

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b>	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SS 542 324	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Test pits at Sticklepath School, Bickington Road, Sticklepath, Barnstaple, Devon		<b>Photo attached?</b> YES
<b>Planning Application no:</b>	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon (MBND)	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> southwes1-183287	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> to be obtained	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> SAP14	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 03.04.14	
<p><b>Description of works.</b></p> <p>A test pit was opened in the grounds of Sticklepath School by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014. This work took place in collaboration with Sticklepath School and the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon (MBND) as an educational activity for older primary school children. The School is located adjacent to Bickington Road (the A3125); Sticklepath is a suburb of Barnstaple that developed during the second half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The school lies within a field listed in the tithe apportionment as <i>Great Ley</i>, occupied by a William Fisher; this field formed part of the former open field system associated with Bickington.</p> <p>The weather was wet, becoming drier through the day. A supervised excavation of a test pit 1×2m was carried out by children from the school to a depth of approximately 0.3m. Below the turf only a single archaeological layer was encountered, redeposited from the construction of the adjacent patio. The soil was a mid greyish-brown clayey-silt with occasional lumps of redeposited subsoil and occasional sub-rounded to sub-angular pieces of shillet. The soil and turf was reinstated at the end of the day.</p> <p>A very small number of finds were recovered: a small number of scraps of white refined earthenware, 1 sherd (8g) of abraded North Devon gravel-tempered post-medieval pottery, 1 sherd (2g) of a C18 North Devon glazed jug, 2 clay pipe stems (5g) and one piece (3g) of clear glass. All finds were retained by the school.</p>		
<p><b>A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.</b></p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> V. Hosegood, B. Morris		<b>Date sent to HER:</b> 03.07.2014

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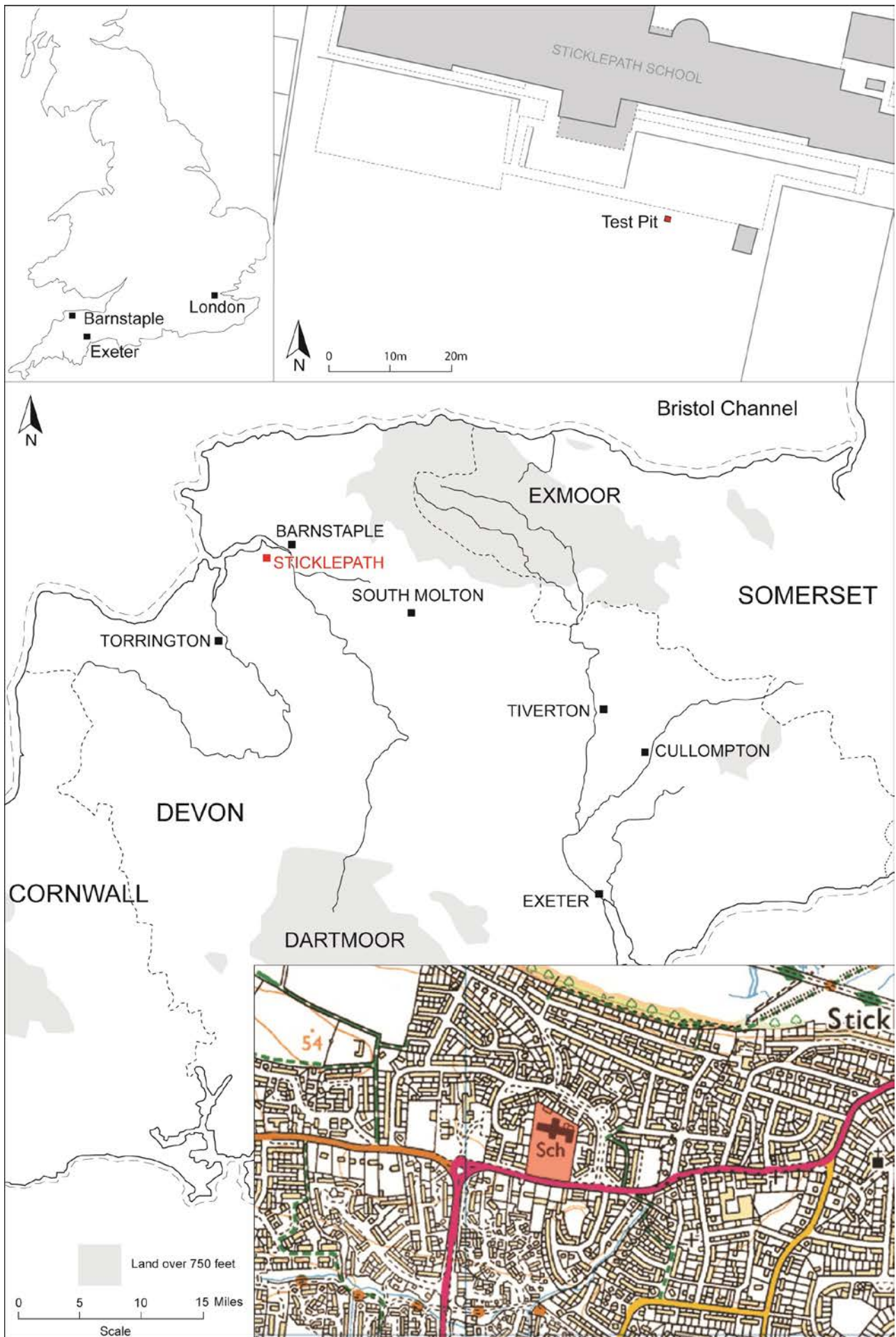


Figure 1: Location map.





Stripping the turf; from the west.



Some of the children involved in the excavation; from the south.