# **MARLAND SCHOOL PETERS MARLAND DEVON**

Results of a Desktop Assessment Archaeological Monitoring and Excavation





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## **Marland School** Peters Marland, Devon

# **Results of a Desktop Assessment Archaeological Monitoring and Excavation**

For

Peter Baglow of NPS South West Ltd.

By



**SWARCH project reference: PMS11** National Grid Reference: SS47861353

Barnstable Museum Accession Number: NDMS 2011.51

DCHES Reference: ARCH/CM/TO.13677 Planning Application No.: DCC/2669/2008 OASIS reference: southwes1-118419 **Project Director:** Colin Humphreys Fieldwork Managers: Bryn Morris Project Officer: Bryn Morris

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March 2012

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#### *Summary*

A single evaluation trench was opened at Marland School, Peters Marland, to determine whether any archaeological remains associated with the medieval church immediately to the west of the site had been affected by the erection of a new school building. The evaluation trench was excavated to the south of, and parallel to, the southern end of the new building.

The excavation revealed two features dating from the medieval period. The first feature was a linear feature at the eastern end of the trench, and an irregular undulating hollow that extended from the west side of the linear feature beyond the limits of the trench. Medieval North Devon pottery dating to the 14<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> centuries was found in both features, although the linear post-dated the fill of the hollow. Two residual sherds of Upper Greensand-tempered pottery from the Blackdown Hills were also identified; these date to before c.1200, and could be Saxo-Norman in date.

The precise nature of these features is difficult to ascertain, but they undoubtedly relate to medieval and subsequent occupation in the vicinity of the medieval Church of St Peter. While Peters Marland lost its manorial status in the post-medieval period, it appears to have been the capital manor within the parish, and of some importance in 1086. The relatively large amount and early date for the pottery is somewhat unusual for North Devon generally, and it is highly likely that other medieval archaeological features will survive in the immediate vicinity.

#### Marland School, Peters Marland

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### Acknowledgements

Thanks for assistance are due to:

Peter Baglow
Ann Marie Dick, DCHES
John Allan, Exeter Archaeology
The staff of Marland School
The staff of the North Devon Record Office
The staff of the Devon Record Office

#### 1.0 Introduction

**Location:** Marland School, Peters Marland, Torrington

Parish: Peters Marland
District: Torridge
County: Devon

#### 1.1 Background

This report presents the results of a desktop assessment and an archaeological evaluation carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. at Marland School, Peters Marland, Torrington, Devon, in October 2011. This work was commissioned by Peter Baglow of NPS South West Ltd (the Client). The development, comprising a single new school building, was erected without archaeological monitoring, so in order to determine whether any archaeological remains associated with the medieval ecclesiastical activity were affected by the development, a single trench was excavated parallel to and on the south side of the new building.

#### 1.2 Historical Background

Peters Marland lies c.5.2km south-southwest of Great Torrington (Figure 1). The development is part of Marland School, located immediately to the east of the church at the northern end of the village. Peters 'Mirland' was an estate with land for 9 ploughs in 1086, and was the capital manor of the parish. It was granted to Frithelstock Priory in 1269, and remained in monastic hands until the Dissolution. The last lord of the manor, John Speccot, died in 1655. The buildings of Marland School were Marshes Tenement in c.1840, and became the Rectory during the later half of the  $19^{th}$  century. Subsequently, the Rectory became (briefly) a hotel and then the school.

#### 1.3 Archaeological Background

The site is located within the grounds of Marland School, immediately to the east of the parish church of St. Peters. The location of the site would suggest the school sits on or near the original manorial site of 'Mirland', but no prior archaeological investigations are recorded in this area. A Neolithic stone axe was found on the nearby farm of Coombe (HER464).

### 1.4 Topographical and Geological Background

"Peters Marland lies in dullish country" (Hoskins 1974, 451) – a terrain perhaps more charitably described as gently rolling – ranging in height from 90-150m. The village lies on a narrow ridge orientated north-west to south-east. The underlying geology is the thick bedded argillaceous and silty sandstones of the Bude Formation (www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience). South-east of Peters Marland lies the Petrockstowe Basin, a seam of Bovey formation sand, silt and clay, commonly known as ball clay. The local soils are the well-drained fine loamy soils of the Neath Formation (SSEW 1983).

#### 1.5 Methodology

The desk-based research was carried out by Terry Green and was undertaken with reference to IfA guidelines on the preparation of archaeological assessments. The necessary research was conducted at the Devon Records Office, and the Westcountry Studies Library.

A single evaluation trench was excavated, located parallel to, and 0.7m away from, the south-eastern gable of the new school building. It was not possible to use a mechanical excavator in this instance, so the entire trench was hand dug. The trench measured  $10 \times 1.20m$  and 0.52 - 1.30m in depth. This work took place between  $24^{th}$  and  $28^{th}$  October 2011 and was directed by Dr B. Morris.

For all features a photographic record, a drawn record at appropriate scales (1:20) and a written record of standard single context sheets was compiled.

The desk-based research, building survey and the evaluation were carried out according to the Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) (Appendices 2 & 3) drawn up in consultation with DCHES (see Appendix 1).

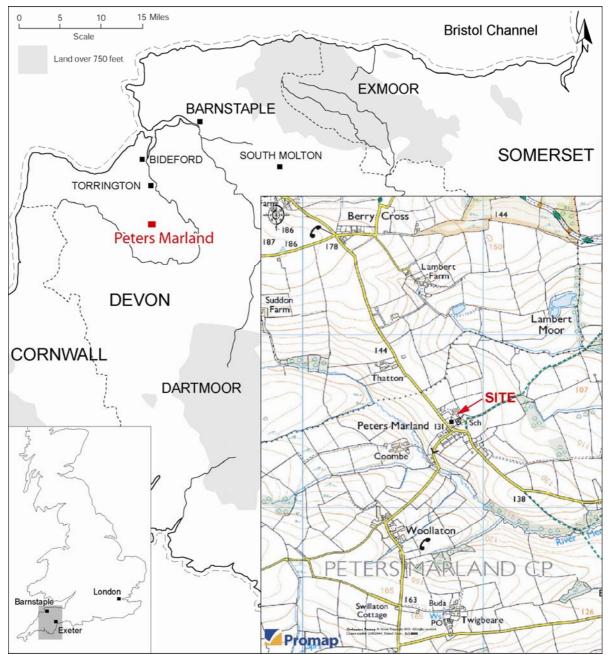


Figure 1: Location map.

#### 2.0 Results of the Desk-Based Assessment

#### 2.1 Manorial History

According to the *Place Names of Devon* (Gover, Mawer and Stenton 1931) the settlement takes its name (Marland) either from the River Mere or from an area of marshy land. 'Peters' is from the dedication of the parish church to St Peter. In the Domesday survey of 1086 'Mirland' was recorded as a manor held by Reginald de Valletorta under Roald Dubbed (Thorn and Thorn 1985). Before the Conquest it had been held by Alric. It had land for 9 ploughs, a considerable area of grazing land and was worth 30 shillings in tax. In terms of Devon, this represents a not inconsiderable manor. In 1086 there were four manors in the parish among which Marland was the largest. O.J.Reichel (1938) provides an account of its medieval ownership, of which the following is a summary.

From Reginald the manor passed to the Giffard family, a co-heiress of which line brought it to John Dameral. In 1238 it was jointly held by Roger de Gynermy and Margery de la Trewe. In 1267 Walter de Bathe acquired the manor and in 1269 conveyed it to Frithelstock Priory, and it was held by the Priory until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. In the post-medieval period the manorial arrangements of the Middle Ages appear to have wasted away. The last lord of the manor in line of descent from Reginald de Valletorta was John Speccot who died in 1655. The decay of the ancient order is reflected in the fact that in 1642 Sir John Speccot was assessed for tax at two shillings and sixpence, while the major taxpayer in the parish was Lewis Davills who was assessed at 25 shillings. When the Lysons brothers were writing in 1822 the only manor in the parish was Twigbeare, then in the hands of the executors of the late Joseph Oldham. The Oldhams, residing at Twigbeare, continued as lords of the manor until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 2.2 Marland School

The earliest clear record of the occupation of the site derives from the Peters Marland tithe map of c.1840 (Fig.3). The building group numbered 435 on the map corresponds to the site of the present school. The tithe apportionment of 1839, which accompanies the tithe map, contains the information that Number 435 was 'houses and court' owned and occupied by John Mallet. The tithe apportionment provides the information that the 'houses and court' and all the surrounding features and parcels of land (numbered 419-470 on the tithe map) represented a farm known as Marshes Tenement. The Land Tax records (1782-1832) indicate that John Mallet had been the owner of Marshes Tenement since 1813, during the earlier part of which period it had been tenanted by Mrs Bonifant, widow of James Bonifant who had been the tenant since 1793, succeeding Thomas Kelland and William Capp. Prior to 1813 the holding had been owned by one James Reed.

The Census returns of 1841 provide the information that John Mallet was at that date a land agent aged 70. By 1851 he had disappeared from the record and White's Directory of Devon for 1850 does not record a Mallet among the farmers of the parish. It is not clear however, whether Marshes Tenement continued in existence as a farm or whether on the death or departure of John Mallet it became the Rectory, as it is labelled on the Ordnance Survey First Edition map published 1889 (Figure 3). The Second Edition of the map published in 1905 (Figure 4) shows it as the Vicarage, as does all subsequent mapping up to the 1960s. The 1989 revision of Pevsner and Cherry's 'Buildings of Devon' describes the building as formerly the Vicarage, now the Marland House Hotel. This 1989 reference appears to have been outdated, since the Ordnance Survey map of 1982 indicates that by that date the building had already become Marland School.

#### 2.3 The Landscape Context

It appears from the Domesday record that there were four manors within the parish in the 11<sup>th</sup> century, and the pattern of field boundaries recorded on the 19<sup>th</sup> century maps is strongly suggestive of widespread characteristically medieval ploughing in long strips (Devon Historic Landscape Characterisation).

Within the parish, Marland was the head manor, and it is within the head manor that the church would normally have been built. Although the earliest architectural features of the church date from the 15<sup>th</sup> century, it is very probable that there was an earlier church here, since many medieval manors acquired a church as a mark of prestige from around the 10<sup>th</sup> century onwards (Morris 1989, 140ff) and the incidence of church beside manor house is so widely observable as to be standard. Thus the church very frequently lies very close to the lord's main residence, be it manor house or demesne farm. This points to the strong possibility that the core, at least, of Marshes Tenement was the descendant of the manorial demesne (Barton) farm or manor house. Whether any of the recorded prestigious medieval holders of the manor actually lived here is open to question.

#### 2.4 The Cartographical Sources

As stated above, the earliest source of detailed cartographic information is the Peters Marland tithe map of c.1840 (Figure 2). The building group numbered 435 on the map corresponds to the site of the present school. The tithe apportionment, which accompanies the tithe map, contains the information that number. 435 was 'houses and court' owned and occupied by John Mallet. The building or buildings recorded as 435 on the map appear to comprise, on the south side, a large house with a projecting frontage which may correspond to the Doric portico with symmetrical wings described by Pevsner and Cherry (1989).

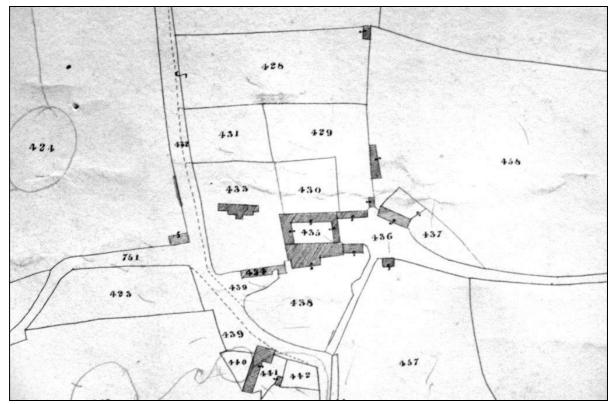


Figure 2: Extract from the Peters Marland tithe map of *c*.1840. No.435 was [the buildings of] Marshes Tenement, subsequently to become the Rectory or Vicarage.

To the north are what appear to be agricultural buildings surrounding a central courtyard. To the south of 435 is an area numbered 438 which is glossed in the apportionment as lawn, shrubs etc, therefore an area of pleasure garden, while to the north the area numbered 430 is described as simply 'garden' – probably a kitchen garden. To the west the area numbered 436 is 'houses and court' with next to it number 437, 'drying yard and mow plot'. In the wider landscape John Mallet had meadow, arable land, plantations and orchards, all of which strongly suggests that John Mallet was – or had been – a farmer and that the buildings numbered 435 represented the farm-house, apparently aggrandised, and service buildings.

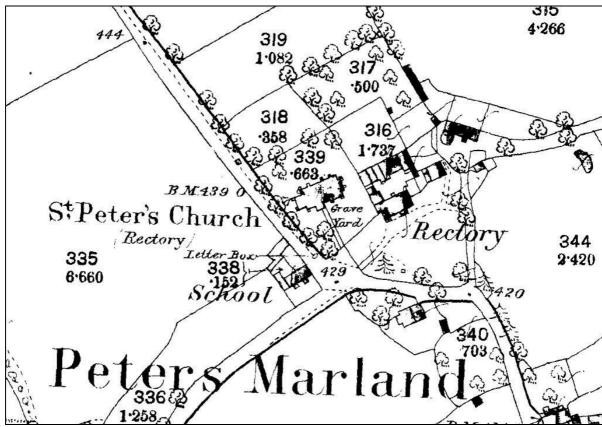


Figure 3: Extract from the Ordinance Survey First Edition map at 2:500, published 1889.

Comparison of the tithe map with the Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:2500 map published 1889 (Figure 3) suggests no or very little change in the footprint of the buildings during the later 19<sup>th</sup> century, but it is evident that by this date the premises had become the Rectory.

The same applies to the Ordnance Survey Second Edition map of 1905 (Figure 4). Post-Second World War mapping (1956) indicates no change except that the building was at this date designated 'Vicarage'. By 1982 however, it had become Marland School (having been for a while Marland House Hotel). Mapping at this date indicates changes in the lay-out with expansion of the principal building, additional building at the eastern end, opening up of the east end of the courtyard, radical change to the outbuildings on the north side of the courtyard, laying out of the former garden on the north into three rectangular areas (lawn and tennis courts) and the construction of new buildings at the north side of the garden area. The original courtyard remained largely unoccupied. This remained the case in 1991.

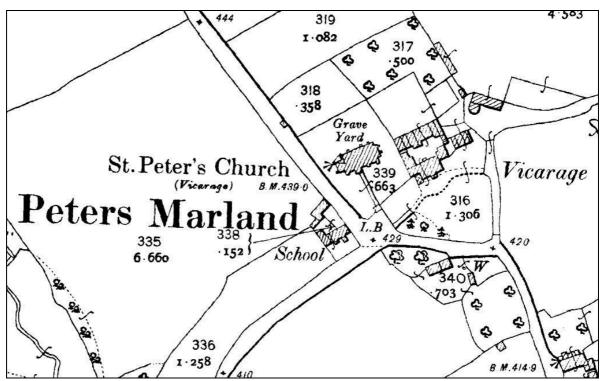


Figure 4: Extract from the Ordinance Survey Second Edition map at 2:5000, published 1905.



Figure 5: Aerial view of St Peters Church and Marland School, *c*.2010; the location of the evaluation trench is indicated (Google Maps accessed 19.01.2012).

#### 2.5 Conclusion

The site in question is a small area within the building complex of Marland School, but since it appears to remain essentially undisturbed – at least in recent times – it is important to recognise that in this location undisturbed ground may conceal potentially important archaeology.

### The major points are:

- In the 11<sup>th</sup> century Marland was the head manor in the parish.
- This situation, next to the church, is the most likely location for a manor house or the buildings of the demesne (Barton) farm.
- As the manorial structure of the parish broke down, a courtyard farm, known in the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> centuries as Marshes Tenement, developed in this location beside the church.
- In the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Marshes Tenement was recast as the Rectory or Vicarage.
- When the former rectory or vicarage was transformed, first into a hotel and then into a school; the area around the school has been subject to piecemeal and localised development, and it seems likely archaeological remains will survive in some areas.



Figure 6: The location of the evaluation trench, prior to the start of work. Viewed from the south, looking north (2m scale).

#### 3.1 The Evaluation Trench

This trench was excavated to establish whether the construction of the new school building had impacted upon any features associated with the medieval parish church located c.35m to the southwest. Two features containing medieval pottery and a possible area of burning were uncovered within the trench. The trench was 10m long by 1.2m wide, and was orientated north-east by southwest (Figure 7).

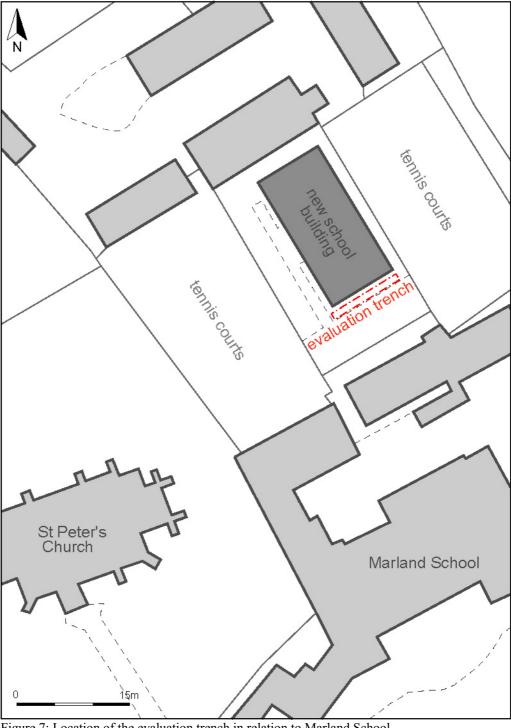


Figure 7: Location of the evaluation trench in relation to Marland School.

The medieval features were buried beneath three distinct layers. The uppermost layer was of turf and topsoil (100) up to 0.24m thick appeared to be recent in date and contained a deposit of rubble, some of which may have been associated with the construction of the new building. This overlay a layer of original topsoil (101) 0.2-0.25m thick. A small number of pottery sherds, including residual medieval North Devon ware, post-medieval North Devon ware, and 19<sup>th</sup> century stoneware were recovered from this topsoil, along with a single oyster shell and a blue biro. This overlay (102) a layer of pre-Victorian topsoil 0.2-0.25m thick. This layer contained sherds of North Devon ware dating to the medieval and post-medieval periods and a clay pipe fragment. A remnant soil layer (122) was recorded below (102) at the eastern end of the trench. It was up to 0.10m thick and contained frequent sub-rounded to sub-rectangular stones up to 80mm in diameter. This layer was cut by linear feature [103], 1.84m west of the eastern end of the trench. An area of possible burning (120), discussed below, was recorded within deposit (122), at the eastern end of the trench.

The earliest feature recorded within the trench was the undulating hollow cut [106]. It was truncated by linear [103] at the point where it ran into the southern edge of excavation (Figures 8 & 12-13). Cut [106] measured at least 7.20m in length and 1.20m in width but extended beyond the trench in all directions so the true extent of this feature remains unknown. The eastern edge of the undulating hollow [106] was orientated north-west to south-east but since this feature extended beyond the trench limits, it was impossible to establish its true orientation. Cut [106] extended south-west from linear [103], where there was a depression that measured up to 0.45m in depth and 2.10m in length (north-east to south-west) and extended into the southern baulk of the trench. It had a gentle break of slope at the top, gentle sloping sides and a relatively flat base. This depression was filled by (118) and (121), which are discussed in more detail below.

From the western edge of this shallow depression, feature [106] sloped gently to the south-west, where it was up to 0.28m deep. A second, more pronounced depression, recorded as [108], was located 2.28m south-west of the first at the western end of the trench. It was irregular in plan with gently sloping sides and a relatively flat base. It measured 1.66m in length (north-east to south-west), at least 1.10m wide (north-west to south-east) and 0.40m deep.

The earliest fill within cut [106] was (121), which lined the eastern side of the depression at the eastern end of this feature (Figures 11 & 13). This basal fill was composed of firm grey silt-clay with brownish mottling and contained frequent small sub-rectangular stone inclusions that measured 10-50mm in diameter. In the north-west facing section it was overlain by (118), a soft sterile silty clay 0.20m thick at the centre of the depression. Fill (118) contained a single sherd of 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> century North Devon medieval coarseware pottery. In the south-east facing section fill (117), lay directly above fill (121), and was composed of weathered redeposited shillet up to 0.10m thick. Above fill (118) lay fill (115), which continued to the south-west where it formed the basal fill within the depression [108].

Fill (118) was composed of very soft silty clay with ginger mottling and contained frequent small charcoal inclusions and occasional angular stones 60-80mm in diameter. This fill varied in thickness from 0.10-0.15m at the eastern end of cut [106] to 0.15-0.20m within cut [108]. At the western end of the trench, fill (115) was overlain by fill (119) a thin 0.08m thick layer composed of soft grey clay-silt containing abundant small shillet lithorelicts. Above this was fill (114) which was up to 0.22m thick and extended 2.90m east from the south-western end of the trench. It was similar in composition to (110), which lay directly above it, but contained frequent small charcoal inclusions and had a greater amount of ginger mottling. It also contained frequent angular stones 200-300mm in diameter. Fill (110) was 0.15m thick and was defined by frequent angular stone rubble and occasional charcoal inclusions. The stones were often rectangular with diameters ranging from 80-120mm. A large elongated whetstone measuring 205×77×62mm and two pieces of fired clay were recovered from this fill.

Fills (117) and (118) at the eastern end of cut [106], together with fill (110), were sealed by fill (107/109). This layer was recorded along the whole length of cut [106/108] and was 0.08-0.10m thick. It was composed of a mid grey clay-silt with occasional ginger mottling containing occasional angular stones, measuring 60-100mm in diameter, and occasional charcoal flecks. It also contained frequent small sub-angular stones approximately 40mm in diameter. Fill (107/109) contained 71 sherds of medieval pottery (mostly  $13^{th}$  to  $15^{th}$  century, two sherds dated before c.1200, one sherd dated to late  $15^{th}$  – early  $16^{th}$  century wheel-thrown vessel).

Linear feature [103] truncated the eastern side of the undulating hollow cut [106] and was located 1.84m from the north-east end of the trench (Figures 9 & 13). It traversed the trench at 90° and was orientated north-west to south-east. The feature was 0.95m wide and up to 0.55m deep, with a gentle V-shaped profile that contained five fills. The stratigraphy within the linear varied slightly between each section. In the north-west facing section of the trench the basal fill (113) was composed of mottled grey and yellow clay-silt with occasional lithorelicts and up to 0.15m thick (Figure). Above this was fill (111), a layer of soft-to-firm grey stony clay-silt 0.16m thick. In the south-east facing section, the basal fill (112) was composed almost entirely of shale lithorelicts and was 0.17m thick. Fill (105) lay above fills (113) and (111) and was composed of mid-grey silt 0.25m thick. It contained frequent large sub-angular stones with maximum dimensions of 200mm and frequent shale lithorelicts. The uppermost fill (104) was composed of a buff brown clay-silt 0.10m thick. Fill (104) produced two sherds of later medieval (16th century) North Devon pottery.

An area of burning (120) was visible as fire-reddened surface beneath remnant soil (122), 0.40m from the eastern end of the trench. It extended into the south-west facing section and was observed to measure  $0.55 \times 0.90$ m. It is difficult to establish whether or not this activity was associated with the other identified features.

#### 3.2 Finds Synopsis

North Devon medieval coarseware pottery forms the bulk of the assemblage. This is a good group of stratified material in a primary context, but can only be loosely dated to c.1350-1450. The presence of a single sherd of wheel-thrown sand-tempered North Devon ware pushes the date of the last phase of feature [106/108] into the late 15<sup>th</sup> or early 16<sup>th</sup> century.

The presence of two sherds of (presumably residual) Upper Greensand-tempered sherds (aka chert-tempered pottery from the Blackdown Hills region) is very interesting, as its fully oxidised fabric suggests it was produced before c.1200. This material had a very wide distribution in the  $11^{th}$  and  $12^{th}$  centuries AD, but is rarely encountered on such isolated rural sites, which typically only produce North Devon coarsewares (e.g. Sourton Down – see Weddell & Reed 1997).



Figure 8: [left] Post-ex shot of the trench, viewed from the south-west; [108] is in the foreground (1&2m scale). Figure 9: [right] Post-ex shot of the trench, viewed from the north-east; [103] is in the foreground (1&2m scale).



Figure 10: South-west end of the trench, showing the north-west facing section of feature [108]. Note the sub-angular rubble present in the fills of [108] (2m scales).



Figure 11: North-west facing section of trench, showing fills of feature [106] (2m scales).

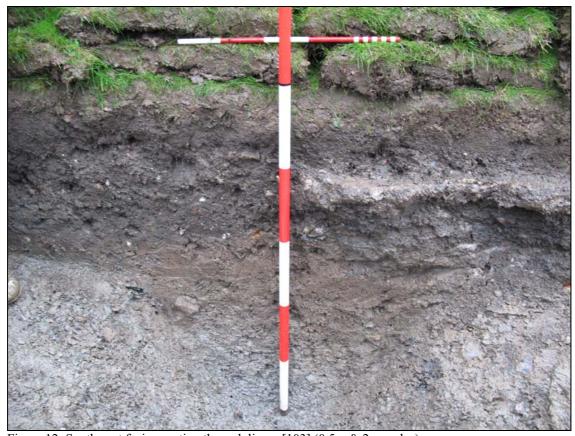


Figure 12: South-east facing section through linear [103] (0.5m & 2m scales).

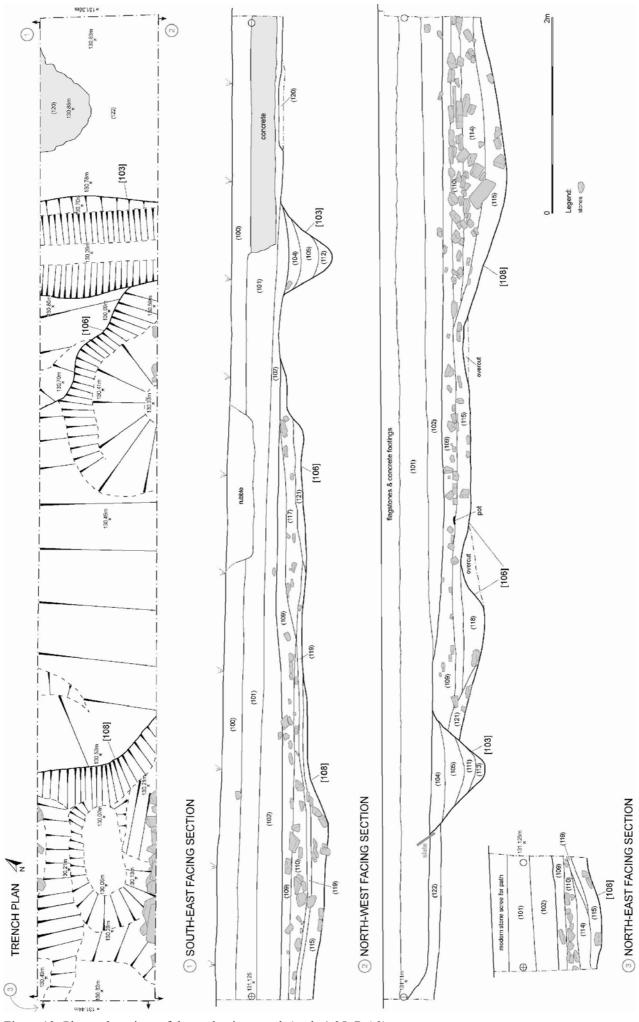


Figure 13: Plan and sections of the evaluation trench (scale 1:25 @ A3).

#### 4.0 Discussion and Conclusion

The excavation of the evaluation trench revealed two features dating from the medieval period. The undulating hollow identified [106/108] appears to represent a single event or activity. The function of this feature is difficult to determine with certainty but it clearly represents an attempt to alter the natural ground level in this area. The angular and sub-angular stone rubble recorded within the feature, and concentrated at the western end of the trench, must be from elsewhere as the natural bedrock consisted of weathered shillet with clay bands. On that basis, it seems likely this material is derived from either the construction or demolition of adjacent structures. These features are dated by the pottery to the  $14^{th}$ - early  $16^{th}$  century, making this a small part of a relatively early settlement, and most likely part of the original manorial complex. The presence of two possible Upper Greensand-tempered sherds pushes this date before c.1200, and represents a significant find in rural North Devon.

Yet it remains difficult to assign a specific function to the features excavated at Marland School, as the evaluation trench did not reveal the full extent of this activity. At this point, the evidence is suggestive rather than indicative.

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Peters Marland Tithe Map and Apportionment

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Ancestry.co.uk - 1851 Census Returns www.ancestry.co.uk

British Geological Society - www.bgs.ac.uk/opengeoscience

#### BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

**Location:** Marland School, Peters Marland, Torrington

Parish: Peters Marland
District: Torridge
County: Devon
NGR: SS47861353

Planning Application no: DCC/2669/2008

Proposal:

Historic Environment Service ref: ARCH/CM/TO.13677

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This brief has been prepared by the Devon County Council Historic Environment Service (HES) with regard to the archaeological works required as a condition of planning consent for the above works. This brief has been produced specifically for the above planning application and may require alteration if this application is revised, amended or resubmitted. This document is not transferable to any other scheme or planning application.
- 1.2 In accordance with PPS5 Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (2010), and the Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, consent has been granted, conditional upon a programme of archaeological work being undertaken. This condition requires that:
  - 'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which was approved by the County Planning Authority on 5 August 2008. The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or other such details that may be subsequently agreed in writing by the County Planning Authority.'
- 1.3 The Marland School site, within which the development is located, extends around three sides of the 15<sup>th</sup> century parish church, which is a Grade II Listed Building. The church may replace an earlier structure on the same site, and it is possible that its graveyard may once have extended further than that of the present church.
- 1.4 The development has already been erected. This work has been undertaken in breach of the planning Condition, without any archaeological works being undertaken. In order to determine whether any archaeological remains associated with the medieval ecclesiastical activity have been affected by the development a single trench will be excavated parallel to and on the west side of the new building see attached plan.
- 1.5 This Brief covers the application area as defined in the plans submitted in support of this application.

#### 2. WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

- 2.1 This document sets out the scope of the works required to record the extent and character of any surviving archaeological deposits that may have been affected by the construction work already undertaken within the application area, and will form the basis of the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) to be prepared by the archaeological consultant. Devon County Council Historic Environment Service: Brief for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording
- 2.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation must be submitted by the applicant or on their behalf by their agent or archaeological consultant and approved by the HES and the Planning Authority prior to any development commencing on site.

#### 3. PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

#### 3.1 Fieldwork

- 3.1.1 A single trench, 19m long and between 1.7m and 2m wide, will be excavated to the west and parallel to the new building. This trench will investigate the presence and survival of archaeological features in the vicinity of the development and whether any features present may have extended into the area affected by groundworks for the new building.
- 3.1.2 The trench will be excavated by a 360o tracked or JCB-type machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket to the surface of archaeological deposits or in situ natural ground whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence.
- 3.1.3 Should archaeological remains be exposed it is anticipated that their presence and extent only will be recorded, with minimal excavation being undertaken to determine their extent and form. However, should archaeological deposits be exposed that may be negatively affected by their exposure there may be a requirement to excavate any such feature or deposit. In this case exposed archaeological features and deposits will be cleaned and excavated by hand and fully recorded by context as per the Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (1994 revised 2008). All features shall be recorded in plan and section at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50. All scale drawing shall be drawn at a scale appropriate to the complexity of the deposit/feature and to allow accurate depiction and interpretation.
- 3.1.4 The base of the trench will be cleaned by hand and at least one long face of the trench will be cleaned by hand to allow the site stratigraphy to be understood and for the identification of archaeological features.
- 3.1.5 Should deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements appropriate sampling and post-excavation analysis strategies will be initiated. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits if required.
- 3.1.6 The photographic record should be made in B/W print supplemented by digital or colour transparency. However, if digital imagery is to be the sole photographic record then suitably archivable prints must be made of the digital images by a photographic laboratory. Laser or inkjet prints of digital images, while acceptable for inclusion in the report, are not an acceptable medium for archives. The drawn and written record will be on an appropriately archivable medium.
- 3.1.7 Human remains must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. Removal can only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal must be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.
- 3.1.8 Should any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, be exposed, these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2<sup>nd</sup> Revision). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

#### 3.2 Desk-based assessment

Should archaeological deposits be exposed then the programme of work shall include a desk-based appraisal of the site to place the development area into its historic and archaeological context. This work will consist of map regression based on the Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map(s) and Apportionments. An examination will also be made of records and aerial photographs held by the HER.

#### 4. MONITORING

- 4.1 The archaeological consultant shall agree monitoring arrangements with the HES and give two weeks notice, unless a shorter period is agreed, of commencement of the fieldwork. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made.
- 4.2 Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report see 5.6 below.
- 4.3 The archaeological contractor undertaking the fieldwork will notify the HES upon completion of the fieldwork stage of these works.

#### 5. REPORTING

- 5.1 The reporting requirements will be confirmed with the HES on completion of the site work. In the event that few or no archaeological remains are exposed, only minimal reporting would be required. The results may be presented in the form of a short entry to the Historic Environment Record (HER), sent to the HES either digitally or as a hard-copy. If archaeological deposits or remains are exposed during the course of the works, then more detailed reporting would be required, in the form of an illustrated summary report submitted both in hard-copy and digitally and, if merited, wider publication.
- 5.2 Upon completion of the fieldwork and required post-excavation analysis an illustrated report will be prepared. The report will collate the written, graphic, visible and recorded information outlined in section 3 above.

The report will include:

- (i) a summary of the project's background;
- (ii) description and illustration of the site location;
- (iii) a methodology of the works undertaken;
- (iv) include plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
- (v) a description of the project's results;
- (vi) an interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- (vii) a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
- (viii) a site location plan at an appropriate scale on an Ordnance Survey, or equivalent, base-map;
- (ix) a plan showing the location of the areas subject to the archaeological work and the exposed features and deposits in relation to the site boundaries:
- (x) detailed plans of areas of the site in which archaeological features are recognised along with adequate OD spot height information. These should be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans must show the site and features/deposits in relation to north. Archaeologically sterile areas need not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- (xi) section drawings of deposits and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile areas need not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- (xii) site matrices where appropriate;
- (xiii) photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features and deposits that are referred to in the text. All photographs should contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- (xiv) a consideration of evidence within its wider context;
- (xv) a summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- (xvi) specialist assessment or analysis reports where undertaken;
- (xvii) an evaluation of the methodology employed and the results obtained (i.e. a confidence rating).
- It is recommended that a draft report is submitted to the HES for comment prior to its formal submission to the Planning Authority.
- 5.3 The timetable for the production of the report must be set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation. The HES would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork dependent upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HES must be informed of this and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HES and the archaeological contractor. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced within three months of the completion of the fieldwork.
- 5.4 Should the development proceed in a staged manner, with each stage requiring archaeological fieldwork, and where a period of more than three months between each stage is anticipated or occurs, then the archaeological contractor shall prepare an interim illustrated summary report at the end of each stage. The report will set out the results of that phase of archaeological works, including the results of any specialist assessment or analysis undertaken. The report will be produced within three months of completion of each phase of fieldwork. At the completion of the final stage of the fieldwork an overarching report setting out the results of all stages of work will be prepared. HES would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork dependent upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HES must be informed of this, an interim report will be produced within three months of the completion of the final stage of fieldwork, and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HES and the archaeological contractor.
- 5.5 On completion of the final report, in addition to copies required by the Client, hard copies of the report shall be supplied to the HES on the understanding that one of these copies will be deposited for public reference in the HER. In addition to the hard copies of the report, one copy shall be provided to the County Historic Environment Service in digital format in a format to be agreed in advance with the HES on the understanding that a digital version of the report may in future be made available to researchers via a web-based version of the Historic Environment Record.
- 5.6 The archaeological consultant shall complete an online OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS) form in respect of the archaeological work. This will include a digital version of the report. The report or short entry to the Historic Environment Record will also include the OASIS ID number.

#### 5.7 Publication

Should particularly significant archaeological remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance (PPS5). If such remains are

encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the HFS

#### 6. PERSONNEL

- 6.1 The work shall be carried out by a recognised archaeological consultant, agreed with the DCHES. Staff must be suitably qualified and experienced for their project roles. All work should be carried out under the control of a specified Member of the Institute for Archaeologists (MIFA), or by a specified person of equivalent standing and expertise. The Written Scheme of Investigation will contain details of key project staff and specialists who may contribute during the course of the works excavation and post-excavation.
- 6.2 Health and Safety matters, including site security, are matters for the consultant. However, adherence to all relevant regulations will be required.
- 6.3 The work shall be carried out in accordance with IfA Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (1994), as amended (2008).

#### 7. CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORILY PROTECTED SPECIES

If topsoil stripping or groundworks are being undertaken under the direct control and supervision of the archaeological contractor then it is the archaeological contractor's responsibility - in consultation with the applicant or agent - to ensure that the required archaeological works do not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.

#### 8. DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE AND FINDS

- 8.1 The archaeological consultant shall contact the museum that will receive the site archive to obtain an accession number and agree conditions for deposition. The accession number will be quoted in the Written Scheme of Investigation, and within the final report or the short entry to the Historic Environment Record.
- 8.2 Archaeological finds resulting from the investigation (which are the property of the landowner), should be deposited with the appropriate museum in a format to be agreed with the museum, and within a timetable to be agreed with the HES. The museum's guidelines for the deposition of archives for long-term storage should be adhered to. If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with the landowner, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists.
- 8.3 The artefact discard policy must be set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation.
- 8.4 The condition placed upon this development will not be regarded as discharged until the report has been produced and submitted to the HES and the Planning Authority, the site archive deposited and the OASIS form submitted.

#### 10. CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS

Ann Marie Dick, Archaeological Officer, Devon County Council, Environment, Economy and Culture Directorate, Matford Offices, County Hall, Exeter EX2 4QW

Tel: 01392-383405 Email: ann.dick@devon.gov.uk

9th September 2011

DCHES ref:

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING AT MARLAND SCHOOL, PETERS MARLAND, TORRINGTON, DEVON.

**Location:** Marland School, Peters Marland, Torrington

ARCH/CM/TO.13677

Parish: Peters Marland
District: Torridge
County: Devon

NGR: SS47861353
Planning Application no: DCC/2669/2008
Proposal: Erection of new building

**Date:** 24.10.2011

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document forms a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been produced by South West Archaeology (SWARCH) at the request of Peter Baglow of NPS South West Ltd (the Client). It sets out the methodology for archaeological monitoring and recording to be undertaken at Marland School, Peters Marland, Torrington, Devon and for related off site analysis and reporting. The WSI and the schedule of work it proposes conforms to a brief as supplied by the Devon County Historic Environment Service (DCHES) (Ann Marie Dick, 09.09.2011).
- 1.2 In accordance with PPS5 Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (2010), and the Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, consent has been granted, conditional upon a programme of archaeological work being undertaken. This condition requires that:

'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which was approved by the County Planning Authority on 5 August 2008. The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or other such details that may be subsequently agreed in writing by the County Planning Authority.

#### 2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Marland School site, within which the development is located, extends around three sides of the 15<sup>th</sup> century parish church, which is a Grade II Listed Building. The church may replace an earlier structure on the same site, and it is possible that its graveyard may once have extended further than that of the present church.
- 2.2 The development has already been erected. This work has been undertaken in breach of the planning Condition, without any archaeological works being undertaken. In order to determine whether any archaeological remains associated with the medieval ecclesiastical activity have been affected by the development a single trench will be excavated parallel to and on the south side of the new building see attached plan.

#### 3.0 AIMS

- 3.1 The principal objectives of the work will be to:
  - 3.1.1 To observe, investigate, excavate and record any surviving below-ground archaeological artefacts and deposits uncovered by the trenching:
  - 3.1.2 Analyse and report on the results of the project as appropriate.

#### **METHOD**

4.1 Desk-based assessment

Should archaeological deposits be exposed then the programme of work shall include a desk-based *appraisal* of the site to place the development area into its historic and archaeological context. This work will consist of map regression based on the Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map(s) and Apportionments. An examination will also be made of records and aerial photographs held by the HER.

4.2 Fieldwork

A single trench approximately 15m x 1.2m (depending on the space available on the site) will be excavated to the south and parallel to the new building in a location indicated on the attached plan. This trench will investigate the presence and survival of archaeological features in the vicinity of the development and whether any features present may have extended into the area affected by groundworks for the new building. The trench will be excavated by hand.

- 4.2.1 Should archaeological remains be exposed it is anticipated that their presence and extent only will be recorded, with minimal excavation being undertaken to determine their extent and form. However, should archaeological deposits be exposed that may be negatively affected by their exposure there may be a requirement to excavate any such feature or deposit. In this case exposed archaeological features and deposits will be cleaned and excavated by hand and fully recorded by context as per the Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (1994 revised 2008). All features shall be recorded in plan and section at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50. All scale drawing shall be drawn at a scale appropriate to the complexity of the deposit/feature and to allow accurate depiction and interpretation.
- 4.2.2 The base of the trench will be cleaned by hand and at least one long face of the trench will be cleaned by hand to allow the site stratigraphy to be understood and for the identification of archaeological features.
- 4.2.3 Should deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements appropriate sampling and post-excavation analysis strategies will be initiated. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits if required.
- 4.2.4 The photographic record will be made in B/W print supplemented by digital or colour transparency. However, if digital imagery is to be the sole photographic record then suitably archivable prints will be made of the digital images by a photographic laboratory. Laser or inkjet prints of digital images, while acceptable for inclusion in the report, are not an acceptable medium for archives. The drawn and written record will be on an appropriately archivable medium.
- 4.2.5 Human remains will initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. Removal will only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal will be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.

- 4.2.6 Should any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, be exposed, these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2<sup>nd</sup> Revision). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 4.3 Health and Safety requirements will be observed at all times by any archaeological staff working on site, particularly when working with machinery. As a minimum: high-visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear will be worn.
- 4.3.1 Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times.
- 4.3.2 The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client.
- 4.3.3 If the depth of trenching exceeds 1.2 metres the trench sides will need to be shored or stepped to enable the archaeologist to examine and if appropriate record the section of the trench. The provision of such measures will be the responsibility of the client.
- 4.4 SWARCH will agree monitoring arrangements with DCHES who will be informed of the start of the fieldwork, will monitor the project throughout and may wish to inspect the works in progress. Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report. SWARCH will notify the HES upon completion of the fieldwork stage of these works.

#### 5.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

- 5.1 This will be based on IfA guidelines and those advised by DCHES and will consist of:
- 5.1.1 Standardised single context recording sheets, survey drawings in plan, section and profile at 1:10, 1:20, 1: 50 and 1:100 as appropriate and digital photography.
- 5.1.2 Survey and location of features.
- 5.1.3 Labelling and bagging of finds on site, post-1800 unstratified pottery may be discarded on site after a representative sample has been retained.

Any variation of the above shall be agreed in consultation with the DCHES.

#### 6.0 ARCHIVE AND REPORT

- An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991 2nd edition) upon completion of the entire project. This will include relevant correspondence together with context sheets, field drawings, and environmental, artefactual and photographic records. The archive and finds will be deposited with the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon under accession number NDDMS 2011.51. The museum's guidelines for the deposition of archives for long-term storage will be adhered to.
- Archaeological finds resulting from the investigation (which are the property of the landowner), will also be deposited with the above museum (under the accession number above) in a format to be agreed with the museum, and within a timetable to be agreed with the HES. The museum's guidelines for the deposition of archives for long-term storage will be adhered to and any sampling procedures will be carried out prior to deposition and in consultation with the museum. If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with the landowner, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists.
- 6.3 The reporting requirements will be confirmed with the HES on completion of the site work. In the event that few or no archaeological remains are exposed, only minimal reporting would be required. The results may be presented in the form of a short entry to the Historic Environment Record (HER), sent to the HES either digitally or as a hard-copy. If archaeological deposits or remains are exposed during the course of the works, then more detailed reporting would be required, in the form of an illustrated summary report submitted both in hard-copy and digitally and, if merited, wider publication.
- 6.4 If a report is produced, this will include the following elements:
- 6.4.1 A report number, the date of report production and version number (if subject to revision) and the OASIS record number;
- 6.4.2 A copy of the DCHES brief and this WSI;
- 6.4.3 A summary of the project's background;
- 6.4.4 The methodology of all works undertaken;
- 6.4.5 Plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
- 6.4.6 A description of the project's results;
- 6.4.7 In interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- 6.4.8 A site location plan at an appropriate scale on an Ordnance Survey, or equivalent, base-map;
- A plan showing the route of the cable/pipeline trenching and associated groundworks, the location of the areas subject to the archaeological work and the exposed features and deposits in relation to nearby property boundaries;
- 6.4.10 Detailed plans of areas of the site in which archaeological features are recognized along with adequate OD spot height information. These should be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans must show the site and features/deposits in relation to north. Archaeologically sterile areas need not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- 6.4.11 Section drawings of trench faces showing exposed deposits and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile areas need not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- 6.4.12 Site matrices where appropriate;
- 6.4.13 Photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features and deposits that are referred to in the text. All photographs should contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- 6.4.14 Consideration of evidence within its wider context;
- 6.4.15 A summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- 6.4.16 Specialist assessment or analysis reports where undertaken;
- 6.5 Should the development proceed in a staged manner, with each stage requiring archaeological fieldwork, and where a period of more than three months between each stage is anticipated or occurs, then SWARCH shall prepare an interim illustrated summary report at the end of each stage. The report will set out the results of that phase of archaeological works, including the results of any specialist assessment or analysis undertaken. The report will be produced within three months of completion of each phase of fieldwork. At the completion of the final stage of the fieldwork an overarching report setting out the results of all stages of work will be prepared. HES would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork dependant upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HES must be informed of this, an interim report

- will be produced within three months of the completion of the final stage of fieldwork, and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between themes and SWARCH.
- 6.6 DCHES will receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork, dependant on the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc, the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced.
- 6.7 Should particularly significant features, below-ground remains or finds be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance. If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements including any further analysis that may be necessary will be confirmed with the DCHES.
- A copy of the report detailing the results of these investigations will be submitted to the OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS) database.

#### 7.0 CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORILY PROTECTED SPECIES

SWARCH - in consultation with the applicant or agent - will ensure that the required archaeological works do not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.

#### 7.0 PERSONNEL

The project will be managed by Colin Humphreys; the excavation work will be undertaken by SWARCH personnel. Relevant staff of DCHES will be consulted as appropriate. Where necessary appropriate specialist advice will be sought, (see list of consultant specialists in Appendix 1 below).

#### Deb Laing-Trengove

South West Archaeology Ltd the Old Dairy, Hacche Lane Business Park, Pathfields Business Park, South Molton, Devon EX36 3LH; Telephone: 01769 573555; email: deblt@swarch.net

#### List of specialists

#### **Building recording**

Richard Parker

11 Toronto Road, St James, Exeter. EX4 6LE. Tel: 07763 248241

Conservation

Alison Hopper Bishop the Royal Albert Memorial Museum Conservation service

a.hopperbishop@exeter.gov.uk

Richard and Helena Jaeschke

2 Bydown Cottages, Swimbridge, Barnstaple EX32 0QD <a href="mailto:mrshjaeschke@email.msn.com">mrshjaeschke@email.msn.com</a> Tel: 01271 830891

#### Curatorial

Thomas Cadbury

Curator of Antiquities Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Bradninch Offices, Bradninch Place, Gandy Street, Exeter EX4 3LS Tel: 01392 665356

Alison Mills

The Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon

The Square, Barnstaple, North Devon. EX32 8LN Tel: 01271 346747

Bone

Human Professor Chris Knusel

University of Exeter Tel: 01392 722491 c.j.knusel@ex.ac.uk

Animal Wendy Howard

Department of Archaeology, Laver Building, University of Exeter, North Park Road, Exeter EX4 4QE

w.j.howard@exeter.ac.uk Tel: 01392 269330

Lithics

Martin Tingle

Higher Brownston, Brownston, Modbury, Devon, PL21 OSQ martin@mtingle.freeserve.co.uk

Metallurgy Lee Bray

South West Archaeology

#### Palaeoenvironmental/Organic

Wood identification: Dana Challinor; Tel: 01869 810150; dana.challinor@tiscali.co.uk

Plant macro-fossils: Julie Jones; juliedjones@blueyonder.co.uk

Pollen analysis: Ralph Fyfe; Room 211, 8 Kirkby Place, Drake Circus, Plymouth, Devon, PL4 8AA

Pottery

Prehistoric Henrietta Quinnell

39D Polsloe Road, Exeter EX1 2DN Tel: 01392 433214

Roman Alex Croom, Keeper of Archaeology

Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums, Arbeia Roman Fort and Museum, Baring Street, South Shields,

Tyne and Wear NE332BB

Tel: (0191) 454 4093 alex.croom@twmuseums.org.uk

Medieval John Allen,

Exeter Archaeology, Custom House, The Quay, Exeter, EX2 4AN Tel: 01392 665918

Post Medieval Graham Langman

Exeter, EX1 2UF Tel: 01392 215900 email: su1429@eclipse.co.uk

### List of Contexts

Context	Description
100	Upper topsoil – turf imported to the site
101	Old topsoil – grey dirty/mixed clay-silt, soft and friable
102	Lower topsoil –firm dryish yellowish brown silty-clay
[103]	Linear cut crossing trench at 90°c. 1m wide and 0.60m deep.
104	Upper fill of [103], light buff brown soft silty-clay 0.4-0.5m wide with a shallow concave profile, runs along Trench 1 until 90° turn to the east.
105	Fill of [103], soft clay-silt, frequent large sub-angular stones and shale lithorelicts
[106]	Large undulating hollow cut.
107	Fill of [106], same as 109
[108]	Irregular cut within [106] crossing trench obliquely northwest to southeast.
109	Upper fill of [108], light brownish grey silty-clay
110	Fill of [108], clean grey soft silty-clay. Abundant large sub-rectangular stones
111	Lower fill of [103], soft to firm stony grey clay-silt
112	Lower fill of [103], grey silt matrix for abundant shillet lithorelicts
113	Lower fill of [103] (south side) redeposited grey (mottled yellow) silt-clay
114	Fill of [108], grey very clayey silt stony
115	Fill of [108],grey rusty mottling stiff clayey-silt
116	Natural
117	Fill of [106], redeposited natural shillet
118	Fill of [106], clean grey clay (as 115 no mottling)
119	Fill of [108], narrow band of redeposited weathered shillet
120	Area of burnt rock/natural at east end of trench
121	Layer/fill of [106], below (117/118), grey silt clay with ginger mottling
122	Remnant soil layer east of [103], greyish brown silt-clay

### Concordance of Finds

	Pottery		Other material			
Context	sherds	wgt. (kg)	Notes	count	wgt. (kg)	Notes
				1	0.023	North Devon ridge tile frag.
			×5 refined white earthenware; ×3 post-medieval	1	0.002	Clay pipe stem C18th
(101)	18	0.203	North Devon gravel-tempered; ×3 flower pot; ×2 abraded medieval North Devon medieval coarseware; ×1 C19th stoneware; ×2 ?tile frags.; ×1 C19th salt-glazed sewer pipe	1	0.160	Architectural frag. 'marble' (slightly altered south Devon limestone) fireplace surround C18-19th
				1	0.048	Oyster shell, post-medieval
				1	0.007	Blue biro, with cap C20th
(102)	9	0.107	×3 C16-early C17th North Devon calcareous jug; ×2 medieval North Devon medieval coarseware; ×2 post-medieval North Devon gravel-tempered; ×1 C19th North Devon gravel- tempered rim; ×1 flowerpot	1	0.005	Clay pipe stem C18th
(104)	2	0.020	×1 C16th North Devon calcareous; ×1 after c.1500 North Devon gravel-tempered			
(107)	52	0.193	All C13-15th North Devon medieval coarseware, ×1 basal angle, ×6 rims, ×2 rims from jug c.1350-1450			
(109)	19	0.179	×18 C13-15th North Devon medieval coarseware, ×4 rims (three different forms) for jars (aka cooking pots), heavily burnt; ×1 late C15th-early C16th North Devon wheel-thrown sand-tempered rim, with spot of glaze;			
	22	0.298	×20 C13-15th North Devon medieval coarseware, ×2 basal angle, ×5 rims (three	1	1.375	Large elongate whetstone, 205×77×62mm
(110)			different forms), ×1 possible rim, ×3 sherds with horizontal applied strip decoration (×1 rim, ×1 possible rim, ×1 shoulder); ×2 C10-12th Upper Greensand tempered medieval coarseware, possibly Saxo-Norman, both with apparent internal residue	2	0.045	Fired clay
(111)	3	0.027	All C13-15th North Devon medieval coarseware, ×1 basal angle			
(112)	3	0.013	All C13-15th North Devon medieval coarseware			
(118)	1	0.005	C13-15th North Devon medieval coarseware			

MED. TOTAL	101	0.740
ALL	129	1.045

#### Pottery Petrography Report

Dr Imogen Wood with comments from Dr Roger Taylor

There were three main fabric groups in the assemblage (context (110)) submitted for analysis:

Group 1 ×20

Group 2 ×2

Group 3 ×2 [burnt clay]

#### **Methodology**

The 24 sherds from Marland School were microscopically examined with a binocular microscope at a magnification of ×10 to ×40. This enabled large areas of the surface and edges of sherds to be examined and, in many cases useful diagnostic mineral and rock components to be identified.

The fabrics are presented below with their microscopic descriptions. The minerals and rock fragments contained in each piece examined are listed in approximate order of abundance.

#### Group 1

Medieval pottery of North Devon type Moderately-sorted soft fabric Temper 20%

- Quartz, translucent crystal, sub-angular, 1mm<, abundant
- Feldspar, plagioclase, white to translucent, cleavage visible, very angular, 1mm<, common</li>
- Mudstone, micaceous grey/pink/buff, well rounded, 1mm<, common</li>
- Limonitic, FE, red soft pellets, well rounded, 1mm<, sparse</li>
- Slate, grey/blue, rounded, 0.5mm, rare
- Tourmaline, black vitreous, sub-rounded, 0.5mm, rare
- Biotite, black, cleavage flakes, rare. (one example)

#### Matrix

Smooth clay, temper added.

#### Comment

Fabric typical of central Devon geology represented by slates, mudstones and quartz.

#### Group 2

Medieval pottery Poorly-sorted hard fabric Temper 30%

- Quartz, translucent crystal/ opaque white some with pink tint, well rounded polished grains, 1mm<, abundant
- Clay pellets, white, (rarely red staining component) powdery soft, rounded,
- Chert, buff/grey also grey/black pieces, sub-angular, 1-3mm, sparse
- Sandstone, buff/orange, micaceous interbedded layering visible, well rounded, 2mm, rare
- Rock fragments, white (feldspar) +quartz and black component, angular, 2mm<, common</li>
- Chert with granular texture due to inclusion of sand, fine-grained black/grey and white, veining visible, well rounded, 2mm, rare.
- Black vitreous brittle material, flakes easily when under pressure, very angular, 2.5mm, rare (one example)
- Tourmaline, black vitreous, well rounded, 1mm, rare

#### Comment

This fabric has similarities with the Upper Greensand Chert tempered wares of the Blackdown Hills. The abundance of polished quartz, chert, sandstone and tourmaline support this. The absence of shell or voids created by its presence suggests its origin to the west of the Blackdown Hills, where shell is not as

dominant in the Upper Greensand. The presence of the rock fragments described above is not typically consistent with this fabric group. It could be suggested this fabric is a mixture of an unknown clay source with an Upper Greensand and chert tempered component, representing a new fabric within this broad grouping. The closest comparison is Anglo-Saxon pottery found at Brent Knoll. Similar to Anglo-Saxon pottery found at Brent Knoll (Taylor 2008, 118-119) and Wedmore (dated c.1050 by coin) (Allan 2011, 173).

#### Fabric 3

Burnt clay, soft powdery poorly sorted. Temper 5%

- Mudstone, pink/red, lamellar sheets, rounded, 5mm<, abundant</li>
- Quartz, white, 2mm<, scatter

#### Comment

Fabric typical of geological components found local to site of excavation.

#### Bibliography

- Taylor, R.T, 2008. Thin-section analysis, 118-119, in Gutierrez 2008, the pottery, 112-119, 'Excavation of an early medieval site at Brent Knoll, Somerset', *Somerset Archaeological and Natural History* **152**, 105-136.
- Allan, J. Hughes, M. J. and R.T. Taylor 2011: Saxo-Norman pottery in Somerset: some recent research, in *Somerset Archaeological and Natural History* **154**, 163-182.

### List of jpegs contained on CD to the rear of this report

Photo	Description	From	Scale
Number			
1	Pre-ex of Trench	SSW	2m
2	Trench excavated down to base of topsoil	SW	2m
3	Post-ex Linear [103]	SW	0.5m
4	South-east facing section through Linear [103]	SE	2m&0.5m
5	As above	SE	-
6	North-west facing section of linear cut [103]	NW	2m&0.5m
7	As above	NW	2m&0.5m
8	As above	NW	0.5m
9	South-east facing section of [108]	SE	2m
10	Post-ex of [108] and south-east and north-east facing section of trench	SW	2m&0.5m
11	Post-ex of [108] at south-west end of trench	Е	2m
12	Post-ex of [108] and north-west facing section	NW	2m
13	As above	NW	2m
14	North-east facing section at south-west end of trench	NE	2m
15	Post-ex of trench	SW	2m
16	North-west facing section showing [106] and basal fill (118)	NW	2m
17	Post-ex of trench, viewed obliquely from the north-east	NE	2m
18	Post-ex of trench, viewed from the south-west end of trench	SW	2m
19	Post-ex of trench, viewed from the north-east end of trench	NE	2m
20	Post-ex of trench showing north-west facing section	NE	2m
21	As above	NE	0.5m
22	Post-ex of [108] and south-west end of trench	E	0.5m
23	Post-ex south-west end of trench showing north-west facing section	W	0.5m
24	Post-ex Linear [103]	W	2m
25	Possible area of burning (120)	SE	2m



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