

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Malborough, South Hams	National Grid Reference: SX 70521 39773	Number:
Subject: Archaeological Evaluation Trenching in advance of construction of 3 dwellings on land adjacent to Hi Ho, Malborough.		Photo attached? YES
Planning Application no: 1391/16/OPA	Recipient museum: Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery	
OASIS ID: southwes1-328938	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: MHH18	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 29 th October 2018	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of a Private Client prior to the construction of three dwellings on land adjacent to Hi-Ho, Malborough, South Hams, Devon. The evaluation was carried out by S. Walls on 29th October 2018. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Balmond 2018) drawn up in consultation with Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>Malborough is located approximately 5km south-west of Kingsbridge and 2.5km west of Salcombe, on the high ground above Salcombe Harbour, and the numerous steep creeks and combs that feed into the harbour (Figure 1). The site is situated on the western edge of the village, at a height of approximately 112m AOD. The site is located on the well drained fine loamy soils of the Trusham Association (SSEW 1983) overlying metamorphic rocks of the Start Mica Schists Formation (BGS 2018).</p> <p>The site is located just outside the Malborough Conservation Area, just off the road to Galmpton and Hope Cove. A Roman coin, hammered medieval silver coin, Elizabeth I penny and two Georgian coins have been found through metal detecting in the field west of Alpenrose/Hi-Ho. A further possible Roman coin was encountered in the field to the south and a groat of Henry VI along with a silver coin were also found in a field to the north. The site is shown on historic mapping as part of a triangular enclosed field until the late 1960s/early 1970s when Alpenrose/Hi Ho was constructed.</p> <p>Three trenches measuring c.65m in length were excavated by a machine using a toothless grading bucket to the depth of the natural, a compact to firm grey to red-grey silt-clay with abundant shillet. The stratigraphy of the site comprised: a clean soft to firm 0.1m-0.3m thick red-brown silt-clay topsoil ((100), (200), (300)) which overlaid a very thin, c.0.05m at most, layer of gritty red-grey silt-clay subsoil for some of the site. In the northern end of Trench 1 and for Trench 3, the topsoil directly overlay the natural.</p> <p>No archaeological features were identified, although plough scarring and bioturbation were noted at the northern end of Trench 1. Tentatively there may have also been a very slight lynchet, or at least evidence of previous landscaping/ differential truncation in Trench 1. Trench 3 demonstrated that the platform in the south-west corner of the site was modern, with geotextiles noted just above the natural.</p> <p>A small finds assemblage from the topsoil was recovered: from Trench 1; x2 sherds (10g) of White Refined Earthenware (WRE), x2 sherds (11g) of post-industrial redwares including flowerpot, and x1 pebble flint flake (5g) that included some cortex, white patternation and possible, although very tentative, use marks as a cutting tool: from Trench 2; x2 sherds (1g) of WRE; and x2 fragments (26g) of 19th-20th century bottle glass. All finds were subsequently discarded.</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>No evidence of archaeological features were identified during the evaluation, the site stratigraphy demonstrating that the site had been subject to ploughing in the past, with modern landscaping to form the parking area to the north, and a terrace (garden?) to the south-west.</p> <p>Bibliography</p> <p>Balmond, F. 2018: <i>Hi Ho, Malborough, South Hams, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH report no. MHH18WSiv2</p> <p>British Geological Survey 2018: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html [accessed 13.11.2018].</p> <p>Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p>		
Recorder: S. Walls	Date sent to HER: 16.11.18	

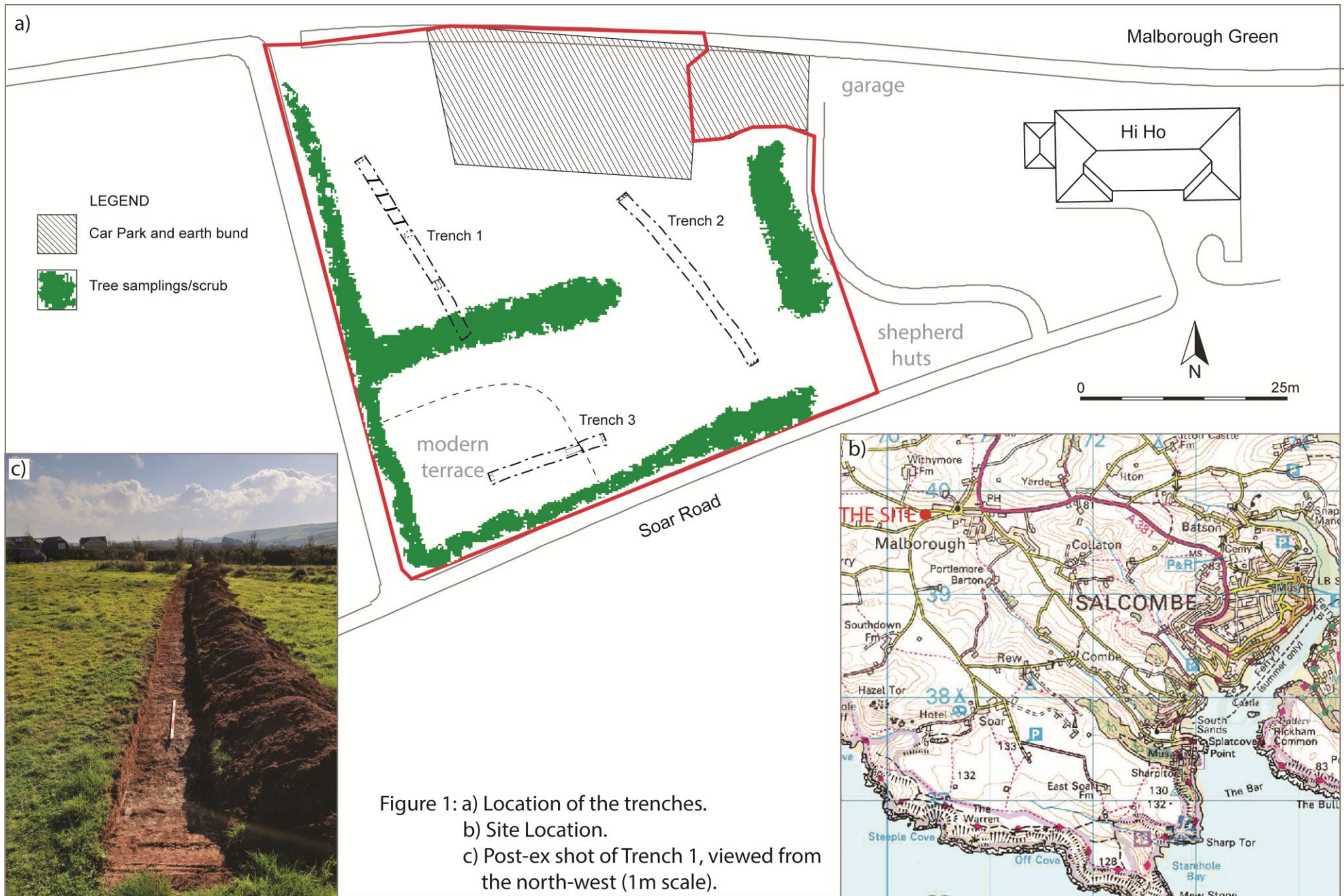


Figure 1: a) Location of the trenches.
 b) Site Location.
 c) Post-ex shot of Trench 1, viewed from the north-west (1m scale).

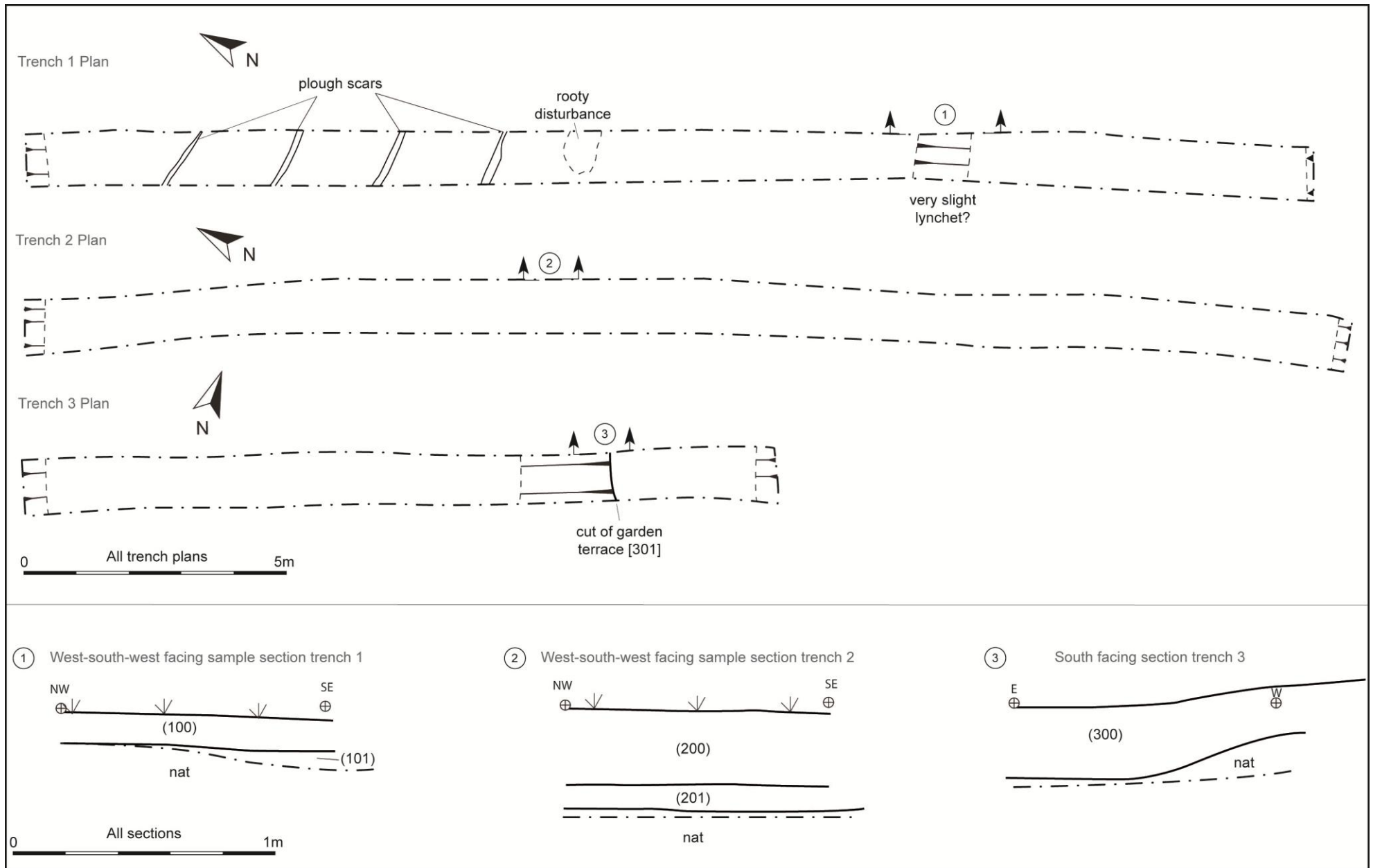


Figure 2: Trench plans and samples sections.