

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: East Allington, South Hams	National Grid Reference SX7695 4830	Number:
Subject: Watching brief at St Andrews Church		Photo attached? N
Planning Application no: n/a Faculty consideration	Recipient museum: Plymouth City Museum	
OASIS ID: 80432	Museum Accession no: AR 2010.25	
Contractor's reference number/code: EA. 7201	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 14/05/2010-21/05/2010	
<p>Background St Andrews Church is a 15th-early 16th century building within the village of East Allington which lies approximately 3km northeast of Kingsbridge. Following the collapse of a length of undated retaining wall, on the main path leading through the churchyard, a watching brief was deemed to be required for the removal of the remaining unstable wall, associated enabling works and subsequent reinstatement of the wall. The geology of the area is Lower Devonian slate and sandstone.</p> <p>Description of works. Following removal of the collapsed revetment wall a section through the churchyard deposits alongside the path could be observed. The deposit sequence was as follows:</p> <p>0.00-260mm Dark grey/brown coarse sandy topsoil with small stones, pebbles and fragments of local stone. 260mm-1.6m Mottled orange/brown friable soil layer with occasional fragments of local stone – some disarticulated human bone fragments (see below). 1.6m+ natural bedrock of brown sandstone.</p> <p>A small amount of disarticulated human bone was observed in the section at depths of 1.25m below the current ground level; these were left in-situ in advance of the construction of the replacement wall. Modern (20th century) brick fragments were observed in the collapsed wall material, the stonework of which was reused where possible to face the re-built wall. The replacement wall, the body of which was constructed primarily of block-work, had a new foundation at an additional depth of 250mm into the natural bedrock. No historic fabric, architectural fragments or archaeological features were revealed in the exposed section nor was there any indication of in-situ graves having been exposed by the wall collapse; the graves are in any event aligned east-west parallel with the wall and the Church alignment.</p> <p>Observation and recording by J.Bell</p>		
Recorder: J. Bell (Exeter Archaeology)		Date sent to HER:

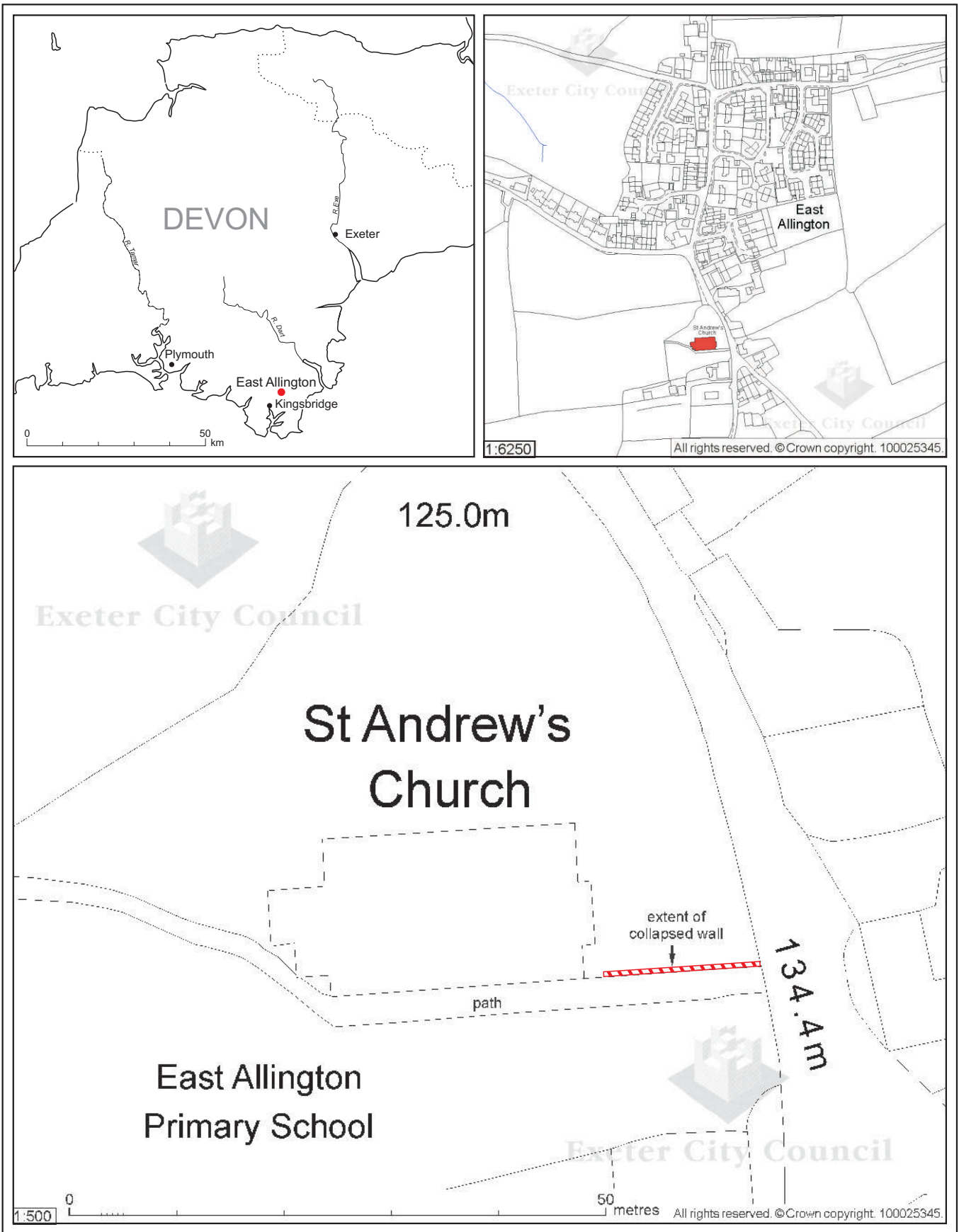


Fig. 1 location of site.