

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Halwill Junction, Torridge	National Grid Reference: SS 44657 00676	Number:
Subject: Archaeological Evaluation Trenching on Land at Winsford Lane, Halwill Junction, Torridge, Devon		Photo Attached?: Yes
Planning Reference: 1/0469/2022/FUL	Recipient Museum: Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon (MBND)	
OASIS ID: southwes1-509340	Museum Accession Number: N/A	
Contractor's Reference: HLWL22	Dates Fieldwork Undertaken: 26 th October 2022	
<p>Description of Works</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of a private client (The Client) as part of a programme of archaeological work associated with the creation of a proposed wildlife park on Land at Winsford Lane, Halwill Junction, Torridge, Devon. This work was carried out by P. Bonvoisin on 26th October 2022 in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Boyd 2022).</p> <p>The site is located in agricultural fields to the north-east of Halwill Junction, south of the Winsford Plantation, with agricultural fields to the east, south and west. The land slopes down to the east between heights of c.190m to 180m AOD. The soils here are the slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged clayey soils of the Hallsworth 1 Association (SSEW 1983); which overlie the sedimentary mudstone and siltstone of the Crackington Formation (BGS 2022).</p> <p>The site lies in an area of archaeological potential, c.300m to the east of the site of a barrow (MDV12448) and to the north of three Scheduled barrows (SAM1016220), forming part of a wider prehistoric funerary landscape; although one which has been affected by intensive farming activity and transport networks. Within 100m to the east of the site is an area of ridge and furrow (MDV120504) which likely dates to the 19th or 20th century agricultural improvement of the landscape, but which further indicates the impact of farming on the landscape.</p> <p>A total of four evaluation trenches (Trenches 01-04), each 1.90m wide and measuring c.30m in length, were excavated by mechanical excavator to the depth of <i>in situ</i> weathered natural using a toothless grading bucket. The stratigraphy of the site comprised topsoil, dark brown friable-soft silt-clay c.0.10-0.20m thick; overlying subsoil, mid-dark grey-brown friable-soft silt-clay up to 0.20m thick; which directly overlay the natural a mid-yellow firm to soft clay.</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were identified during the evaluation.</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>Despite the proximity of prehistoric funerary monuments and more recent agricultural activity, no archaeological features or deposits were identified during the excavations.</p> <p>Bibliography</p> <p>Boyd, N. 2022: <i>Land at 244657 100676, Winsford Lane, Halwill Junction, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH report no. HLWL22WSiv1.</p> <p>British Geological Survey 2022: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. http://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk</p> <p>Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p>		
Recorder: P. Webb		Date Sent to HER: 17.12.22



Halwill Winsford Lane, evaluation supporting images
 SWARCH Project no.: HLWL22
 Image details: Site plan with supporting photographs
 Original scale: 1:2000

Drawn by: PW Date: 16.12.2022



Trench 01, post-excitation; viewed from the south-west (1m scales).



Trench 02, representative south-west facing section; viewed from the south-west (1m scale).

Trench	X co-ordinate	Y co-ordinate
Trench 01	244687.638	100667.415
	244658.052	100658.054
Trench 02	244691.307	100640.110
	244666.223	100658.286
Trench 03	244673.324	100618.268
	244671.946	100649.171
Trench 04	244667.982	100645.380
	244637.719	100647.601

LEGEND
 Site boundary
 Evaluation trench



FIGURE 1: SUPPORTING IMAGES; SITE PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF EXCAVATED TRENCHES, WITH REPRESENTATIVE PHOTOGRAPHS (CONTAINS ORDNANCE SURVEY DATA © CROWN COPYRIGHT).