

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish:</b> Hallwell	<b>National Grid Reference</b> (8-figure NGR) SX78645305	<b>Number:</b> (Leave blank)	
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological monitoring of topsoil stripping at South Hams Flying Club, Halwell, Devon  <b>Planning Application no:</b> 22/1540/05/F		<b>Plan/Photo attached?</b> Y  <i>(should show the location of areas investigated excavated and features exposed)</i>	
<b>Description of works.</b>  <p>The groundworks associated with the creation of a series of four aircraft hangars were monitored and recorded by South West Archaeology (SWARCH) staff. Excavation was carried out by a swing shovel equipped with a toothless grading bucket under constant archaeological supervision.</p> <p>A total area of 55.8m by 7.9m was affected by the development, all under close grazed turf. Within that area a series of four terraces were formed by cut and fill, resulting in stepped level reduction of between 0.4m and 0.6m.</p> <p>The stratigraphy revealed consisted of natural undisturbed geological subsoil encountered at a depth of 0.4m-0.5m. This was of dense clay and shale composition but was very variable in colour and texture forming a distinct series of bands running across the contours north-west to south-east. Overlying this was 0.2m-0.3m of mid brown to orange-brown silty clay subsoil containing occasional stones. Over this lay a shallow mid brown topsoil between 0.1m and 0.2m thick. The soil deposits over natural were generally of greater depth at the down-slope, southern end of the site.</p> <p>No archaeological features or significant deposits were revealed during the groundwork.</p> <p>Some finds were recovered from the upper topsoil horizon during stripping, these consisted mostly of 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century transfer printed wares, with just 4 fragments of local green-glazed coarseware of post-medieval date and 3 fragments of undiagnostic tobacco pipe stems.</p> <p>A site meeting was held with Graham Tait of Devon County Council's HES when excavation was at its fullest extent, at which time it was agreed that no further archaeological intervention was necessary at this stage, and that a simple HER entry would suffice in lieu of a report.</p>		<b>Reference.</b>	<b>Date.</b> <i>of site visit(s)</i> 02.02.06
<b>Recorder (name and organisation)</b> Jon Freeman (SWARCH)		<b>Date sent to HER</b>	

Please email completed form to: [archaeol@devon.gov.uk](mailto:archaeol@devon.gov.uk) or post to County Archaeology Service, Environment Directorate, Matford Lane Offices, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QW. Information recorded on this form will be added to the Historic Environment Record, and made available to all researchers. Any plans or photographs embedded within or attached to this form remain the copyright © of the recorder, and must not be reproduced in any publication without the explicit consent of the copyright holder.