

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Burrington, North Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SS 63902 16672	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological evaluation trenching at Homelands, Burrington, Devon		<b>Photo attached?</b> YES
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 59769	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> southwes1-287810	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> N/A	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> BHL17	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 12 <sup>th</sup> December 2017	
<p><b>Description of works.</b></p> <p>Archaeological evaluation trenching and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of Graham Short of J. Pickard &amp; Co. Ltd. (the Client) in advance of the residential development of land at Homelands, Burrington, Devon. The evaluation was carried out by P. Webb on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Balmond 2017) drawn up in consultation with Stephen Reed of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>Burrington is located c.14km east-south-east of Great Torrington towards the summit of hill west of the River Taw and north of the Mully Brook at a height of c.165m AOD (Figure 1); on the well drained fine loamy soils of the Neath Association (SSEW 1983) overlying the sandstone of the Crackington Formation (BGS 2017). The site lies in an area of archaeological potential, within the Conservation Area of the largely 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century village of Burrington, and less than 100m from the 12<sup>th</sup> century Holy Trinity Church.</p> <p>A total of three trenches measuring between c.2.50m and 10m in length×1.50m wide were excavated under archaeological supervision by tracked 360° machine using a toothless grading bucket to a depth of up to 0.40m, this being the depth of archaeological layers or natural deposits. The stratigraphy of the site comprised disturbed ground (re-deposited natural) over natural, compacted brown-red and yellow clay and stone (to the east); and topsoil, dark brown soft-friable clay-silt c.0.16m thick; overlying subsoil, mid brown friable silt-clay 0.10m thick; and the natural (to the west).</p> <p>A total of three features were identified during the evaluation, all within Trench 01: one linear drain gully, one modern drain; and one wall footing. Drain gully [103] was orientated north to south and measured 0.50m wide×0.20m deep with a 'v'-shaped profile. It was filled by (104), red-brown soft clay. To the immediate west, wall footing {107} was orientated north-north-east to south-south-west, constructed of angular stone with dark brown soft clay, and set within construction cut [105] measuring 0.50m wide×0.18m deep with near vertical sides and flat base. The wall footing was set on a thin deposit (106), light-mid grey concrete sand and small sub-angular stone rubble; and formed the remains of a recently demolished modern stone-built wall. A modern drainage trench [108] orientated north-west to south-east and measuring 0.80m wide, with a fill (109), mid grey-brown soft clay containing a ceramic drain pipe was also identified in this trench. No finds were recovered from the trenches.</p> <p><b>Conclusions</b></p> <p>Much of the site was seen to have been truncated by phases of building and yard surfacing, the eastern two-thirds of the site having been lowered for the construction of the recently demolished buildings and existing yard area. The only features identified were structural or reflect drainage of former structures, and it is very unlikely that any further archaeological remains survive.</p> <p><b>Bibliography</b></p> <p><b>Balmod, F.</b> 2017: Homelands, Burrington, North Devon, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation. SWARCH report no.: BHL17WSlv2.</p> <p><b>British Geological Survey</b> 2017: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. <a href="http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html">http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html</a> [accessed 15.12.2017].</p> <p><b>Soil Survey of England and Wales</b> 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> P. Webb		<b>Date sent to HER:</b> 15.12.17

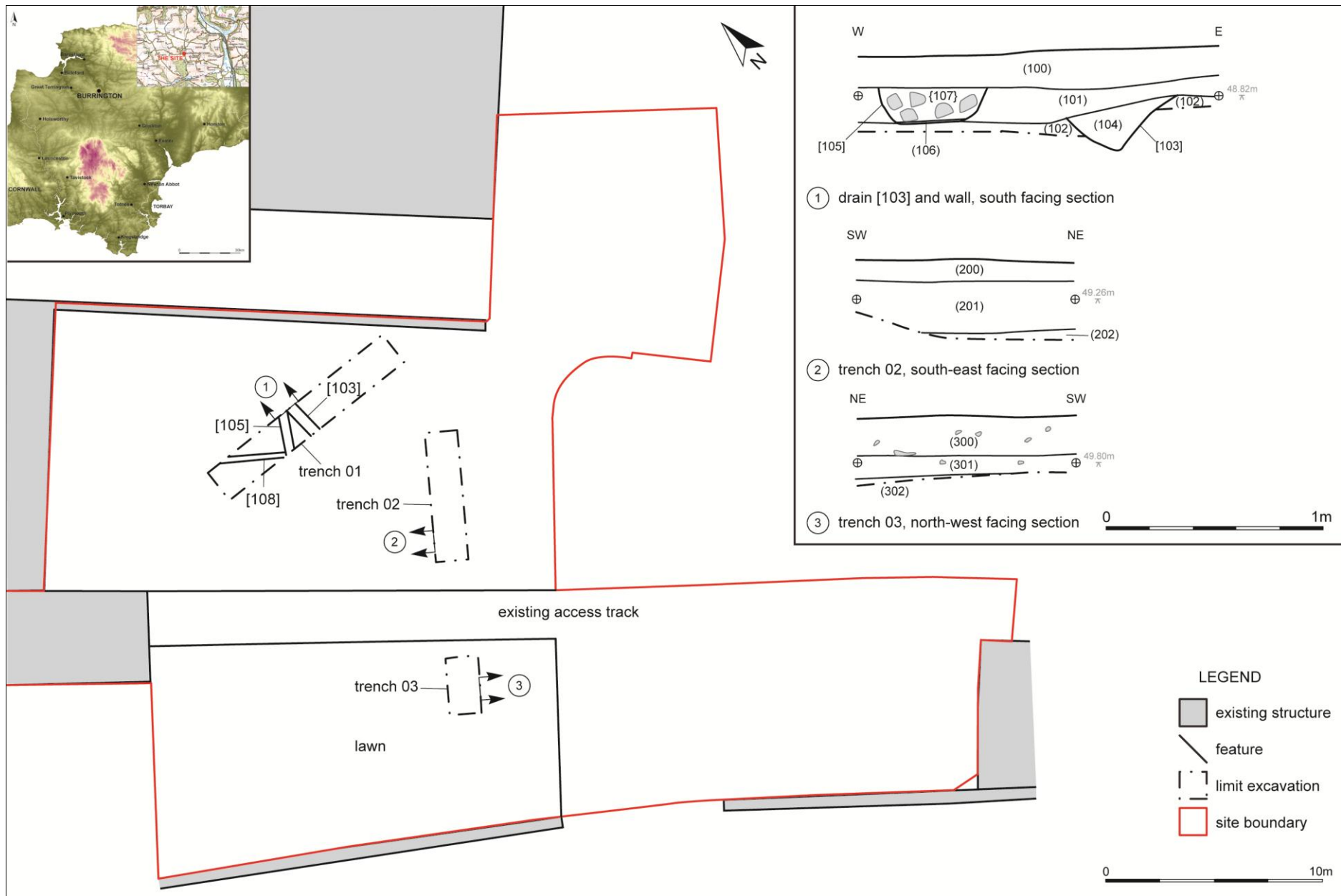


FIGURE 1: SITE PLAN AND SECTIONS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES. HEIGHTS AT ARBITRARY LEVEL OF 50.00M AOD.



FIGURE 2: GENERAL SITE VIEW FOLLOWING REMOVAL OF CONCRETE FLOOR SURFACES SHOWING EXTENT OF TRUNCATION CAUSED BY CONSTRUCTION OF NOW DEMOLISHED BUILDINGS; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST (NO SCALE).



FIGURE 3: LINEAR DRAIN GULLY [103] AND WALL FOOTING {107}; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (SCALE 1M).