

SHIRCOMBE FARMHOUSE BROMPTON REGIS SOMERSET

Results of a Desk Based Appraisal,
Historic Roof Assessment & Archaeological Monitoring



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**Shircombe Farmhouse
Brompton Regis
Somerset**

**Results of a Desk Based Assessment,
Historic Roof Assessment & Archaeological Monitoring**

For

Alex Stokes

By



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Summary

SWARCH were commissioned to undertake a desk-based assessment, historic building assessment and archaeological monitoring at *Shircombe Farmhouse, Brompton Regis, Somerset*. *At this stage a full building assessment has not yet been undertaken and this report presents the results of the desk-based assessment, archaeological monitoring and an appraisal of the roof only.*

The Grade II Listed farmhouse at Shircombe is a largely mid-19th century re-build and enlargement of a 17th century three-cell cross-passage house with a lateral stack. The axial stack at the western end of the building is an 18th century addition. Between the addition of this stack and the mid-19th century enlargement, the building appears to have fallen into a semi-ruinous state.

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1.0 Introduction

Location: Shircombe Farm
Parish: Brompton Regis
County: Somerset

1.1 Project Background

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by Alex Stokes to conduct a desk-based assessment, historic building assessment and archaeological monitoring and recording at Shircombe Farmhouse, Shircombe Lane, Brompton Regis, Somerset (Figure 1). These works are to be undertaken ahead of the proposed internal reordering and renovation of the house. The first stage of this work has been to complete a desk-based assessment and to assess the roof of the house, prior to substantial repairs being undertaken.

The work was undertaken in order to understand the date, form, function and development of the building from its origins, with the aim of understanding the impact of any proposed development on the historic elements of the building.

1.2 Topographical and Geological Background

The site is located at the end of Shircombe Lane to the east of Winslade Wood. It sits in a valley next to the River Exe with the ground rising up on the eastern side towards Brompton Regis and on the west side towards South Hill, at approximately 280m AOD.

The underlying geology is the Morte Slates Formation (BGS 2013); these overlie the fine loamy or fine silty soils of the Denbigh 1 Association (SSEW 1983).

1.3 Methodology

The building survey was undertaken by Emily Wapshott and Colin Humphreys in September 2014 in accordance with English Heritage and IfA guidelines on the recording of standing buildings and structures. The survey was based on an internal and external site inspection, using architect plans supplied by the client.

The desk-based appraisal was compiled by Victoria Hosegood in accordance with IfA (2008) guidelines.

The archaeological monitoring was carried out by Emily Wapshott in line with IfA guidelines and according to a WSI written in consultation with Shirley Blaylock Conservation Officer (Historic Environment) of Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA).

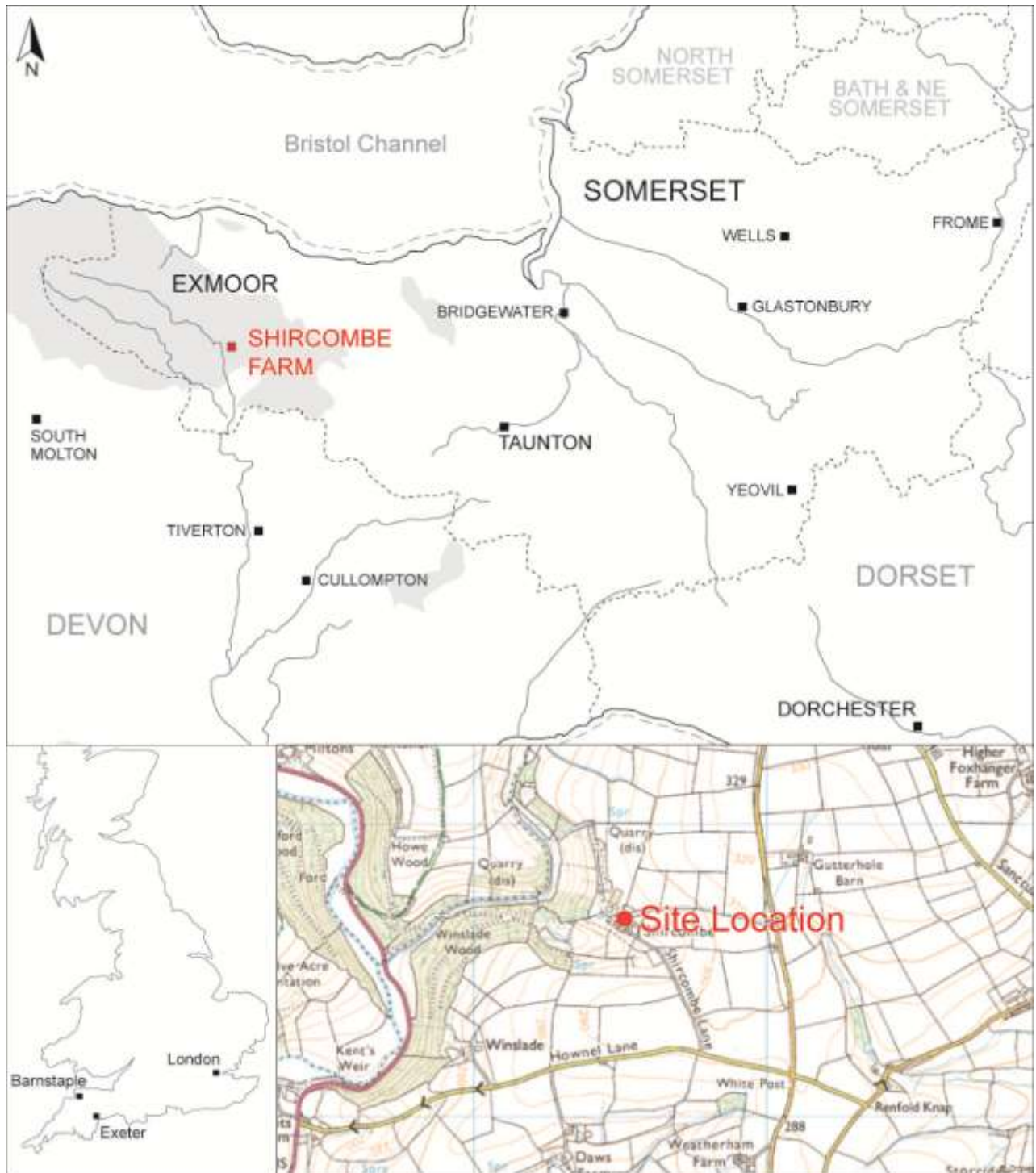


Figure 1: Location map, the site is indicated.

2.0 Results of a Desk-based Appraisal

2.1 Historical Summary

The parish of Brompton Regis is within the hundred of Williton and Freemanners and in the Rural Deanery of Dunster. Brompton was formerly the centre of its own hundred and was an ancient market 'town'. The pattern of settlement surrounding the village also has medieval origins. A study which assessed the historic settlement pattern in this region, based on the 1327 Lay Subsidy of West Somerset, notes that many of the medieval farmsteads and hamlets that were described, have survived through to today as farms and settlements (Aston 1983).

The village of Brompton Regis (also known as Kings Brompton) is situated approximately one kilometre from Shircombe Farm. The Domesday Book states that the king's manor of Brompton (*Bruneston*) had been held before the conquest by Gytha Thorkelsdóttir, mother of Harold Godwinson (King Harold). By the later 12th century Brompton Regis had been granted to William de Say, who founded Barlynch Priory in the west of the parish.

The Listing for Shircombe Farmhouse suggests a date of c.1840 for the present house. It also makes the suggestion that there was an earlier house set to the north-west, but that it had been largely destroyed in a fire. Shircombe was formerly part of the holdings of the Baronsdown Estate, which once owned many of the farms within the surrounding landscape.

The house at Baronsdown was built by the Joyce family in around 1656, out of the remains of the Barlynch Priory, which may suggest that Shircombe had been historically part of the holdings of the Priory. The Baronsdown estate enjoyed mixed fortunes throughout its history and passed through several ownerships until it was finally broken up and sold in 1919.

2.2 Cartographic History

2.2.1 Brompton Regis Tithe map 1841

The first detailed cartographic source available for this study is the 1841 tithe map (Figures 3-4). The buildings apparent on this map display little resemblance to the buildings which are present today. In fact the present farmhouse does not appear to have existed at this date, as it should be shown within the detached (un-numbered) enclosure above the field numbered 937. The small building which abuts this un-numbered enclosure is not depicted on later cartographic sources, but would be located at the approximate western end of the present house. It is possible that this building was the farmhouse at this date, with the un-numbered field forming the garden.

The access track appears in the same location as it is today and there is a small rectangular building located at the end of this track. This building does not appear to relate to the East Barn, however which should be shown below (to the east) of this building, and follow an opposing orientation. The larger group of buildings may represent the present South Barn, Mill and North Barn, although the building to the north is depicted on a slightly different alignment to the present North Barn.



Figure 2: Extract from the 1839 Tithe map.



Figure 3: Detailed extract from the tithe map showing detail of the buildings at Shircombe Farm. The approximate location of the present farmhouse is arrowed.

The accompanying tithe apportionment suggests that Shircombe and the fields surrounding the farm were all owned by Stuckley Lucas of Baronsdown, and leased to a William Carter. The apportionment describes the enclosure numbered 936 as *House, Barns and Gardens*, suggesting that there was a house on the site. However, it should be noted that in a transcription of the 1841 census there is a William Carter, living at a Great Thurcombe Farm, although it is not clear if the name Great Thurcombe actually refers to Shircombe.

Field	Owner	Occupier	Name	Landuse
927	Stuckley Lucas	William Carter	Lower Shut Close	Arable
934			Shircombe Cleeve	Pasture
935			Lower Graddon	Pasture
936			House, Barns and Gardens	-
937			Lower Horse Park	Arable
1027			Home Meads	Meadow
1028			Middle Mead	Meadow
1029			Pond Mead	Meadow

Table 1: Extracts from the Brompton Regis Tithe Apportionment.

2.2.2 First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888

The First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1888 more closely resembles the buildings as they are today (Figure 4). The North Barn, Mill and South Barn are depicted, as is the farmhouse and the East Barn for the first time. The forge also appears to be shown as a very small structure against a field boundary. It appears that many of the other smaller buildings, such as the building set along the track to the south-east, and in the fields to the north-east have since been demolished.



Figure 4: Extract from the 1st edition OS map of 1889. The farmhouse is arrowed.

The farmhouse is depicted as a rectangular building with a small projecting (porch) to the south. There are footpaths depicted to both the south and north of the house, providing

access from the farmyard to the west. The path to the north is defined by a solid line, whilst that to the south is dotted.

The 1871 census lists a Tom Webber (30 years old) and his younger sister Mary as owning and living at Shircombe Farm, which is described as 380 acres. Tom is described as employing 5 men, 4 boys and 3 women. By the time of the 1891 census, Shircombe is farmed by brothers Edward and Albert Davey.

2.2.3 Second Edition Ordnance Survey 1906

There are no major changes between the first edition OS Map of 1889 and the second edition OS Map of 1905 (Figure 5).

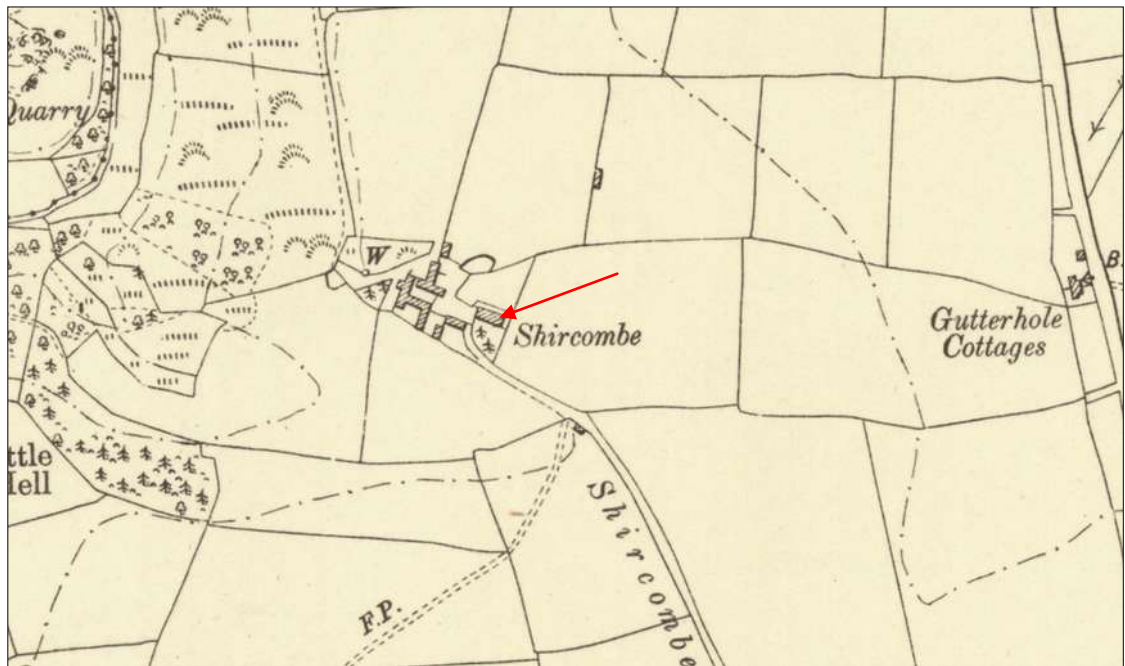


Figure 5: Extract from the 2nd Edition OS map of 1905. The farmhouse is arrowed.

2.2.4 Subsequent Changes

After 1962 the large animal sheds (Sheds 1-7) began being constructed, by 1972 the 1:2500 map shows that Sheds 1, 2, 6 and the eastern part of Shed 3 had been built. This resulted in the removal of many of the smaller buildings evident on the tithe map and later cartographic sources (see Figure 6). The carport is first shown on the 1972 map, and at this stage this building extended to adjoin the farmhouse.

There are no other notable details evident on later cartographic sources.

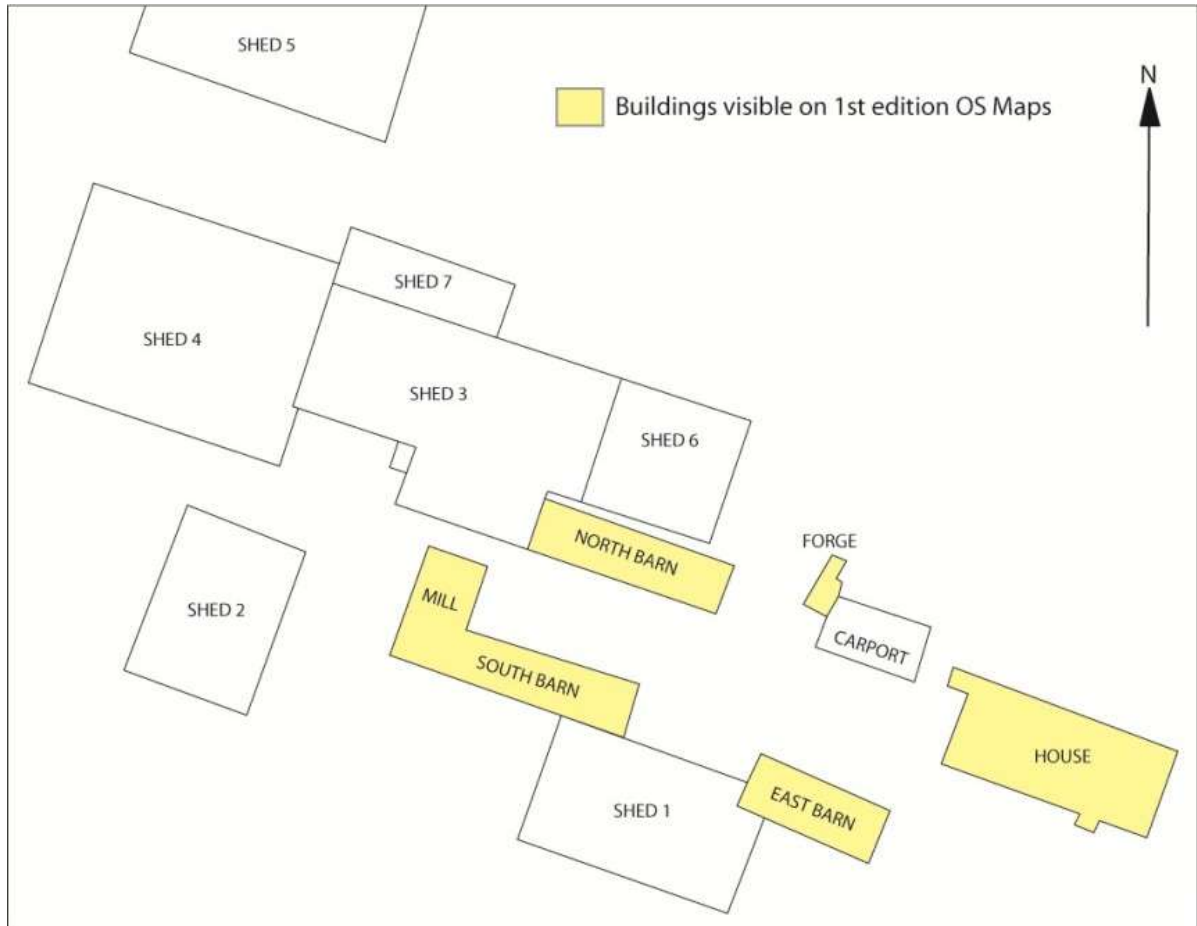


Figure 6: Modern plan of buildings with structures apparent on the First edition OS map indicated in yellow.

3.0 Roof Assessment

3.1 Introduction

This report is designed to provide a general overview of the historic development and surviving features within the roof structure, as well as an outline of their general significance.

3.1.1 Roof Structure

The site was visited on 16th September 2014 by Colin Humphreys and Emily Wapshott and returned to on 19th September 2014 by Emily Wapshott. The roof structure was photographed and recorded.

The roof is accessed via a narrow stair within one of the Bedrooms (Room 7), via a ledged plank door (Figure 6). The walls are of lath and plaster, with timber framing, and the stairs have narrow plank risers and treads. The central and southern part of the roof is boarded for access, with a mixture of wide and narrow, even width floorboards. A rail has been nailed to the aisle posts along the boarded section, to keep people off the lath and plaster first floor ceilings. The whole roof is covered with modern fibreglass insulation.

The roof is ten bays in length, with nine king post trusses, with queen struts and aisle posts. The queen struts are of note for being unusually fine. The truss blades are morticed into the head of the kingpost. The queen struts also have mortice and tenon joints to the truss blades and the base of the kingpost. The kingpost is fixed with an iron bolt to the tie beam (see Figure 7).



Figure 7: Detail of one of the trusses, king post, with long fine queen struts; from the south-east.

The aisle posts have pegged joints into the truss blades. Additional struts brace the aisle posts. The overlapping ridge pole is set on edge, socketed into the head of each kingpost; some lengths of the ridge pole are modern pine plank replacements. There are three sets of overlapping purlins to each pitch, the purlins are of roughly square profile. Some of the lengths of purlin have been replaced with modern tanalised pine timbers.

The rafters are roughly cut, some retaining their bark, with others being modern, tanalised pine timbers of very regular square profile. The rafters lie on the back of the purlins. To the south side of the roof the slates lie directly on the back of the batons, which lie on the rafters. To the north the roof has been re-slatted and the underside has been felted.

There is a small narrow window set in the east gable end wall, this is has a wide sloping reveal to the south and is set against a chimney stack to the north. It has a narrow roughly-cut timber lintel and a timber pegged frame, although the window is now partially blocked with planks.

There is a shallow projecting chimney stack to the east gable, a square stack to the centre of the roof, and a large axial stack to the western end of the roof.

3.1.2 Historic Development

The roof structure of the house is of mid-19th century date, of one constructional phase. There is no surviving evidence of an earlier roof structure within the building. There have been some 20th century repairs to the roof, and the north side of the roof has been re-slatted and felted.

When considering the evidence of the staircase access, surviving wide floorboards, of mid-19th century date, and the eastern window, for morning light, within the roof, it could be suggested the roof was initially intended for use as servant accommodation. However, no further evidence for this survives.

The gable end stack is contiguous with the 19th century east gable wall. The central, formerly lateral, stack is from an earlier structure of probable 17th century date, although it has been repointed and raised. The axial stack to the western end is of a mid-late 18th century date.

4.0 Archaeological Monitoring

The monitoring was conducted on 16th and 19th September 2014 by Emily Wapshott and consisted of two large areas of stripping (see Figure 8). The groundworks for Area 1 were aimed at reducing the ground levels behind the house for improving the drainage and damp situation. The ground works for Area 2, were aimed at creating a parking area in front of the house and widening the driveway. All groundworks were undertaken under the supervision of the on-site archaeologist by large tracked excavators fitted with toothless grading buckets to the depth of the natural subsoil.

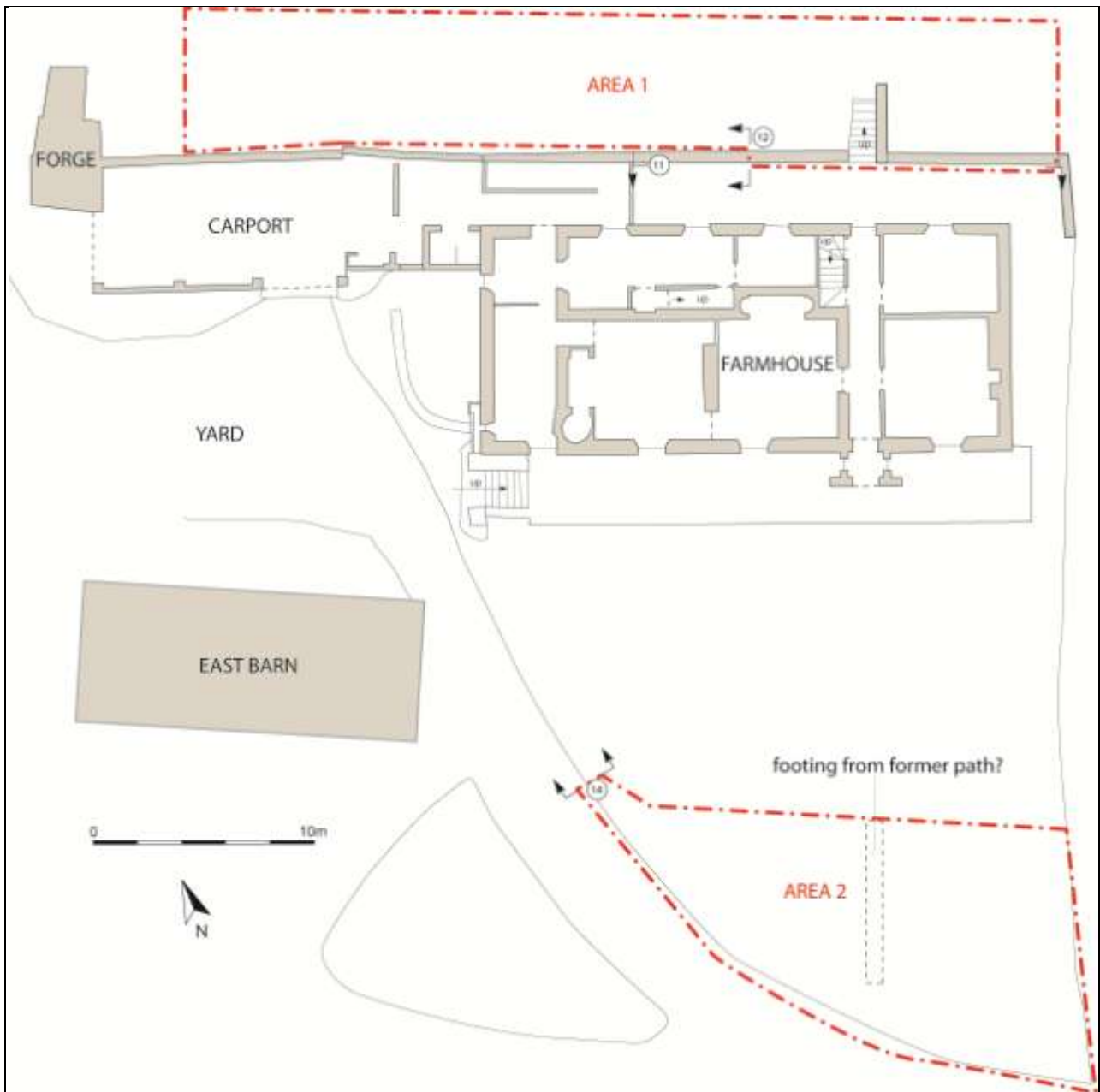


Figure 8: Site plan showing the areas of excavation. The section numbers respond to figure numbers (see below).

4.1 Area 1

An area of roughly 7m by 40.3m was opened up behind the stone revetment walling which frames the north elevation of the farm house and extended to the open area behind the carport to the north-west of the main house. The long section of wall was photographed and recorded before works were undertaken. Starting at the eastern end of the open area the site was stripped back to the subsoil/natural interface. The topsoil comprised a greyish yellow-brown silt-clay loam with occasional to common shillet fragments (>60mm diameter). During the topsoil removed, various lenses of waste from roof clearance were viewed, including occasional small stacks of used slates.

No archaeological features were viewed although geological variations, bands of yellow sandy-silt and orange-brown clay-silt soils were noted running through the blue-grey coloured degraded shillet which formed the majority of the natural (Figure 9).



Figure 9: Area 1, viewed from the east; 2m scale.

As part of these ground works the stone revetment walling which surrounded the northern side of the house was demolished and the levels behind pulled back to a depth of approximately 2m. The demolition of the wall was monitored and it was clear that the rear was loosely mortared in lime, in places, with almost a dry-stone character to some of the stonework, stacked in herringbone form. An 18.3m length of wall was being reduced and a profile through the wall was drawn for the section which was removed (Figures 10-12).

The edge of the cut for the terrace, onto which the farmhouse had been built, was exposed c.0.3m behind the stone revetment walling which surrounded the northern side of the house. The terrace cut directly into the natural. The ground between the wall and the cut for the platform had been in-filled with a mixture of dark yellow-brown silt loam topsoil and re-deposited natural. A small number of finds were recovered from this deposit including 5x

glass lemonade and ginger-beer bottles, 5x sherds of white refined earthenware fragments. No pre-19th century artefacts were recovered, suggesting the building terrace dated from, or had been significantly enlarged, during the 19th century rebuilding of the farmhouse.

To the western end of the site part of the remains of a small sized dog were noted in a shallow scoop within the upper topsoil/subsoil level as the site was stripped back, this was associated with modern waste, such as barbed wire, chicken wire and plastic feed sacks and is of 20th century date.



Figure 10: The northern retaining wall before demolition, viewed from the south-west (2m scale).

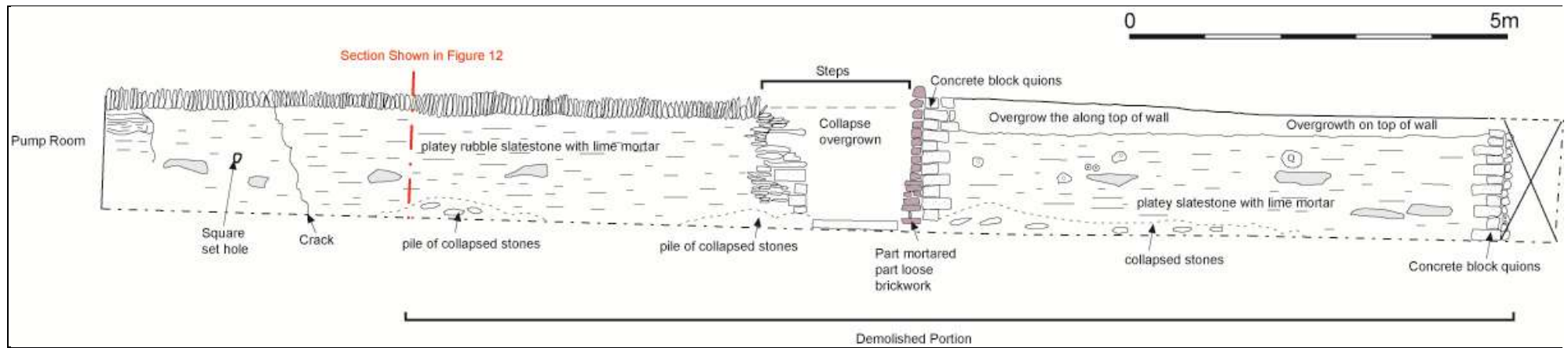


Figure 11: South facing elevation drawing of the demolished garden wall.

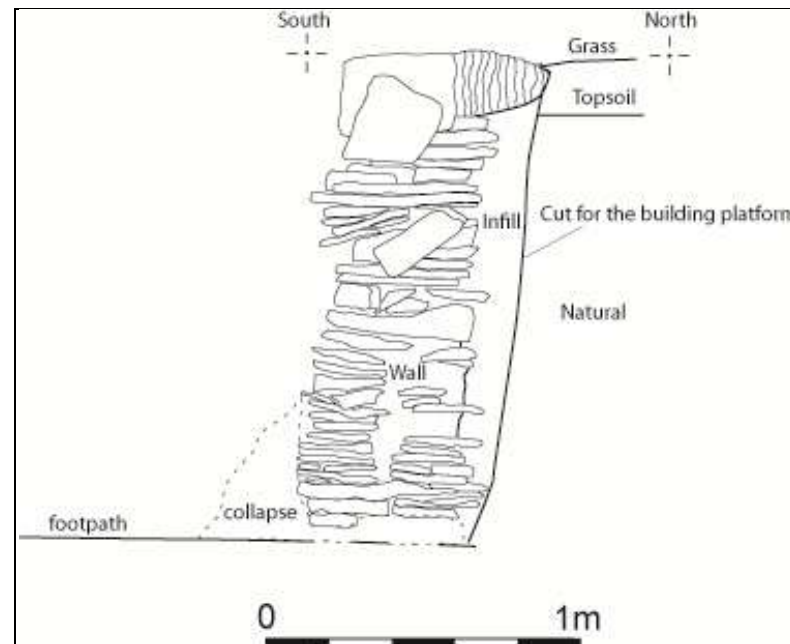


Figure 12: Section through the demolished garden wall.

4.2 Area 2

An open area of c.30m long and 12-10m wide to the east and narrowing to 4-2m to the west was stripped within the garden. The mature laurel hedge was removed and the dry-stone herringbone face to the bank on which this sat was truncated. The stone section of hedgebank was photographed and recorded, before removal (Figures 13-15).



Figure 13: The stone faced laurel hedge, prior to removal, viewed from the north (2m scale).

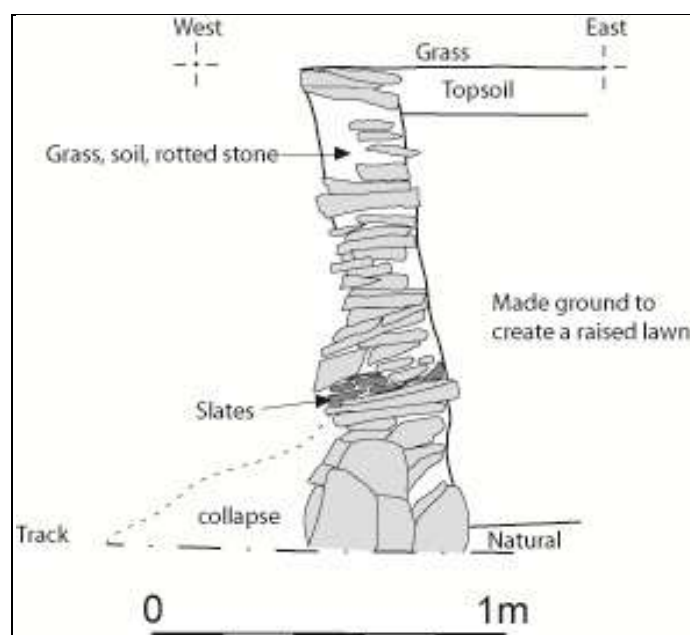


Figure 14: Section through the stone facing.

The ground to the western side, which formed a pronounced curve to the lawned front garden, could be seen to be 'made' ground, of redeposited shillet mixed with brown silty topsoil (Figure 15). To the east the natural rotted shillet was exposed. Just under the grass lawn a very shallow linear feature could be seen which aligned with the front door and projecting porch on the south elevation, this feature was too shallow to record, merely being a smear of darker topsoil pushed into the re-deposited natural. This probably represented the remains of a garden path leading from the front door.

The reduction of levels in this area of made ground area was monitored, but no features were seen during the reduction of the levels. No features were seen cutting into the natural. The natural ran uphill to the north and east, as expected following the natural slope of the hillside. No finds were recovered within the made-ground to date the levelling of the hillside.



Figure 15: Area 2, the made ground to the front of the garden, with bank and hedge removed, with 2m scale; from the west-north-west.

5.0 Conclusions

5.1 Conclusion

The initial phase of work at Shircombe Farmhouse suggests that the building comprises a 17th century three-cell cross-passage house with a lateral stack, which was considerably enlarged and re-roofed in the mid-19th century. There are three chimney stacks, which extend through the roof space, the central stack is of 17th century date, the chimney to the west of mid-18th century date, whilst the eastern example forms part of the 19th century expansion of the property.

The roof is not of any great merit although the retention of the trusses and the surviving purlins means that the majority of the 19th century structure will be retained.

The archaeological monitoring revealed that the 19th century expansion of the farmhouse had seen the cutting/expansion of a terrace into the hillside, and that the garden retaining wall to the north is contemporary with this phase. The stone faced hedgebank which ran along the access track is of unknown date as no datable material was recovered from the structure, or the deposits behind. It seems likely that although the track pre-dates the mid-19th century farmhouse, the need for a stone facing is directly related to a large landscaping event.

6.0 Bibliography & References

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Aston, M. 1983: 'Deserted farmsteads on Exmoor and the Lay Subsidy of 1327 in West Somerset', *Somerset Archaeological and Natural History* 127, 71-104.

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Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001 (Revised 2008): *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*.

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Brompton Regis Tithe Map and Apportionment

Online Sources:

British Listed Buildings
<http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk>

The National Archives
<http://apps.nationalarchives.gov.uk>

UK Census Online
<http://www.ukcensusonline.com>

Appendix 1

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT, HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING AT SHIRCOMBE FARM, SHIRCOMBE LANE, SOMERSET.

Location: Shircombe Farm, Shircombe Lane, Brompton Regis
Parish: Exmoor National Park
County: Somerset
NGR: SS 92967 31220
Planning Application No: 6/3/14/115 & 116LB
Proposal: Proposed internal reordering, new window and door openings, re-construct car port and form glass link to house with veranda to rear together with works to the east barn to convert ground floor to domestic use and renovation of first floor with general fabric upgrade.
Date: 4th September 2014

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document forms a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been produced by South West Archaeology Ltd (SWARCH) at the request of Alex Stokes (the Client). It sets out the methodology for desk-based assessment, historic building recording and archaeological monitoring and recording to be undertaken ahead of and during the proposed works, and for related off-site analysis and reporting. The WSI and the schedule of work it proposes were drawn up in consultation with Shirley Blaylock of Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA). Application number 6/3/14/115 refers to Shircombe Farmhouse, for which planning has been granted based on the condition below. Application 6/3/14/116LB refers to the barn and is still in progress, the report produced may be submitted as part of this process.

1.2 In accordance with paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2012), and then Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, planning has been granted providing the following condition has been met; as worded below based on model Condition 55 as set out in Appendix A of Circular 11/95, whereby:

No development shall take place until the applicant (or their heir or successor in title) has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the agreed scheme, or such other details as may be subsequently agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: To ensure that an appropriate record is made of archaeological evidence that may be affected by the development.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORIC BACKGROUND

2.1 Shircombe Farmhouse is Grade II Listed and dates to circa 1840. It is believed that an earlier farmhouse stood to the north-west and was largely destroyed in a fire.

To the south-west of the farmhouse the OS map of 1904 shows buildings which are believed to be a Post Medieval mill (MMO992). A former landowner of the property demolished a clay-built structure in this area, believed to be Medieval due to the recovery of Medieval pottery. The OS map also shows a pond, annotated as sluice. A nearby linear ditch is also recorded, possibly a Medieval leat, visible as earthworks on vertical aerial photographs. This linear may relate to the possible mill.

3.0 AIMS

3.1 Undertake a desk-based assessment of the site;

3.2 To make a record of the historic buildings prior to the commencement of the works;

3.3 To monitor any groundworks associated with the development to allow any exposed archaeological deposits to be investigated and recorded.

3.4 To analyse and report on the results of the project as appropriate.

4.0 PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

4.1 Desk-based appraisal:

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 will include examination of cartographic sources; *Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map(s) and Apportionments* to provide an analysis of map regression of the buildings concerned. Locally held documents will also be consulted where available.

- This information will be presented as part of the final report along with the results of the fieldwork.
- 4.2 Historic building recording:
A record shall be made of the historic fabric of the buildings affected by the development. This work shall conform to an appropriate level of recording as set in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* - English Heritage 2006 (available on-line at <https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/understanding-historic-buildings/>).
Previously prepared architect's plans will be used as the basis of any historic building fabric recording, provided they are of adequate scale and accuracy.
- 4.2.1 Shircombe Farmhouse will be subject to a level 3 recording, which is an analytical record and will include a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use; along with scaled drawings and an appropriate photographic record.
- 4.2.2 The Barn will be subject to a level 2 recording which is a descriptive record of the building, both interior and exterior, including appropriate photographs and drawings if pertinent.
- 4.3 A photographic record of the historic buildings will be prepared. This will include internal and external photographs of the buildings concerned, including each room and each external elevation, illustrating the principal architectural features and any findings, in detail and in context. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. All photographs of archaeological detail will feature an appropriately-sized scale. The drawn and written record will be on an appropriately archivable medium.
- 4.4 Comprehensive archaeological monitoring and recording (present during all groundworks):
All groundworks will be undertaken by a 360° tracked or wheeled JCB-type mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket where possible, **under the supervision and control of the site archaeologist**, to the depth of formation, the surface of *in situ* subsoil/weathered natural or archaeological deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Should archaeological deposits be exposed, machining will cease in that area to allow the site archaeologist to investigate the exposed deposits. The work shall be carried out in accordance with the *IfA Standard and guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (1994), as amended (2008).
Should archaeological features and deposits be exposed, they will be excavated by the site archaeologist by hand:
- 4.4.1 The archaeological work will be carried out in accordance with the *Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation 1994 (revised 2001 & 2008)* and *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief 1994 (revised 2001 & 2008)*.
- 4.4.2 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts.
- 4.4.3 All excavation of exposed archaeological features shall be carried out by hand, stratigraphically, and fully recorded by context to IfA guidelines.
- 4.4.4 If archaeological features are exposed, then *as a minimum*:
- i) small discrete features will be fully excavated;
 - ii) larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated);
 - iii) long linear features will be sample excavated along their length - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.
- 4.4.5 Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts.
Any variation of the above or decisions regarding expansion will be considered in consultation with the Client and ENPA
- 4.4.6 In exceptional circumstances where materials of a particularly compact nature are encountered, these may be removed with a toothed bucket, subject to agreement with archaeological staff on site.
- 4.4.7 Should archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains be exposed, the site archaeologist will investigate, record and sample such deposits.
- 4.4.8 Human remains must 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.
- 4.4.9 Any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, will be dealt with according to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice

(2nd Revision) (Dept for Culture Media and Sport). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.

- 4.5 The Client will provide SWARCH with details of the location of existing services and of proposed groundworks within the site area, and of the proposed construction programme.
- 4.6 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.
- 4.4.1 Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times.
- 4.4.2 The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client.

5.0 REPORTING

- 5.1 A report will be produced, including the following elements:
- 5.1.1 A report number, date and the OASIS record number;
- 5.1.2 A copy of this WSI;
- 5.1.3 A summary of the project's background;
- 5.1.4 A description and illustration of the buildings location;
- 5.1.5 A methodology of the works undertaken;
- 5.1.6 Plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
- 5.1.7 A summary of the project's results;
- 5.1.8 An interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- 5.1.9 A summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
- 5.1.10 A site location plan at an appropriate scale on an Ordnance Survey, or equivalent, base-map;
- 5.1.11 A plan showing the layout of the building subject to this programme of work in relation to identifiable landscape features and other buildings;
- 5.1.12 The results of the historic building recording that shall include a written description and analysis of the historic fabric of the building, appropriately;
- 5.1.13 Photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features of historic or architectural significance that are referred to in the text. All photographs will contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- 5.1.14 A consideration of evidence within its wider context;
- 5.1.15 Any specialist assessment or analysis reports that were undertaken;
- 5.2 ENPA 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 and a revised submission date for the final report agreed with the ENPA.
- 5.3 On completion of the final report, in addition to copies required by the Client, hard copies of the report shall be supplied to the ENPA on the understanding that one of these copies will be deposited for public reference in the ENPA. In addition to the hard copies of the report, one copy shall be provided to the ENPA in digital format - in a format to be agreed in advance with the ENPA - on the understanding that it may in future be made available to researchers via a web-based version of the Historic Environment Record.
- 5.4 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 under reference southwes1-176547 within 6 months of completion of fieldwork.

6.0 PUBLICATION

Where the exposure of architectural or historic building fabric is limited or of little significance reporting will follow on directly from the field work - see section 5 above. Should particularly significant architectural, archaeological or palaeoenvironmental 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 (paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2012)). If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the ENPA.

7.0 MONITORING

- 7.1.1 SWARCH shall agree monitoring arrangements with the ENPA 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.
- 7.1.2 Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report - see 8.0 below.
- 7.1.3 SWARCH will notify the ENPA upon completion of the fieldwork stage of these works.

8.0 ARCHIVE

- 8.1 On completion of the project an ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with guidance prepared by ENPA and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/morphe-project-managers-guide/>). The digital element of the archive will be transferred to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) for long-term curation.
- 8.2 The archive will consist of two elements, the digital archive and the material archive.
 - 8.2.1 The digital archive, including digital copies of all relevant written and drawn records and photographs, will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) and in compliance with their standards and requirements.
 - 8.2.2 The material archive, comprising the retained artefacts/samples and the hardcopy paper record (if requested) will be cleaned (or otherwise treated), ordered, recorded, packed and boxed in accordance with the deposition standards of the Museum of Somerset (MOS), and in a timely fashion.
 - 8.2.3 If the MOS wishes to retain the hardcopy paper archive, it will be deposited with the rest of the material archive under an accession number. Should the MOS decline the hardcopy paper archive, that archive will be offered to other appropriate museum bodies or record offices. If a suitable third party cannot be found, the hardcopy paper archive will be retained by SWARCH for 3 years and then destroyed.
- 8.3 SWARCH will, on behalf of the MOS, obtain a written agreement from the landowner to transfer title to all items in the material archive to the receiving museum.
- 8.4 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.
- 8.5 SWARCH will notify the ENPA upon the completion of:
 - i) deposition of the digital archive with the ADS, and
 - ii) deposition of the material (finds) archive with the museum.
- 8.6 The condition placed upon this development will not be regarded as discharged until the report has been produced and submitted to the MOS and the LPA, the site archive deposited and the OASIS form completed.
- 8.7 The archive will be completed within 6 months of the completion of the final report.

9.0 CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORY PROTECTED SPECIES

- 9.1 Even where work is being undertaken under the direct control and supervision of SWARCH personnel, it remains the responsibility of the Client - in consultation with SWARCH, 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.

10.0 PERSONNEL & MONITORING

- 10.1 The project will be managed by Colin Humphreys; the fieldwork will be undertaken by SWARCH personnel with appropriate expertise and experience. Where necessary, appropriate specialist advice will be sought (see list of consultant specialists in Appendix 1 below).

Natalie Boyd

South West Archaeology

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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 mrshjaeschke@email.msn.com

Curatorial

Thomas Cadbury Curator of Antiquities Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter Tel: 01392 665356

Alison Mills The Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon, Barnstaple 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, University of Exeter w.j.howard@exeter.ac.uk

Lithics

Martin Tingle Higher Brownston, Brownston, Modbury, Devon, PL21 OSQ martin@mtingle.freeseve.co.uk

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, Arbeia Roman Fort and Museum, South Shields, Tel: (0191) 454 4093

Medieval John Allen, 22, Rivermead Road Exeter EX2 4RL Tel: 01392 256154 john.p.allan@btinternet.com

Post Medieval Graham Langman Exeter, EX1 2UF Tel: 01392 215900 su1429@eclipse.co.uk

Appendix 2

Details of the DoE Building listing

Shircombe Farmhouse

Grade II

Farmhouse. Circa 1840. Roughcast over flat bedded rubble, slate roof, overhanging eaves with sprockets on facade, shortened at rear, decorative ridge tiles with a few plain tile replacements, brick stacks gable ends and between first and second bays left. Plan: 3-cell and cross passage. Two storeys, 4 bays, 16-pane sash windows, gabled porch with 4-centered arch head opening, ribbed early C20 door inserted. It is believed that an earlier farmhouse stood to the north-west and was largely destroyed in a fire.

Listing NGR: SS9355731651

Appendix 3 Historic Building Assessment: Supporting photos

The Roof Structure



The aisle posts, with additional struts and the later hand-rail; viewed from the north-east.



Detail of the ridge pole and upper sets of purlins; from the south-east.



The central square stack, of 17th century date; from the south-east.



The western axial stack, with projecting built oven flue to the south side; from the south-east.



View along the boarded section of flooring; from the west.



The lath and plaster and timber framing of the loft stair, with timber plank treads and risers; from the west-south-west.



The east gable end wall, with chimney stack and small window; from the south-west.



View down the length of the roof; from the east-south-east.

Monitoring



View down Area 1, the open stripped area, with top soil removed; from the east.



Area 2, view around the curving garden revetment bank, with 2m scale; from the south-south-east.



Area 2, the very ephemeral feature/smear of topsoil, the remains of a garden path, with 2m scale; from the south.



The view of the mostly made ground to the west of Area 2, using redeposited rotted shillet which can be seen mixed with topsoil overlying the natural rotted shillet; from the south-south-east.



View of Area 1, the rear revetment wall and area excavated behind; from the south-east.



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