



DARTMOOR NATIONAL PARK HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

HER Recording Form

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|---|--|----------------------|--|
| National Grid Reference | Estimated (GPS not used) SX 265033 093695 | HER ID number | |
| Name/address of site | Little Hound (formerly Devonia), South Zeal, South Tawton, Dartmoor | | |
| Summary of site | Archaeological monitoring of groundworks associated with building extensions at Little Hound, South Zeal | | |
| Detailed Description | | | |
| <p>Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of Julia Wherrell (the Client) during groundworks associated with the extension of Little Hound, South Zeal, South Tawton, Dartmoor National Park, Devon. The monitoring was carried out by P. Webb on the 13th and 23rd March 2017. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Boyd 2017) drawn up in consultation with Dr. Lee Bray of Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA).</p> <p>The site lies in an area of high archaeological potential, South Zeal being a good example of a planned Medieval settlement established by the Lord of South Tawton in the early 14th century. The Medieval burgage plot layout is well preserved, and can be seen in surviving walled field boundaries. The development site is situated within the South Zeal conservation area, which includes: a 15th century village cross (Listing 1106010); chapel of 15th-16th century origin (Listing 1326105) and numerous 16th-17th century buildings. The Historic Environment Record (HER) also records the recovery of Post-medieval artefacts during archaeological monitoring at South Tawton Primary School (MDV61857).</p> <p>The site is located towards the centre of the village of South Zeal, approximately 28km west of Exeter, to the south of the A30, on the eastern side of the valley of the River Taw, on the northern boundary of the Dartmoor National Park (Figure 1). The site lies on the well drained fine loamy and fine silty soils of the Denbigh 1 Association (SSEW 1983) overlying mudstone and siltstone of the Ashton Mudstone Member and Crackington Formation (BGS 2017).</p> <p>A total length of c.45.50m of trenches, split between three areas between 4m and 9m in length x between 0.5m and 0.9m wide were excavated under archaeological supervision by a machine using a toothless grading bucket (where possible) to a depth of up to 0.8m, this being the maximum depth of ground to be disturbed. The stratigraphy of the site comprised mid brown soft friable clay-silt topsoil c.0.26m thick; which to the south-west of the house had been cut and replaced by modern disturbance layers up to 0.4m thick; overlying mid grey-brown buried topsoil c.0.18m thick; mid brown and grey-brown soft silt-clay with common shillet subsoil up to c.0.3m thick; and the natural blue-grey shillet and clay.</p> <p>Other than modern drainage trenching, only a single feature was identified. Possible linear or pit feature [307] was identified in the north-western corner of Area #3 with a north to south alignment; near vertical eastern side. It contained two fills: (308), re-deposited natural; and (309), mid grey-brown soft clay; and is likely to represent an additional drainage trench or tree removal associated with the modern ground disturbance.</p> <p>A total of 10 finds were recovered during the excavations, including 2 sherds (13g) of Medieval micaceous coarseware, 2 sherds (8g) white refined earthenware and 1 fragment (97g) of animal bone from topsoil (100); 1 sherd (2g) white refined earthenware, 2 sherds (6g) Medieval micaceous coarseware and 1 fragment (4g) clay pipe stem from disturbance layer (301); and 1 sherd (11g) 19th century slipware from the fill of modern disturbance feature (309).</p> | | | |
| Conclusions | | | |
| A total of two features were identified during the archaeological monitoring, comprising a modern drain and a possible modern drain or tree removal cut. | | | |

Please return completed form to:

Cultural Heritage Service, Dartmoor National Park Authority, Parke, Bovey Tracey Devon. TQ13 9JQ

Email : culturalheritage@dartmoor-npa.gov.uk

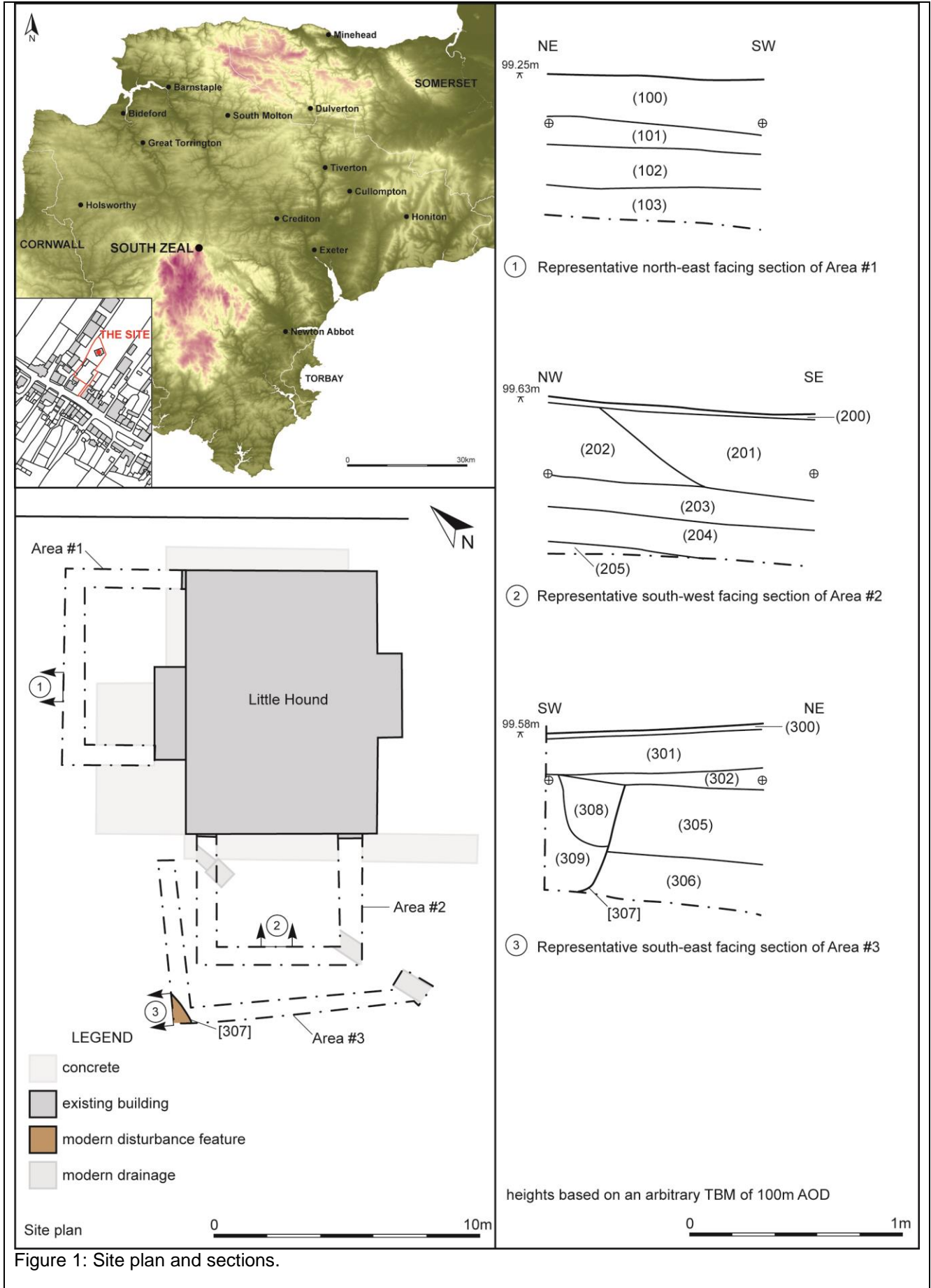


Figure 1: Site plan and sections.



Figure 2: North-east facing section of Area #2; viewed from the east (2m scale).



Figure 3: South-east facing section of Area #1; viewed from the south (2m scale).

Evidence for site

Archaeological monitoring

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| Reference for each piece of information (if used) e.g. 'J. Butler, 1991 'Dartmoor Atlas of Antiquities Vol 1' (Devon Books, Exeter) | | | |
| Period/ Date (if known. E.g. 'Post Medieval') | Post-medieval / Modern | Site Type (if known. E.g. 'Boundary Stone') | |
| Recorder Contact Details | P. Webb, South West Archaeology Ltd., Hacche Lane Business Park, Pathfields Business Park, South Molton, Devon, EX36 3LH | | |
| Date Recorded | 24.3.2017 | | |
| Photos (Reference nos. or file name(s) of any photographs supplied) | | | |