

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Barnstaple, North Devon	National Grid Reference: SS 55658 33248	Number:
Subject: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording during the Installation of an Electric Car Charging Station at Cattle Market Car Park, Barnstaple, Devon		Photo Attached?: Yes
Planning Reference: N/A	Recipient Museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: southwes1-504722	Museum Accession Number: N/A	
Contractor's Reference: BCM22	Dates Fieldwork Undertaken: 20.01.22	
<p>Description of Works Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of North Devon Council as part of work during the installation of an electric car charging station at the Cattle Market Car Park, Barnstaple, Devon. This work was carried out by S. Stevens on 20th January 2022 in accordance with best practice.</p> <p>The site area lies within the historic core of Barnstaple, and within an area of archaeological potential, particularly for evidence of Medieval activity. The site location was within part of the early medieval bailey that formed the inner portion of the town defences, until the medieval period. It became part of a residential area during the post medieval period until 1880, when it changed into the Cattle Market; surviving until early 21st century. The site is now used as a public car park, serving the town centre. The precise location of the proposed electric car charger installation was within the car park boundary and directly adjacent to the pavement, on the southern edge of the car park c.120m from Barnstaple High Street and c.90m from the castle mound and at c.7.7m AOD. The site is in an urban built-up area, the geology of which consists of mudstone from the Pilton Mudstone Formation.</p> <p>A 0.50m wide pit was excavated by hand, under archaeological supervision on the southern edge of the car park, within a parking space and the concrete was cut through using power tools. The location of the pit had to be moved due to heavy root disturbance from a nearby tree to the south; so was moved to the north-west into a parking space directly adjacent. The pit was excavated to a depth of c.0.50m. The stratigraphy of the site was comprised entirely of made-ground of yellowish-grey gritty sandy loam (100), with common modern debris and thin roots from the nearby trees lining the car parks southern boundary.</p> <p>No features were identified within the pit.</p> <p>Conclusions The results of the trench indicated that there were no archaeological deposits present and no archaeological features were identified.</p> <p>Bibliography British Geological Survey 2022: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p>		
Recorder: S. Stevens		Date Sent to HER: 17.02.22

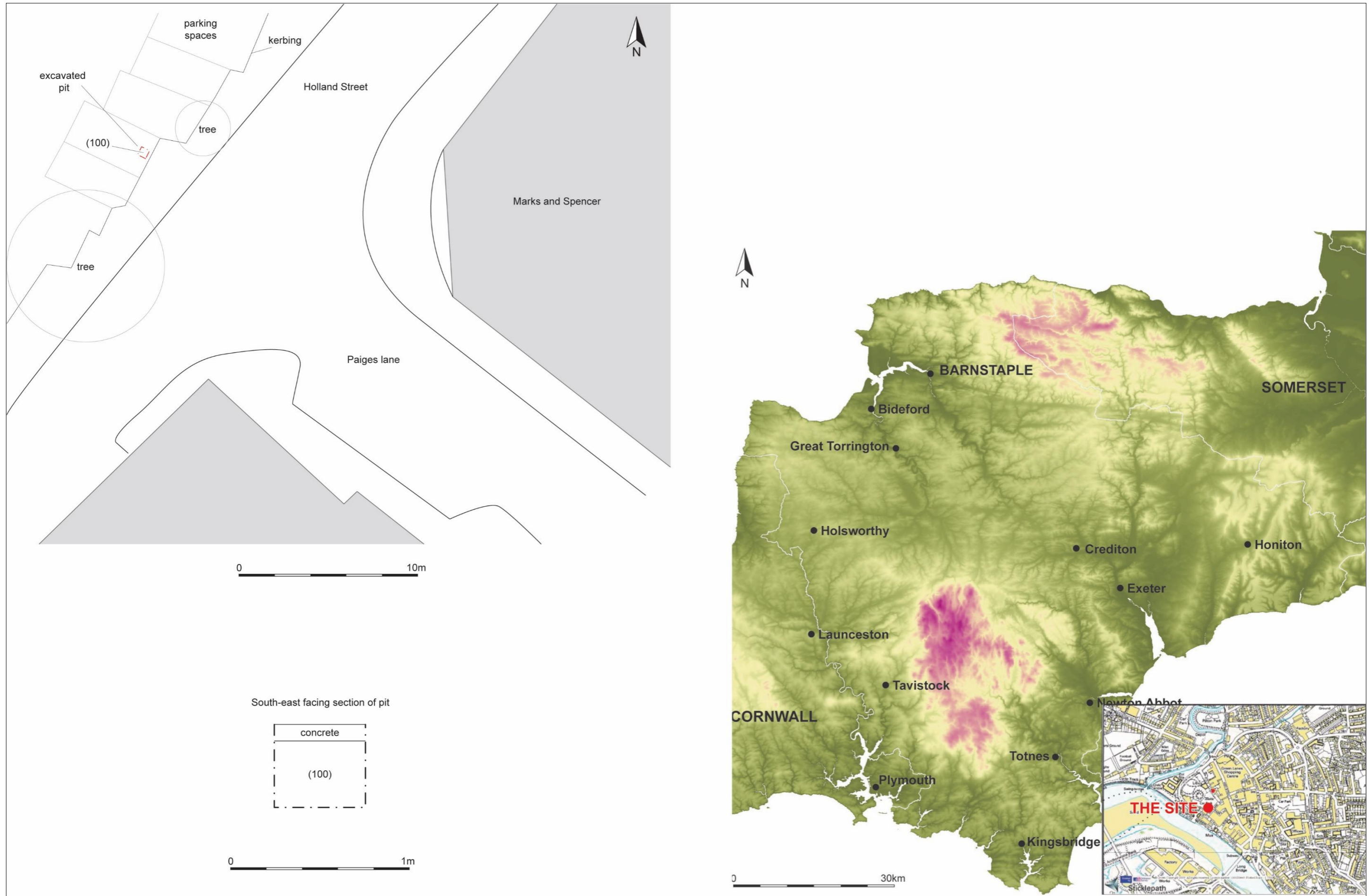


FIGURE 1: SAMPLE SECTION AND SITE PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF PIT AND SURROUNDING AREA.



FIGURE 2: EXCAVATED PIT; FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE).



FIGURE 3: SITE OF ORIGINAL LOCATION OF PIT, SHOWING ROOT DISTURBANCE OF PAVING; FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).