

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Horwood, Lovacott & Newton Tracey, North Devon	<b>National Grid Reference:</b> SS 53308 25188	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological monitoring at West Woodlands, Newton Tracey, Devon		<b>Photo attached?</b> YES
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 65716	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon (MBND)	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> southwes1-349475	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> 9.2019A	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> NTW19	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2019	
<p><b>Description of works.</b></p> <p>Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of a private client during groundworks associated with the erection of a single storey extension at West Woodlands, Newton Tracey, Barnstaple, Devon. The monitoring was carried out by P. Bonvoisin on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Boyd 2019) drawn up in consultation with the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>West Woodlands is a Grade II Listed 17<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse with attached barn (List1261742) located to the east of Alverdiscott and south of Newton Tracey. It is situated on a north facing slope to the south-east of a small woodland at a height of approximately 120m AOD (Figure 1). The soils of the area are the well drained fine loamy soils often over rock of the Neath Association (SSEW 1983), which overlie the sedimentary mudstone and siltstone of the Bude Formation (BGS 2019).</p> <p>The site lies in an area of archaeological potential, to the east of a double ditched enclosure (MDV16057) and adjacent to the 17<sup>th</sup> century West Woodlands farmhouse, and as such may destroy archaeological and artefactual deposit associated with the early settlement of the area. No archaeological work is recorded in this area.</p> <p>A roughly rectangular area (Area 01) measuring 11.5m×10m was excavated under archaeological supervision by machine using a toothless grading bucket to a depth of up to 0.65m, this being the depth of the natural. The stratigraphy of the site comprised topsoil (100), light-mid brown clay-sand-silt with occasional angular to rounded stone inclusions 0.45-0.55m thick; overlying the natural (101-103), mid red-brown-yellow to yellow silt-clays with occasional to common sub-angular stone.</p> <p>A single feature, land-drain [104] was identified running west-north-west to east-south-east across the southern end of the area, measuring 0.20m wide. It contained a single fill, (105), re-deposited natural. Across the eastern end of the area a deposit of modern waste material (106) had been dumped behind the stone built retaining wall during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>A moderately size assemblage of finds was recovered from the topsoil, including: x7 sherds (230g) of North Devon gravel tempered pottery (C17th); x2 sherds (25g) of burnt North Devon gravel tempered; x4 sherds North Devon gravel free (C17th/18<sup>th</sup>); x2 sherds (13g) of unglazed North Devon pottery; x1 sherd (3g) of Bristol/Staffordshire yellow slip ware posset pot (Late 17<sup>th</sup>/early 18<sup>th</sup>); x2 sherds (26g) of Medieval courseware; x4 sherds (99g) burnt medieval courseware; x1 sherd (8g) of industrial slipware; x1 fragment (9g) of brick; x1 fragment (5g) of 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century bottle glass.</p> <p><b>Conclusions</b></p> <p>A single land drain was identified during the excavation, which along with the finds represent the medieval and post-medieval use and occupation of the site.</p> <p><b>Bibliography</b></p> <p><b>Boyd, N.</b> 2019: <i>West Woodlands, Newton Tracey, Barnstaple, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH report no. NTW19v1.</p> <p><b>British Geological Survey</b> 2019: <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></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> 20.05.19	

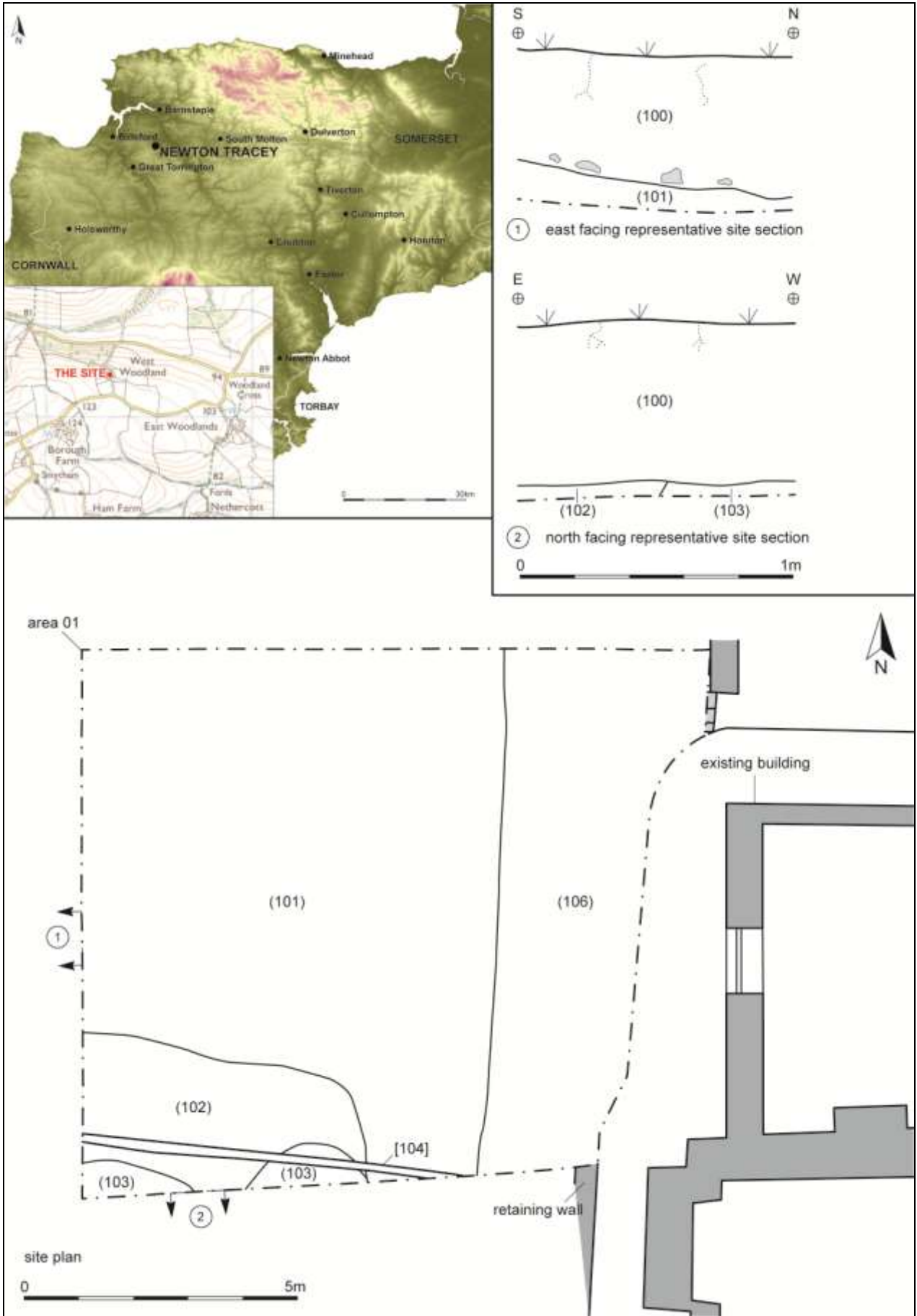


FIGURE 1: SITE PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF EXCAVATED AREAS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL FEATURES.



FIGURE 2: NORTH FACING REPRESENTATIVE SITE SECTION; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).



FIGURE 3: AREA 01 POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M & 2M SCALES).