

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: East Putford, Torridge	National Grid Reference SS 36745 16319	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording on land at The Barton, East Putford, Holsworthy, Devon		Photo attached? YES
Planning Application no: 1/1164/2015/FUL	Recipient museum: Museum of Barnstaple & North Devon	
OASIS ID: southwes1-257754	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: EPT16	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 27 th July 2016	
<p>Description of works: Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of A. J. Pomeroy & Son (the Client) during groundworks associated with the construction of a new residential dwelling on land at The Barton, East Putford, Holsworthy, Devon. The monitoring was carried out by P. Webb on 27th July 2016. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Boyd 2016) drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>The site lies in an area of archaeological potential, to the immediate south of the former East Putford church which, although rebuilt in 1822 was described in the 1950s as containing a Norman font and Medieval furnishing and was formerly a chapel to Buckland Brewer with possible Medieval origins. East Putford itself is recorded in the Domesday Book and Barton Farm is likely located on the site of the former manor. The Devon Historic Environment Record records the presence of Prehistoric funerary monuments in the surrounding landscape, particularly to the north-east at Wrangworthy Cross.</p> <p>The site is located approximately 14km south-west of Bideford, on the north bank of a tributary near its confluence with the River Torridge (Figure 1). The site lies on the well drained fine loamy soils of the Neath Association (SSEW 1983) overlying sandstone of the Bude Formation (BGS 2015) at a height of approximately 155m AOD.</p> <p>A rectangular area measuring 35m × 22m was excavated under archaeological supervision by a machine using a toothless grading bucket to a depth of up to 0.3m, this being the depth of natural deposits. The stratigraphy of the site comprised topsoil (100), mid grey-brown silt-loam up to 0.09m thick. This overlaid subsoil (101), mid yellow-ginger-brown soft-friable silt-loam up to 0.10m thick; and the natural (102), broken and weathered limestone bedrock with mid yellow-ginger-brown soft-friable silt-loam. Towards the eastern end of the site topsoil (100) overlaid directly onto the natural (102).</p> <p>Two features were identified during the groundworks, a compacted surface (103) and a stoned trackway (104). Surface (103) was orientated approximately north-west to south-east, rectangular in plan and measured 3.70m × 13m. It comprised a compacted mid grey-brown silt with common grit fragments. Trackway (104) was linear in plan, orientated approximately east to west and measured 13m × 5m. It was comprised of compacted natural stone with brick, slate and rubble pressed in.</p> <p>The Finds: A small number of finds were recovered during the groundworks including: 2× sherds of industrial white ware and 1× flint scraper from topsoil (100); 3× fragments of brick (including engineering brick), 1× animal bone, 1× sherd of industrial whiteware, and 1× fragment of roof slate from trackway (104). All finds, except the flint were discarded on site.</p> <p>Conclusions: Two features both relating to the modern agricultural use of the site were identified during the excavations. Compacted surface (103) corresponds with the position of a Dutch barn said to have existed on the site in the late 20th century, and trackway (104) likely to form an access track from the gateway in the north field boundary to the former barn. No other archaeological features were identified, though the presence of a flint scraper indicates Prehistoric activity in the area, possibly related to the funerary monuments in the wider landscape.</p> <p>Bibliography Boyd, N. 2016: The Barton, East Putford, Holsworthy, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation. British Geological Survey 2014: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html [accessed 28.07.2016]. 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: 30.07.16	

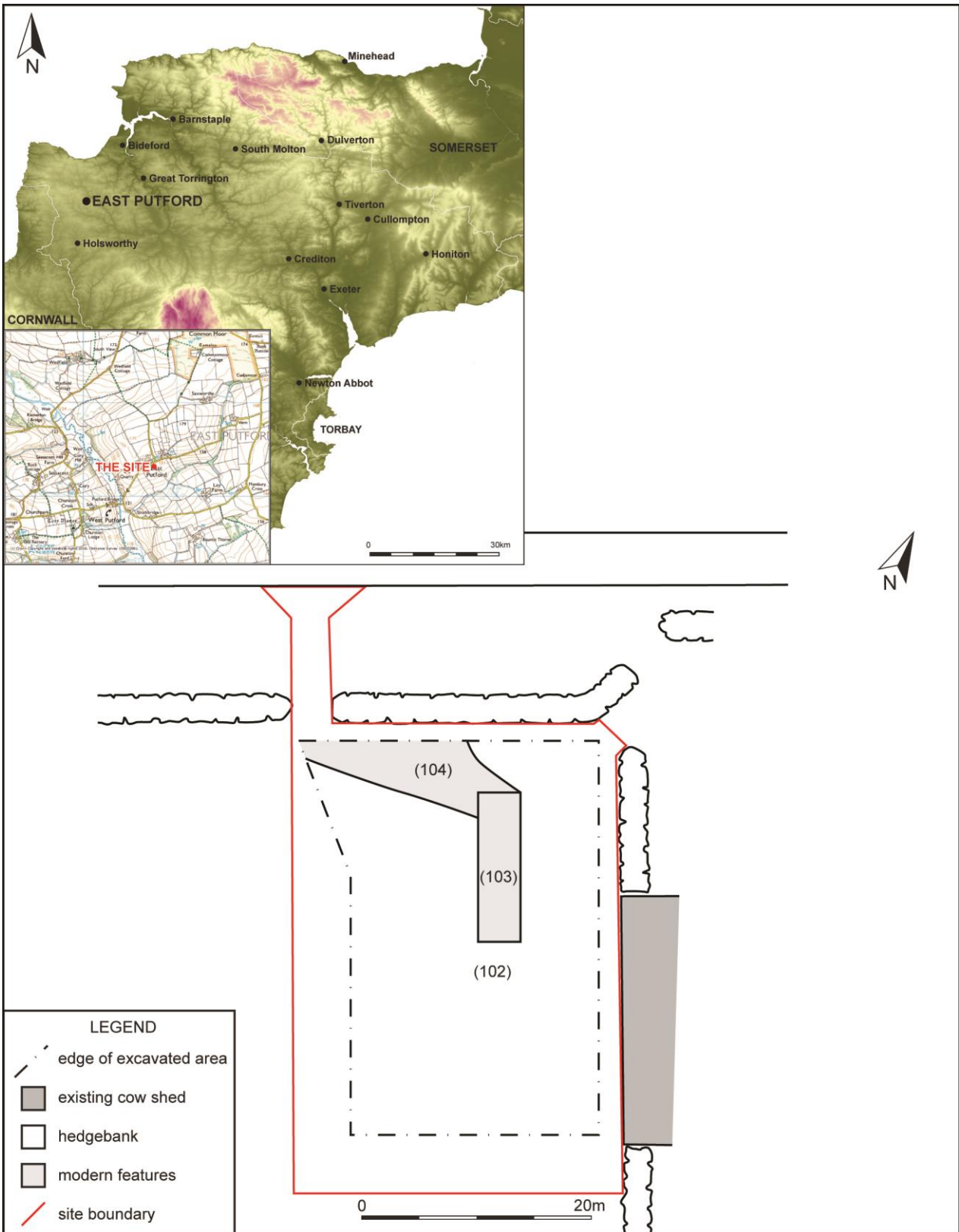


Figure 1: Site location and plan showing location of archaeological features.



Figure 2: Post-excitation view of the site; viewed from the south-east (scale 1m and 2m).



Figure 3: Representative site section; viewed from the north (scale 1m).