460 SX 64 NW	None	
104 086	Site of @Higher Willow Spot plantation enclosure	Plantation Field Name		
	Medieval to Post-medieval	SX 649 464 SX 64 NW	None	Not NT
104 087	Site of @Coyte Park Orchard, Lower Manor Farm	Orchard Field Name		
	Post-medieval	SX 646 462 SX 64 NW	None	
104 088	Site of @Spert Orchard, Lower Manor Farm	Orchard Field Name	Post-Medieval	
	SX 646 462 SX 64 NW	None		
104 089	Site of @Orchard in farmyard of Lower Manor Farm	Orchard Field Name		
	Post-Medieval	SX 647 462 SX 64 NW	None	Not NT ?
104 090	@Brook Brake Wood, Lower Manor Farm	Wood	Medieval to Post-medieval	
	SX 647 460 SX 64 NW	None		
104 091	Extant dry leat, Lower Manor Farm	Leat	Post-medieval	
	SX 646 458 SX 64 NW	None		
104 092	Road fom Ringmore to Challaburgh	Road Oral History	Post-medieval	
	SX 651 454 SX 64 NE	None	Not NT	

NODDON MILL 104075

NT SMR No: 104075

NGR: SX64854645 (multiple site centre)

NT Grade: regional importance

**Site Description:** Noddon Mill lies in the bottom of a steep sided valley running down to the sea at Ayrmer Cove, NW of the village of Ringmore. Access to the mill was via lanes from Lower Manor Farm to the south and Nodden Farm to the north. The date of Noddon Mill is unknown. Although the ruined dwelling appears to be of one phase and of 19th century date, the site and other buildings may well be much earlier. The

M earliest documentary source is a map of 1809 (Margary, 1977) and an unnamed mill in this area is shown on Greenwood's Map of Devon (1827). More details are shown on the Bigbury Tithe Map, where Noddonmill was referred to as "House and Mills" in the Tithe Apportionment (1842), but it is unclear if this means that more than one mill was functioning on the site at this time. The 1st edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1886) also provides a good plan of the site. Census returns (1841-1891) indicate that a miller called James Taylor, and his family, occupied the mill from at least 1841 until 1871; although by 1871 James Taylor's trade had changed from miller to basket maker. It is likely that milling on the site ceased at this time, as in 1881 and 1891 the mill is inhabited by George Edgecumbe, an agricultural labourer and his family. ~~no miller~~ is recorded. By the early twentieth century only the dwelling (104075a) was recorded on the OS map (1906). It is clear from photographic and map evidence that the dwelling became uninhabited in the early part of this century; by 1951 it is shown as unroofed by the OS.

The surviving building remains (104075a-i) match the layout recorded on the OS 25" of 1886 fairly well. The main and best preserved building on site is the dwelling. The mill was probably in the building east of the dwelling. Interpretation is difficult because this building has been altered with small outhouses being built within the former main walls and several walls or buildings shown on the maps are no longer visible. It is likely that the machinery was removed after the mill fell out of use and the building was reused. This building seems to be the only likely candidate for the mill, with an overshot wheel housed on the S side, presumably fed via a pond contained by the large bank to the east and the wheel set within a pit which has now been infilled. A gap between the house and mill was at some time enclosed. A gateway, two further buildings, and a redundant access lane lie to the north of the main complex. All (of) the buildings are built out of the local shillet bedrock, the dwelling is lime mortar bonded but other buildings appears to be clay bonded with some lime content in the mix.

A large (fifty-six pound) weight was discovered in a field bank on land owned by Mr and Mrs McCabe of Windwood Farm adjacent to Noddonmill. It is square-shaped with an indented top where a handle bar is located and may have been used at the mill. Local knowledge associates this mill with two separate suicides and some people find the area of the mill ⊕creepy and sinister.

**Recommendations:** The complex of buildings at Noddon Mill is ruinous and overgrown with ivy, trees and scrub. The mill is an important part of the history of Ringmore and a distinctive feature in the valley. A public footpath from Ringmore to Kingston passes the mill dwelling and the building therefore lies in a prominent and accessible position. Considerable care needs to be taken in the approach to the maintenance of this building to preserve it as a structurally sound romanitic ruin in an undeveloped rural setting. The removal of selected trees and gradual scrub clearance would aid in the preservation of the structures and assist in the interpretation of the site. Trees should not be allowed to regenerate on the site. Some consolidation of the dwelling is desirable. Specific recommendations are given below for individual elements of the complex. A conservation plan for the site should be developed.

**References:**

- Bigbury Tithe Map: 1842-1843, Nos 504-505; plus addition 1876
- County SMR No: SX64NW/22
- Devon Record Office DRO: 51/7/11/3; 1754
- Devon Record Office Census Returns 1841-1891, Reels 6, 52, 100, 138, 182 & Fiche 0159
- Greenwood, C, Greenwood, J et al 1827
- Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, 1
- Margary, H 1977

\* Now owned by Jeremy/Liz

Although it is situated within the parish of Bigbury,



NODDEN MILL DWELLING      104075\*A  
NT SMR No: 104075\*A  
NGR:            SX64854645 (centre)

**Site Description:** A house bounded by a probable tailrace immediately to the south, and the stream to the west. A yard or garden lie to the north, accessed through a gate (104075d), and originally also by a footbridge over the stream. The probable site of the mill lies to the east.

The building survives as a two-storey, roofed ruin (**dimensions**), and was probably abandoned early this century; it had lost its roof by 1951. The house appears to be of one phase and early to mid 19th century date. It is a well built but plain structure with few adornments. Thin pieces of local stone laid flat, with larger stones for quoins, have been used in the construction with generous lime mortar bonding smoothed to provide a heavily mortared but attractive finish. Four large windows are located on the rear (S) elevation, with remnants of panels of mortared slate hanging between ground floor and first floor windows. All of the windows have relieving arches formed from upright shillet. The front of the house faced north, where there is a central front door, with small storm porch above, and ground floor and first floor windows to the east. Each floor contained three rooms. The kitchen and main bedroom lay on the west side of the house where there was a projecting external chimney stack, both rooms were served by a fireplace and contained a niche or cupboard S of the fireplace. On the E side of the building there was a rear parlour and small scullery on the ground floor and two rooms on the first floor; only the rear larger rooms were heated by a fire. The chimney stack on this side of the house projects into the rooms. There appear to have been window seats in all the rear windows. The stair was in the NW corner of the house. Details of joist holes, fittings, the stair, partitions etc are visible in the internal elevations, some revealed by the remaining plaster. Detailed measurements are recorded in the site notes.

**Condition and Recommendations:** The building is heavily overgrown with ivy, which has probably penetrated the walls. Once in a wall ivy will expand as it grows and threaten the stability of the structure. It is usually recommended that the stems are cut and the ivy allowed to die back before being removed. However, in this instance the ivy stems are very large (one stem in the NE corner of the building is 0.10m - 0.15m thick) and have penetrated the walls to such an extent that the ivy may well now be supporting areas of the structure. Removal of, or killing the ivy without consideration of this may precipitate the collapse of sections of the building. Some stems have already been cut at their base, although there is little sign of the ivy dying. Initially the heavy overburden of ivy growth should be trimmed back to relieve the walls of the weight and to allow an assessment of the extent of ivy penetration into the walls to be undertaken. A limited consolidation programme could then run concurrently with the removal of the ivy if desired.

A fallen hawthorn tree is leaning against the S wall (causing some damage as it rocks in the wind), and some tiny sapling are growing within the interior of the building; these should be removed as soon as possible. Some vegetation is growing on the upper cills and should be removed if this can be undertaken in safety. The area in front (N) of the dwelling is boggy and at times subject to flooding. The banks of the stream should

be maintained to prevent this and the structure should be monitored to ensure that the stream does not undermine the W wall.

The lintels of the doorway and the the front (N) ground floor window need support as they are in danger of collapsing and bringing down the walls above them. These lintels should be replaced if possible. There are some fairly large cracks in the structure: two on the south side of the east wall clearly visible on the external elevation, and another crack visible on the south side of the west external elevation. It would be advisable for a buildings surveyor to assess the structural stability of this building. Any repairs should be made using a lime based mortar, the walls should also be capped with a lime based mortar.

**References:**

Devon Record Office Census Returns 1841-1891, Reels 6, 52, 100, 138, 182 & Fiche 0159

Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906; 1951; SX6446

Bigbury Tithe Map; 1842-1843, no 504

**PROBABLE REMAINS OF MILL 104075\*B**

NT SMR No: **104075\*B**

NGR: SX64904645 (centre)

**Site Description:** There is no immediately obvious mill building on the site. As milling appears to have ceased between 1861 and 1871, it is likely that the former mill building was reused and the machinery removed, and thus the identification of the mill and associated water system is difficult. The most likely candidate for a mill building is this structure east of the dwelling.

Only walls to the W, S, and E survive forming a building **dimensions**. The S and E walls have a large external offset, much of it on the W side obscured by rubble infill. The SE corner of the building revetts a large bank (approx 3m wide) which continues to the south and presumably held the pond. If this was the case an overshot wheel would have been located on the S side of the S wall, where the retaining wall to the E is vertical for a width of 0.70m, fed from the pond via a launder. There is an opening through the wall from present ground level to 0.70m high which could have taken the axle. There is a projecting ledge at first floor level above which there are two small openings (now blocked). There is a blocked window on the W wall. Internally there are secondary walls forming three small outhouses built against the S wall. The walls are narrow and abutt the main walls, each little outhouse has a door on the N. — Fragments of two walls survive attached to the external E wall and may be indicated on the OS 1886 map.

**Condition and Recommendations:** The walls are affected by ivy growth which is very dense in places. As with the mill dwelling (104075a) the heavy overburden should be removed. A small number of trees need to be removed: a small elder in one of small secondary rooms appears dead but is causing some dislocation of stones; trees on the eastern (retaining) wall of the building, and the bank which runs S from the SE corner of building will also be causing damage and should be removed if possible. Scrub clearance in this area may reveal additional walls and earthworks.

*References:*



*Bigbury Tithe Map; 1842-1843, No 504  
Devon Record Office Census Returns 1841-1891, Reels 6, 52, 100, 138, 182 & Fiche 0159  
Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906*


ROOM BETWEEN DWELLING AND MILL      **104075\*C**  
NT SMR No **104075\*C**  
NGR:            SX64874645 (centre)

**Site Description:** Originally, there was a space between the dwelling (**104075a**) and probable mill (**104075b**). At some time walls (0.50m thick) were constructed to connect the two buildings and form a room between ( L 6.0m x B 2.20m -2.50m), with a doorway on the north side (0.80m wide). No evidence for a roof in the form of joist holes etc was found. A building adjoining this area to the north is shown on 1st edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1886) but no remains of this were found in the field. The area contains building debris (up to 0.50m deep). Two small semi-circular-shaped niches are located at the same height, on the external side of the eastern wall of the dwelling (**104075a**). A ground floor window of the dwelling (**104075a**) and a blocked window from the mill to the east (**104075b**) look into this area opposing each other.

**Condition and Recommendations:**the walls appear stable although the S wall leans out. The area should be kept free of scrub and tree regeneration. A sapling should be removed.

**References**

*Bigbury Tithe Map; 1842-1843, no 504  
Anon & Devon Record Office 1841-1891, Reels 6, 52, 100, 138, 182 & Fiche 0159  
Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906, Sheet 11*

  
GATEWAY IN YARD AT NODDEN MILL      **104075\*D**  
NT SMR No: **104075\*D**  
NGR:            SX64874647 (centre)

**Site Description:** Two large free-standing pillars of stonework form a gateway (1.70m wide) between building **104075e** and **104075b**, providing access into the yard/garden N of the mill dwelling (**104075a**). The area is covered with dense ivy and scrub growth. The S pillar leans out to the W probably as it is built on natural bed rock sloping up to the east, the track must also have sloped up to the east when in use. This gateway forms the termination of the access to the mill via Noddon Lane (**104075**). No evidence for the gate is visible. Dimensions: N pillar 0.70m x 0.85m; S pillar 0.90m x 0.45m

**Recommendations:** The area should be partially trimmed of heavy ivy growth (especially the N pillar) and brambles and scrub cut back. A fallen tree lies in the gateway.

**References :**

*Devon Record Office 1841-1891, Reels 6, 52, 100, 138, 182 & Fiche 0159  
Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906  
Bigbury Tithe Map; 1842-1843, no 504*

  
BUILDING NORTH OF NODDEN MILL DWELLING      **104075E**

NT SMR No: **104075\*E**

NGR: SX64874650 (centre)

**Site Description:** Heavily overgrown fragments of a building ( L 7.0m x B 3.50m, walls 0.65 m thick), north of the mill dwelling, and S of the bend in the stream. The building is indicated on both the Bigbury Tithe Map (1842) and 1st edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1886). Although the latter represents this building as an unroofed structure (and therefore abandoned by 1886), it clearly shows two rooms. Only the S and W sides of this structure were accessible through the undergrowth in 1997, but the building is evidently of more than one phase: the northern room being an extension added to the southern room. The S wall also abutts the N pillar of the yard gateway (**104075d**). This structure is not shown on 2nd edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1906). The function of this building is unknown.

**Recommendations:** If scrub clearance is undertaken the building should be re surveyed. The stream should not be allowed to erode the site. It is not clear where the N wall of this building is and whether part has already been lost from water action. To the north of this building there appears to have been a ford across the stream.

*References :*

*Bigbury Tithe Map: 1842-1843, No 504*

*Devon Record Office Census Returns 1841-1891, Reels 6, 52, 100, 138, 182 & Fiche 0159*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906*

**BUILDING NORTH OF MAIN MILL COMPLEX 104075\*F**

NT SMR No: **104075\*F**

NGR: SX64904655 (centre)

**Site Description:** A wall (L 7.60m x B ? x H 1.2) north of the main mill complex, with one discernible blocked entrance (3m wide) sited adjacent to the former track **104075g** (now the stream). This appears to be the western wall of a long building shown on the Tithe Map (1843). The OS 1st edition 25" map (1886) records an unroofed, square structure at this location, suggesting either at least two building phases or the partial demolition of the building. Nothing is recorded at this location on 2nd edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1906) other walls associated with this building are probably buried.

**Recommendations:** The site should be resurveyed if scrub clearance is undertaken. The ground should not be disturbed.

*References*

*Bigbury Tithe Map: 1842-1843, no 505*

*Devon Record Office Census Returns 1841-1891, Reels 6, 52, 100, 138, 182 & Fiche 0159*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906*

✓  
**NODDON LANE 104075\*G**

NT SMR No: **104075\*G**

NGR: SX64904650, SX64904670 (linear)

**Site Description:** A lane recorded on the Bigbury Tithe Map (1843) and OS map??. It provided access to Noddonmill from the north. At the northern end of the NT property this lane survives as rock cut hollow way up to 4m wide and oom deep. From SX0000

to SX0000 the stream now runs down the lane and has severely eroded the base. There is some discussion as to whether this could have been a leat but as it appears to be shown as a track on the maps it has been interpreted as such.

**Recommendations:** Some clearance of this route would be desirable and help in its interpretation. There is no clear access now to Noddon Lane.

*References :*

*Bigbury Tithe Map; 1842-1843, Nos 375-378, 502-505*  
*Greenwood, C, Greenwood, J et al 1827*  
*Margary, H 1977*  
*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906; 1967*

**POSSIBLE MILL POND AND WILLOW PLANTATION 104075\*H**  
NT SMR No: **104075\*H**  
NGR: SX64984645, (centre)

**Site Description:** In the mid 19th century two tenants of Bigbury Manor (?) and the Rector of Ringmore each had a plot in this area for willow beds (Tithe, 1842-1843; Glebe Terrier, 1876). Willows formed the raw material for basket making (James Taylor, the last miller at Noddonmill, became a basket maker) it has been suggested by local people that there was a holding pond located here which supplied Noddonmill. A small stream, which runs down to Noddonmill, is situated immediately south of site of Higher Willow Spot (Glebe Terrier, 1876, No 421). The plots are now a flat and boggy area. It is conceivable that there was once a pond here although presumably predating the Tithe Map. The spring may well have fed a lower pond.

**Recommendations:** If any clearance of scrub is undertaken in this area the site should be re-examined.

*References :*

*Bigbury Tithe Map; 1842-1843, Nos 508-509 RINGMORE??*  
*County SMR No: SX64NW/74*  
*Devon Record Office Tithe; 1876, No 421*  
*Devon Record Office Census Returns 1841-1891, Reels 6, 52, 100, 138, 182 & Fiche 0159 Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 9*  
*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906; 1951, SX6446*

**GARDEN 104075\*I**  
NT SMR No: **104075\*I**  
NGR: SX64934660 (centre)

**Site Description:** The site of a garden within a slightly trapezoidal enclosure in the NW corner of Mill Field (Tithe, 1842-1843, No 502) and adjacent to the eastern side of Noddon Lane (104075g). It was part of Noddonmill tenancy in mid-nineteenth century (Tithe, 1842-1843). The enclosure is recorded on maps to at least 1967 (Ordnance Survey, 1886; 1906; 1951; 1967). The enclosure was not recognised at the time of the field survey as the area is covered in gorse and scrub.

**Recommendations:** if scrub is cleared the area should be re-examined.

*References :*

*Bigbury Tithe Map; 1842-1843, No 503*



**EXTANT LEAT, MIDDLE MANOR 104078**

NT SMR No: **104078**

NGR: SX64864591 approximate

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** The remains of an irrigation leat which ran from a source in Ringmore village down the east side of Ayrmer valley, in a south-westerly direction. It survives as an earthwork in the garden of Middle Manor Farm and water has been directed down the channel and now feeds a waterfall. The dry channel continues to the south into scrub towards NT land but was not found in the field beyond this area. The leat is known to have been in operation in 1829 because there is a proviso lease of that date, stating that the landlord could not cut all water off from the stream (Devon County SMR). The leat is shown on 1st edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1886), up to the preant known extent. A second lower leat is said to have existed.

**Recommendations:** This leat is not recorded on ground beyond Middle Manor property boundary. It is likely that remains of the leat beyond Middle Manor have been backfilled or obscured by soil erosion. Any observations should be reported to the archaeologist.

**References :**

*County SMR No: SX64NW/49-3, 100*

*Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 132*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906,*

*Ringmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841, Nos (140-141, 144, 147-149?) 178, 182-183*

**BUTTERWELL AT MIDDLE MANOR 104079**

NT SMR No: **104079**

NGR: SX64854593 (centre)

NT Grade: local importance

deleted not relevant

**QUARRY NORTH OF NODDONMILL 104080**

NT SMR No: **104080**

NGR: SX64884670 (approximate)

NT Grade: low importance

**Site Description:** there is evidence of small-scale quarrying on the W and NW facing slope of the valley just above (E of) the former Nodden Lane. Nodden Lane itself cuts through bedrock here, and both the quarry and lane are obscured by woodland and scrub. A triangular-shaped quarry (approx 7x5m by 2m deep max) has been cut into the hillslope.

**Recommendations:** None

*References: None*

**REMAINS OF KENNELS NORTH-WEST OF LOWER MANOR FARM 104081**

NT SMR No: **104081**

NGR: SX64754610 (approximate)

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** The remains of stone-built kennels in which the Lord of the Manor of Ringmore kept his dogs, lie in the valley bottom, W of Noddon stream. On the Tithe Map (1841) two buildings with an enclosed area between them and a small enclosed strip of land to the S are shown. All that remains of these buildings are their western walls (approx length of 19m, 0.45m thick) which form part of the lane wall. The rest of the kennels are below pasture. The surviving walls are constructed from horizontally-laid local shillet bonded with lime mortar; they survive to a maximum height of 1.80 metres. When they became part of the boundary wall they were capped with vertically set stones. Regularly spaced vertical slots (0.15-0.20m wide, averaging 1.90-2m apart) in the E (internal) face of kennel wall probably represents internal divisions. Estimated dimensions of the original kennels from the Tithe Map: L 24.0m x W 12.0m. More measurements are recorded in the field notes.

**Recommendations:** These features should be retained. The archaeologist should be consulted if any repairs to this wall are to be carried out.

*References*

*County SMR No: SX64NW/63, 64*

*Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, Nos 105 & 150*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887*

*Ringmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841, no. 168*

**SITE OF SMALL ORCHARD ADJACENT TO KENNELS**

**104081\*A**

NT SMR No: **104081\*A**

NGR: SX64754612 (approximate)

**Site Description:** The site of an orchard surrounding the kennels (**104081**) on the W side of Noddon stream is recorded on the Tithe Map (1840-1841). It was probably less than 0.20 acres in size. This is now pasture.

**Recommendations:** None

*References:*

*County SMR No: SX64NW/89*

*Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 33*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887*

*Ringmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841, No 167*

**SITE OF 'PEG'S COTTAGE' 104082**

NT SMR No: **104082**

NGR: SX64804608 (centre)

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** A cottage and garden are recorded on the Tithe records (1840-1841, No 173) along with a probable outbuilding and yard immediately to north-west (No 172) which was under a separate tenancy. They lie just N of the lane running W



from Lower Manor Farm to the E of the stream. By the 1st edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1886) the layout of these structures appears to have changed; No 172 had disappeared and the cottage had been given an annex to south-west. The cottage was known as 'Peg's Cottage' because, according to tradition, the resident, Peg, lost her life when it burnt down. The last traces of the building were removed in the 1960s. There is an negative earthwork terrace gently scooped into the hillslope within which the buildings and yard would have been located. There are some bits of rubble in the lane side boundary which may have come from Pegs Cottage. The estimated dimensions of cottage are: 11.0m x 3.0m

**Recommendations:** There should be no below-ground disturbance.

**References:**

County SMR No: SX64NW/65  
Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 106  
Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887  
Ringmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841, Nos 172-173

**SITE OF HOUSE AND OUTBUILDING OPPOSITE LOWER MANOR FARM**

**104083**

NT SMR No: **104083**

NGR: SX64854602 (centre)

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** A house and outbuilding are recorded here on the Tithe Map (1840-1841). No buildings are recorded on the 1886 map (OS 1st edition 25"). The site lies at the base of a steep slope (to E). A terrace has been cut to accommodate these buildings with a rock face, about 3.60 metres high at the entrance to the back of the property through a farm gateway, and a second rock cutting, up to 1m high, 5m E of the existing retaining lane-side wall. It is likely that the house was built between this cutting and the lane. The entrances recorded on the Tithe Map faced W on to lane, and there may be remains or indications of the building in the lane side wall, none were observed at the time of the survey as it is heavily covered by vegetation. The present ground level in the lane is 2m below the site of the cottages. This level has been raised to some extent in recent times by dumping rubble on the site of the buildings. Access to the front of the house may have been via steps from the lane. A fragment of wall survives on the slope adjacent to the large rock cutting it is of unknown purpose, and may be part of a building or a revetment wall. The estimated dimensions of the buildings from the Tithe Map are: N building L 18m x B 5m; S building L 8m x B 5m.

**Recommendations:** There are probably buried remains of this house and building above the laneside wall and hedge. Consultation with the archaeologist is required before any work is carried out along the retaining wall and there should be no ground disturbance on the site. If the field gateway is used as a regular access way the area should be monitored to ensure that no erosion or churning of the area of the site occurs.

**References :**

County SMR No: SX64NW/66, 66-1  
Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 107  
Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887  
Ringmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841, No 175

**FIELD NAMED 'BEACON' ABOVE AYRMER COVE 104076**

NT SMR No: **104076**

NGR: SX64244545 (centre)

NT Grade: archaeological potential

**Site Description:** An irregular-shaped field, located on the steep side of a prominent ridge south of Ayrmere Cove, is named "Beacon" in Tithe Apportionment (1840). Nothing is visible in the field. This is not a particularly prominent position. It is unclear why the beacon name arose - it may have been a subsidiary beacon site.

**Recommendations:** none

**References:**

County SMR No: SX64NW/38

Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 149

NMR Ref No: SX64NW 32

Ringsmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841, No 192

**ENCLOSURE ABOVE BROOK BRAKE 104077**

NT SMR No: **104077**

NGR: SX64454635, SX64604630 Approximate

NT Grade: regional importance

**Site Description:** A cropmark of a sub-rectangular single-ditched enclosure (L 30.0m x B 35.0m approx) with two apparent dark rectangular internal features (this may be one long rectangular feature which has been obscured by later field boundary crossing the cropmark). A possibly contiguous cropmark of two linear features, also cut by field boundary and on similar orientation to the enclosure, appears to form an annex (50.0m x 45.0m approx) to the NW, extending to the ridge top. Possible internal features also have been identified within this 'annex'. The site lies on south-eastern slope, the SE end of the site on quite steep ground, the annex on fairly flat ground just below the crest of the ridge. No earthworks are visible on the ground. These cropmarks are likely to represent an enclosed late prehistoric or Romano-British farmstead site.

Although in 1997 SW field had been ploughed (apart from extreme NE corner), a quick examination failed to produce any finds.

The hedgebank is quite large and was probably revetted with walls on both sides.

**Condition and Recommendations:** As no earthworks are visible the site has probably been damaged by ploughing, especially the upper part of the site. However, important archaeological remains will still survive below ground. The section on the slope is not ploughed and may be better preserved. The site lies in an area of arable cultivation. Ideally, no ploughing should be undertaken or the depth of ploughing should be restricted. A geophysical survey which causes no ground disturbance may identify more features. There should be no below ground disturbance on this site. If the hedgebank is repaired this should not involve using a machine to bank up soil from either side of the hedge as this could damage below ground remains.

**References:**

County SMR No: SX64NW/43, DARP: Aerial Photograph DAP/PF 5-7, 9; 1989 (photographer F M Griffiths); DPRFP R.



## RUINED LIMEKILNS AT CHALLABOROUGH 104084

NT SMR No: **104084**

NGR: SX64834505 (centre)

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** There are four limekilns at Challaborough recorded on the County SMR one of these limekilns is said to have been lost to modern cultivation. The Ordnance Survey 1" map of 1809 (Margary, 1977) records buildings at Challaborough, but the location is described as a "Fishery". Two open circles recorded on the Ringmore Tithe Map of 1841 may denote the positions of limekilns, but they are not labelled or referred to in any way. Two limekilns are definitely recorded in 1886 (OS 1st edition 25" map). However, there is a third unlabelled structure on this map, which is recorded as a limekiln on the map of 1906 (OS 2nd edition 25"). This latter structure, is south-west of the other two limekilns, and is closest to National Trust property boundary lying on the cliff top immediately SE of the footpath leading to the look-out house and flagstaff (**104115**). Records of the sale of the manor in 1862 (DRO: Z7 Box 22) refer to three limekilns with beach and fish cellars at Challaborough. There are no obvious remains of the limekilns from the footpaths and road. None of the limekilns appear to be on NT land. Small scale lime production and fishing would have been important to the local economy in the 19th century at least.

**Recommendations:** none

### *References:*

*County SMR No: SX64NW769*

*Devon Record Office DRO Z7 Box 22; 1862, Tithe No 209*

*Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 118*

*Margary, H 1977*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906*

*Ringmore Tithe Map; 1840-1841, No 209*

## WILLOW BEER FIELD ADJACENT LOWER MANOR FARM 104085

NT SMR No: **104085**

NGR: SX64824600 (approximate)

NT Grade: archaeological potential

**Site Description:** The field name is recorded as ☼Willow beer☼ in the Tithe Map. The ☼willow☼ element of the field name suggests that willows were once grown here. The ☼Beer☼ element of field name may be derived from the Old English root word 'bere' which signifies that field was once cultivated for production of hard barley (Field, 1972). A catch water leat (**104091**) had its source from the stream in Willow Beer field (Ordnance Survey, 1886). The field is currently meadow and was pasture at the time of the Tithe Map.

### *References:*

*County SMR No: SX64NW72*

*Field, J 1972A, 17*

*Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 7*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887*

*Ringmore Tithe Map; 1840-1841, (field no 177)*

## MILL HILL MEDIEVAL FIELD SYSTEM 104086

NT SMR No: 104086

NGR: SX64954610 (centre)

NT Grade: regional importance

**Site Description:** In the mid-eighteenth century, Mill Hill tenement (occupied by John Coker) is recorded as covering 30.50 acres (DRO 51/7/11/3, 1754; Z7 Box 22, 1758 and 1759) By the mid nineteenth century (Tithe Map 1840-1841, Nos 171 and 304-308) the tenement, still occupied by a John Coker, had reduced to 6.50 acres and was later described by Hingeston Randolph in 1888 as a tenement of eight enclosures covering 6.50 acres. This tenement survives as remnants of a strip-field system on a west-facing slope at Mill Hill. It is probable that the field system originally extended eastwards at least as far as the road. If this was so then fields known as Gull Park, Lower Ditchy and Middle Park on the Tithe Map would have once been part of Mill Hill tenement. Field names suggest that this area was once a medieval open field. ☉ Gull and ☉Ditchy both indicate the presence of a drainage ditch or gully (Field, 1972, 63-64, 94). Mill Hill strip-field system could have been part of a medieval open field known as Middle Park, immediately north of village, the strips fossilising different land units within the open field. Open field systems may have continued to operate into the post-medieval period in South Devon (Fox, 1989).

**Recommendations:** Hedges have been removed in recent decades to increase field sizes, but the original alignments are preserved, as are some original hedges, which to some extent preserves the character of the field system. What remains should be preserved. Any proposed work on the field boundaries should involve prior consultation with the archaeologist.

### References:

*County SMR No: SX64NW/120*

*Devon Record Office DRO 51/7/11/3; 1754, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1758, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1759, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1862*

*Field, J 1972*

*Fox, H 1989, 41-73*

*Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 4*

*Hingeston Randolph F.C. 1888, Chapters 35 & 37*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906; 1951, SX6446 & SX6546; 1967, SX64NW & SX64NE*

*Ringmore Glebe Terrier 1876, No 419*

*Ringmore Tithe Map; 1840-1841, Nos 170-174 & 304-313*

## SITE OF TENEMENT AT COYTE PARK 104087

NT SMR No: 104087

NGR: SX64654635 (centre)

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** The site of a tenement which included an orchard measuring 1.50 acres (Devon County SMR; Grimshaw and Bennett, 1993), a small nursery (Tithe, 1840-1841, No 162) and an area of pasture with a very distinctive ovate shape (Tithe Map 161); this field has the appearance of having been 'stuck on' the eastern side of a pre-existing roughly square-shaped tenement. Historical evidence indicates the existence of this tenement in 1722, where it was referred to as "Coyde parks" (DRO: Z7 Box 22, Schedule of Leases, 1759). It measured seventeen acres in the mid-eighteenth century (DRO: 51/7/11/3, Survey, 1754; Z7 Box 22, Survey, 1758). The Tithe Map and Apportionment Book (1840-1841) indicate that all the fields included



under this tenancy have field names with "Coyte Park" prefix or suffix. The area defined by these fields measures a little over twenty acres on 1st edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1886). All Tithe map field boundaries relating to this tenement survived until at least the early twentieth century (OS, 1906), and boundaries defining the central field of the tenement survived until very recently (OS 1967). The external boundaries of the tenement survive and there are some relict internal field boundaries that are no longer maintained but remain as significant earthworks. This is a significant site in terms of landscape history because its distinctive field pattern, which indicated a rather compact and self-contained tenement, had survived more-or-less intact until very recently. Along with consistent field names, this means that historical documents of eighteenth and nineteenth centuries can be quite easily correlated with cartographical sources.

**Condition and Recommendations:** Although there has been some recent removal of internal field boundaries, the tenement layout is preserved by those that remain and in outline through the survival of its external boundaries. All the remaining boundaries should be preserved. Consultation with the archaeologist should be sought before any major restoration works.

**References:**

County SMR No: SX64NW/87  
Devon Record Office DRO 51/7/11/3; 1754, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1758, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1759, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1862  
Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 31  
Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906; 1967, SX64NW  
Ringmore Tithe Map; 1840-1841, Nos 155-163

**POSSIBLE CATCH WATER LEATS      104087\*A**

NT SMR No: **104087\*A**

NGR:

**Site Description:** A narrow linear terrace (B 1m, H 0.20m) can be traced southwards from the north boundary of Coyte Park for about 100 metres. This is possibly a fragment of a catch water leat. There are two similar features visible at the northern end of the field but these fade out very quickly. There are also earthworks at extreme southern side of this field, which correspond with the boundaries of the nursery (Tithe, 1840-1841, No 162)

**Recommendations:** These features should be retained. Any further observations should be reported to the archaeologist.

**References:**

Devon Record Office DRO 51/7/11/3; 1754, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1758, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1759, DRO Z7 Box 22; 1862  
Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906; 1967, SX64NW  
Ringmore Tithe Map; 1840-1841, Nos 158 & 160-162

**POSSIBLE QUARRY PIT      104087\*B**

NT SMR No: **104087\*B**

NGR: SX64654630 (approximate)

**Site Description:** A slight circular hollow with more scrubby vegetation than surrounding pasture lies in the in the SE corner the of post-medieval tenement known as Coyte Park (104087). The feature may be situated within the site of Coyte Park Orchard or one of adjacent old tenement fields to NE. It may be a small back-filled

quarry pit.

**Recommendations:** All earthworks should be retained.

**TEA HOUSE ON CLIFFS 104088**

NT SMR No: **104088**

NGR: SX64334519 (centre)

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** The remains of a tea house are sited on the edge of the cliff near the watershed of Ayrmer and Challaborough valleys. The structure is recorded on 1st and 2nd edition 25" maps (Ordnance Survey, 1886; 1906), and in both cases there was an adjacent irregular feature to east which may have been a small quarry. In 1886 an open rectangle (5m x 2m orientated NE-SW), is shown, suggesting it was unroofed. The 1906 map shows a solid rectangle enclosed by an open rectangle which indicates a path around the perimeter of the building. By 1951 the building is recorded as a ruin (OS 25"). In the 1907 'Particulars of the Sale of the Manor of Ringmore' a "small tea house on cliff", is quoted under the property of Ringmore Vean. The Rev. Hingeston Randolph (Rector from 1860-1910) built ☼The Vean☼ for his mother. He may have been responsible for construction of this tea house,

The two-room, stone-built structure (13'10" N-S; 10'08" E-W) of local stone with lime-mortar bonding is still visible as a ruin. It was probably built against a cliff slope but has been subsequently affected by slumping; a ground fissure is developing adjacent to the structure on landward side and there is a displaced block of wall downslope. The lower courses of stonework survive with internal plaster visible in places. A north-western entrance and south-western window(s) looking out to sea are defined by wall remains. Not surveyed in detail.

**Recommendations:** Although this tea house is a relatively substantial ruin, it is not possible to stop its gradual destruction by coastal erosion, it is now situated in an area of slippage, the stability of which is uncertain. Access to this site should not be encouraged.

*References:*

*County SMR No: SX64NW70*

*Devon Record Office DRO 27 Box 22; 1862*

*Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 117*

*Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887; 1906, 1951, SX6445*

*Ringmore Tithe Map; 1840-1841, No 205*

**REMAINS OF POSSIBLE FIELD SHELTER 104089**

NT SMR No: **104089**

NGR: SX64354589 (approximate)

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** The remains of a small rounded niche in the NW corner of a field called Middle Almer Down (Tithe, 1840- 1841, No 136). The structure is built as part of the hedge bank and on a south-eastern facing slope approximately halfway along valley between Lower Manor Farm and Ayrmer Cove. It was probably a shelter from the prevailing winds for a shepherd or farm workers. The remains consist of the lower



courses of a wall, almost semi-circular in shape and built of horizontally-laid dry-stone local shillet. The full extent of this feature is unknown; the S and E parts of the structure are not visible above ground level, although if it extended this far the foundations are likely to be preserved beneath the surface. The floor of the interior has been damaged by recent erection of stock-proof fencing, although not exposed it appears to be stone paved. More detailed recording would be required to determine whether this shelter was added later or is contemporary with hedge-bank construction. Dimensions: internal diameter 2.50m approx.; external diameter 3.5m approx.; maximum height of extant walls 1.10m

**Recommendations:** This structure is a rarely recorded (or) type of field monument and is of significant local historical and rural interest. The feature was discovered by the Warden during fencing work. Ideally the fence should avoid the site which should be preserved as part of the hedgebank.

*References*

*Ringmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841 (field No 136)*

**BROOK BRAKE WOOD AND QUARRY 104090**

NT SMR No: **104090**

NGR: SX64734605, SX64504630 (approximate)

NT Grade: local importance

**Site Description:** woodland of recent origins, measuring less than 2.5 acres (one hectare), named 'Brook Brake' (Tithe, 1840-1841). Tithe Apportionment (1840) describes this area as 'waste' and Tithe Map (1841) records a track, which is still extant, winding its way down this hillside. This track would appear to be associated with some quarrying of the hillside. By time of Tithe Survey, this area was already becoming overgrown with vegetation. On both 1st and 2nd edition 25" maps (Ordnance Survey, 1886; 1906) area was still shown as lightly vegetated with scrub rather than woodland. No evidence has been identified to indicate when quarrying occurred: Ordnance Survey Old Series 1" map of 1809 (Margary, 1977) records nothing at this location. Woodland has now expanded into adjacent fields to north - known as Brook Brake Field and Spert Orchard (Mon 104090b) in Tithe records.

**Recommendations:** The trackways and boundaries should be maintained.

*References:*

*County SMR No: SX64NW/96*

*Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 49*

*Margary, H 1977*

*Ordnance Survey sheets: 1886-1887 (1st edition 25"), 1906 (2nd edition 25"), 1954, 1967*

*Ringmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841, (field no 166)*

**GATEPOST IN BROOK BRAKE 104090\*A**

NT SMR No: **104090\*A**

NGR: SX64604618, (approximate)

**Site Description:** Entering the wood from the top of the hill, a short distance down footpath a gatepost built with local stone, can be seen immediately north of some recently-cut steps. It is partly obscured by ivy and a fallen tree. The gatepost survives as a rounded wall terminal with metal fittings on which a gate had been hung. North of this pillar there is a terrace, approximately two metres wide, which appears to be a track running to the north there is a steep slope to the W. Tithe Map (1841) is of little help in interpreting role of this gateway, but it may coincide with intersecting boundaries recorded on 1st and 2nd edition 25" maps (Ordnance Survey, 1886; 1906) which appears to be a typical feature of field gates in this coastal area of the South Hams, i.e. accessing diagonally adjacent fields. There appear to have been some significant changes to field divisions between 1841 (Tithe Map) and 1885 (Ordnance Survey, 1886) in this area, prior to the expansion of woodland.

*References*

*Ordnance Survey 1886-1887; 1906, 1967*  
*Ringmore Tithe Map: 1840-1841, (field nos 153, 165)*

**SPERT ORCHARD 104090\*B**  
NT SMR No: **104090\*B**  
NGR: SX64654615 (centred)

**Site Description:** An orchard of 2 acres is shown here on the Tithe map (1840-1841). It has been recorded that several very old cherry trees survive (Grimshaw, 1992: DCSMR), although cartographic evidence suggests the orchard had been cleared by the late 19th century (OS, 1886, 1906) prior to the expansion of Brook Brake Wood into this area.

**References:**

County SMR No: SX64NW/88  
Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC, 1993  
Ordnance Survey 1886-1887, 1906, 1967  
Ringmore Tithe Map; 1840-1841 (field no 164)

Tithe Commissioners & Devon Record Office, Tithe, 1840-1841 Tithe Map and Apportionment Book for the parish of Ringmore, South Devon

**LEAT AND DRAINAGE SYSTEM ON NORTHERN SIDE OF AYRMER VALLEY**

NT SMR No: 104091  
NGR : SX64754607, SX64304560 Linear  
NT Grade : Local importance

Short Site Description : Site:104091\*0 Earthworks and associated features of two parallel leats, which served northern and western side of valley between Lower Manor Farm and Ayrmere Cove, and earthworks of parallel ditches and banks in nearby downstream meadow.

Recommendations : Site:104091\*0 Features in valley bottom are located in



permanent meadows and should have suffered minimal erosion or soil creep and do not require obvious attention. Leats on valley sides, which were ploughed in nineteenth century, if not recently, are more vulnerable to slow deterioration through soil creep due to slope of land. However, leat earthworks appear reasonably stable at present due to preference for pastoral land-use. As management agreement exists concerning maintenance of stockproof field boundaries, it should be noted that extant hedgebanks which transverse this valley may incorporate surviving drainage apertures which once allowed passage of leat waters down valley (e.g. 104091b). Therefore, before any rebuilding of walls/hedges is carried out, there should be consultation with relevant archaeologist in order to ensure an adequate survey is carried out.

County SMR No. : SX64NW/101

Height a.o.d (m) : 20-22

Area (sq m) : 4500

Site Description : Site:104091\*0 Earthworks of two parallel leats serving northern and western side of valley below Lower Manor Farm. Both leats had their source in stream which runs down middle of valley to Ayrmer Cove. Upper leat is clearly shown on 1st edition 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1886): it appears to originate at northern end of Willow Beer field (Mon. 104085); it is recorded as terminating just before it reaches field bank which has been discerned as its present visible extent on ground. Extant earthworks are most clearly discernible in area defined by field banks between NGR SX64304560 and SX64454565, where they survive as contour terraces up to two metres wide and 0.60 metres high cutting into hillslope (Blaylock: 30-10-1997). Upper leat is circa six metres below lower of the two nineteenth-century tracks (Ordnance survey, 1886) which run along valley side. Lower leat is only circa six metres in horizontal distance above valley bottom. Upper leat may just be visible east of track revetment wall to the south. These leats were probably constructed to bring water to fields in order to maintain pasture in dry periods and were probably associated with drainage earthworks in meadow immediately below their discernible south-western extent (Mon. 104091a). Dimensions: L 700.0m approx. x B ? (Upper leat only) Orientation: NE-SW

Archaeological Comments : Site:104091\*0 All recorded extant drainage features, on this side of valley and below Lower Manor Farm (Mons 104091\*0-b), fall within a single tenancy as recorded in Tithe Apportionment (1840) and may represent work of one tenanted family prior or subsequent to this date. Adjacent (upslope) tracks in field have remained unchanged from 1809 (Margary, 1977; Greenwood, 1827) and suggests that field pattern dates back to at least this time, but this does not necessarily date leats.

#### References

Greenwood, C, Greenwood, J et al 1827

Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 133

Margary, H 1977

Ordnance Survey Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887.; 1906

Tithe Commissioners & Devon Record Office Tithe; 1840-1841, Nos 132, 138, 142-143, 148-149, 177

Comments/Recommendations : Site:104091\*0\*1 Two parallel leats of which the one downslope is generally better preserved. However, preservation varies along their route down valley towards Ayrmer Cove, which is probably indicative of the degree of

past cultivation in individual fields. Currently, whole length of both leats is under pasture and there are no immediate concerns or attention required.

#### **WATERMEADOWS 104091\*A**

NT SMR No: **104091\*A**

National Grid Reference : SX64404560, Centred

Height a.o.d (m) : 7

Area (sq m) : 6000

Site Description : Site:104091\*A Low earthworks in valley bottom, representing denuded banks and ditches, surviving to only circa 0.25 metres high. Two linear depressions (ditches), running east-west (transversing valley bottom), are the most visible features; they are visible as cropmarks from higher ground (see NT photograph BW628/32). But these ditches have accompanying banks on their south-western side. Another bank further south-west (which probably had an associated ditch which is not now easily discernible) is parallel with two main ditches. Also, remains of a bank (or two closely-spaced parallel banks) is to north-west and at right-angles to earthworks which transverse valley bottom, i.e. it is roughly parallel with valley contours of adjacent valley slopes. Together, these earthworks define three rectangular compartments within this field; field boundary and stream define north-eastern and south-eastern extent of these earthworks respectively. Dimensions of water meadow: L 150.0m x B 40.0m approx. Orientation: ENE-WSW

Archaeological Comments : Site:104091\*A Differential survival may have resulted in present pattern and extent of earthworks in valley bottom, i.e. this field may have suffered less disturbance and earthworks could have originally extended into adjacent meadows to north-east and south-west.

#### References

Tithe Commissioners & Devon Record Office Tithe; 1840-1841, No 132

Comments/Recommendations : Site:104091\*A\*1 Earthworks have degraded, but this may be relatively insubstantial as ditches are likely to have been originally broad and shallow. Situated on flat permanent pasture in valley bottom, adjacent stream, so erosion problems are minimal and no particular attention is required. > <

#### **DRAIN IN FIELD BOUNDARY 104091\*B**

NT SMR No: 104091\*B

National Grid Reference : SX64434565, Centred

Height a.o.d (m) : 7

Site Description : Site:104091\*B A drain through free-standing field boundary wall which linked water meadow (Mon 104091a) with adjacent field to north-east. Wall is in a poor state of repair and a gateway, with associated track, immediately north of drain, appears to have originated in recent times; neither is shown on early editions of 25" map (Ordnance Survey, 1886; 1906). Field boundary in which drain is located appears to be represented on Tithe Map of 1841. Drain is constructed in a similar manner to a 'sheep creep': a square aperture at ground level with a lintel supporting walling above.

Archaeological Comments : Site:104091\*B No dimensions have been recorded for



this feature although it is small enough to be interpreted as a drain and not a 'sheep creep'. Its context would suggest it is associated with meadow irrigation and drainage.

#### References

Ordnance Survey & West Country Studies Library Exeter Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887, Sheet 15 Ordnance Survey & West Country Studies Library Exeter Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1906, Sheet 15 Tithe Commissioners & Devon Record Office Tithe; 1840-1841, Nos 132 & 138

Comments/Recommendations : Site:104091\*B\*1 Although this drain is in good condition, by virtue of its location at base of wall, future demolition or restoration of wall is a potential threat to its preservation.

#### Bibliography

Greenwood, C et al, 1827 Map of the County of Devon: 1825-26

Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC, 1993 An Archaeological Check-list for Ringmore

Margary, H, 1977 The Old Series Ordnance Survey Maps of England and Wales, Volume II: Devon, Cornwall and West Somerset

Ordnance Survey & West Country Studies Library Exeter, Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15, 1886-1887 First Edition 25" Map Ordnance Survey & West Country Studies Library Exeter, Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15, 1906 Second Edition 25" Map

Tithe Commissioners & Devon Record Office, Tithe, 1840-1841 Tithe Map and Apportionment Book for the parish of Ringmore, South Devon

#### CHALLABOROUGH LANE

NT SMR No: 104092

NGR : SX65124540, Centred

NT Grade : Local importance

Short Site Description : Site:104092\*0 Lane from Ringmore village to Challaborough which was formerly a route for transporting imports of coastal trade to the village.

Recommendations : Site:104092\*0 Outside, but defining part of National Trust Ringmore property boundary on eastern side.

County SMR No. : SX64NE/142

Height a.o.d (m) : 5-80

Site Description : Site:104092\*0 Lane from Ringmore village to 'Ringmore Beach', now called 'Challaborough'. Road was formerly a route for: transport of fish, from fish cellars at Challaborough to Ringmore Village; transport of coal, which was delivered by sea and dumped on beach; transport of lime from lime kilns at Challaborough to inland farms (Devon County SMR). It retains same alignment to road which was recorded on Tithe Map (1841) and is similar to what was recorded on Ordnance Survey Old Series 1" map of 1809 (Margary, 1977).

Archaeological Comments : Site:104092\*0 Although no part is owned by the National Trust, this road is included in NTSMR because it was an important communication/economic element for the settlement at Ringmore, as well as defining part of eastern property boundary.

## References

Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, No 131  
Margary, H 1977  
Ordnance Survey & West Country Studies Library Exeter Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15;  
1886-1887, Sheet 15  
Tithe Commissioners & Devon Record Office Tithe; 1840-1841

## Bibliography

Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC, 1993 An Archaeological Check-list for Ringmore  
Margary, H, 1977 The Old Series Ordnance Survey Maps of England and Wales,  
Volume II: Devon, Cornwall and West Somerset  
Ordnance Survey & West Country Studies Library Exeter, Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15,  
1886-1887 First Edition 25"Map  
Tithe Commissioners & Devon Record Office, Tithe, 1840-1841 Tithe Map and  
Apportionment Book for the parish of Ringmore, South Devon

## SITE OF LOOK-OUT HOUSE AND FLAG STAFF AT CHALLABOROUGH

NT SMR No: 104115

NGR : SX64644491, SX64654489 Approximate

NT Grade : Archaeological potential

Short Site Description : Site:104115\*0 Possible remains of a nineteenth-century look-out house situated on narrow headland at western side of Challaborough Bay.

Recommendations : Site:104115\*0 Site is on an open headland adjacent heritage coastal path and close to, but outside, National Trust property boundary. Remains are insignificant and erosion of cliff will soon result in loss of what is left.

County SMR No. : SX64SW/69, 70

Height a.o.d (m) : 20

Area (sq m) : 4

Site Description : Site:104115\*0 Site of a small look-out house and adjacent flag staff which were recorded on 1st and 2nd edition 25" maps (Ordnance Survey, 1886; 1906). No evidence for their earlier existence has been found and they were not recorded on Tithe Map (1841), although associated coastguard station (DCSMR: SX64NW/58) was in existence at this time. A colour-painted postcard, probably dating to 1950s, shows look-out house and flagstaff still being used (Devon County SMR: Ringmore Parish File). View on this postcard is to south-east across Challaborough Bay and flag staff is shown to north-west of look-out house, as is recorded on Ordnance Survey maps. However, both structures appear to be very close to cliff edge (see sketch in NT Archaeologist's property file); in particular, flag staff is adjacent a slumping cliff top. Recent visit to site (Blaylock: 18-11-97) failed to locate any evidence for flag staff and all that was found was a small area of concrete, measuring 1.20 metres by 1.40 metres, at end of an existing narrow promontory, which has been interpreted as base for look-out house (which had been probably no more than two or three metres square in size). This concrete base is very close to a vertical cliff drop, but there are no signs of ground slumping at present and it is safe to approach.

Archaeological Comments: Coastguard station (NGR SX64854508), located outside National Trust property to north-east of look-out house and adjacent Challaborough Lane (Mon. 104092), was in existence from at least 1840 (Tithe, 1840-1841).



However, Ordnance Survey Old Series 1" map (Margary, 1977) records a building at this approximate location in 1809. Coastguard station existed until early twentieth century (Grimshaw and Bennett, 1993, 1); 1920s? (Devon County SMR). Other associated structures such as lifeboat house (adjacent beach) rocket house, flag staff and look-out house probably continued in use. However, a colour-painted postcard (Devon County SMR: Ringmore Parish File), probably of circa 1950s, records coastguard station as still standing, and it seems likely that its decommission coincided with recent development of caravan site in this valley. Therefore, abandonment of look-out house probably was contemporary with coastguard station. In mid-nineteenth century a traveller referred to coastguard station as "Shuffleborough" (White, 1854), this probably resulting from confusion over pronunciation.

#### References

Grimshaw, G & Bennett, AC 1993, Nos 120-121

Margary, H 1977

Ordnance Survey & West Country Studies Library Exeter Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1886-1887, Sheet 15 Ordnance Survey & West Country Studies Library Exeter Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15; 1906, Sheet 15

Tithe Commissioners & Devon Record Office Tithe; 1840-1841, Nos 206 & 208

White, W & West Country Studies Library Exeter 1854, 153

Comments/Recommendations : Site:104115\*0\*1 Only a (partially buried?) concrete base survives. Eventually this too will become a victim of coastal erosion. It appears obvious that some of this promontory has been lost to erosion when current situation is compared with topography of a circa 1950s postcard (Devon County SMR: Ringmore Parish File). However, it remains, at present, accessible to anyone wishing to carry out further investigation.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY**

### **PUBLISHED SOURCES**

Field, J, 1972 English Field Names: A Dictionary

Fox, H, 1989 'Peasant farmers, patterns of settlement and pays: transformations in the landscapes of Devon and Cornwall during the later Middle Ages', in R. A. Higham: Landscape and Townscape in the South West

Grimshaw, G & Bennett, A.C., 1993 An Archaeological Check-list for Ringmore

Hingeston Randolph, F.C., 1888 Up and Down the Deanery

Margary, H, 1977 The Old Series Ordnance Survey Maps of England and Wales, Volume II: Devon, Cornwall and West Somerset

Pim, R & , 1993 Water Power in the South Hams, Kingsbridge History Society Recorder, 9

White, W. 1854 A Londoner's Walk to the Land's End; and a Trip to the Scilly Isles

Wills, H, 1985 Pillboxes: A Study of UK Defences 1940

### **UNPUBLISHED SOURCES**

Reading Record Office, 1886 Manor Rent List

**Devon Record Office**

Census Returns 1841-1891

DRO 51/7/11/3, 1754 Survey of property in manor of Ringmore

DRO Z7 Box 22, 1758 Survey of property in manor of Ringmore

DRO Z7 Box 22, 1759 Schedule of Leases in Manor of Ringmore

DRO Z7 Box 22, 1862 Particulars and Conditions of Sale of the Manor of Ringmore

Greenwood, C et al, 1827 Map of the County of Devon: 1825-26

Tithe Map and Apportionment Book for the parish of Bigbury, South Devon 1842-1843

Tithe Map and Apportionment Book for the parish of Ringmore, South Devon 1840-1841

Tithe, 1876 Glebe Terrier

#### **Devon County Sites and Monuments Register**

Devon County Council, 1974 Survey of Watermills in Devon (Gazetteer)

Devon Aerial Photography Project: DAP/PF 5-7, 9, (22/7/1989) Photograph : F.M. Griffith

Devon Post Reconnaissance Field Project ,Robinson, R 1991

RAF & NMR Swindon, RAF/CPE/UK 1890, 1946 Vertical AP RAF/CPE/UK 1890

#### **West Country Studies Library**

Ordnance Survey map: 1886-1887 First Edition 25" Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15

Ordnance Survey map: 1905 6" 131 SE

Ordnance Survey map: 1906 Second Edition 25" Sheets 131: 10-11; 14-15

Ordnance Survey map: 1951 Third Edition 25"

Ordnance Survey map: 1954 6"

Ordnance Survey map: 1967 6"