

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Alwington, Torridge	National Grid Reference: SS 40471 23159	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording during pipe works at St. Andrew's Church, Alwington, Torridge, Devon.		Photo attached? Yes
OASIS ID: southwes1-376162	Recipient museum: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: AAC19	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 29 th January 2020	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of St. Andrew's PCC as part of archaeological work before building works associated with the installation of a new gas pipe, running around the south-west corner of the tower, across the concrete pathway and out of the churchyard at St. Andrew's Church, Alwington, Torridge, Devon. This work was carried out by S. Stevens on 29th January 2020 in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Boyd 2019) having been agreed during consultation with the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAA) and Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>St. Andrew's Church lies at the southern end of Alwington on a gentle south-facing slope that drops into the valley of a tributary of the River Yeo. The site lies at c.122m AOD. The soils here are the well-drained fine loamy soils over rock of the Neath Association (SSEW 1983), which overlie the sedimentary sandstone of the Bude Formation (BGS 2020).</p> <p>A 0.45m wide trench was excavated by machine using a toothed bucket, under archaeological supervision through the churchyard. The trench ran from the middle of the north-west wall of the tower, around the corner of the structure, cutting across the concrete pathway, with the use of a power saw, and joining a trench previously excavated outside of the churchyard, to the south. The monitored trench measured approximately 12.4m in length and was excavated to a depth of c.0.70m. The stratigraphy of the site comprised topsoil (100), a mid-dark grey-brown friable silt c.0.20m thick; overlying subsoil (101), a mid-light red-brown friable-soft clay-silt, c.0.60m thick. Underneath the concrete path was (102), a light-mid yellow-brown friable-soft clay-silt, c.0.58m thick. The trench was not deep enough to reach the natural.</p> <p>No features were identified; other than the existing gas pipe running east-west through the trench, as shown in Figure 1. No finds were recovered, and the excavated area was heavily disturbed by roots, sometimes dense in places.</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>The results of the trench indicated that there were no evidence of archaeological deposits or archaeological features present in this area.</p> <p>Bibliography</p> <p>Boyd, N. 2019: <i>St. Andrew's Church, Alwington, Torridge, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH report no. ACC19.</p> <p>British Geological Survey 2020: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html</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. Stevens	Date sent to HER: 31.01.2020	

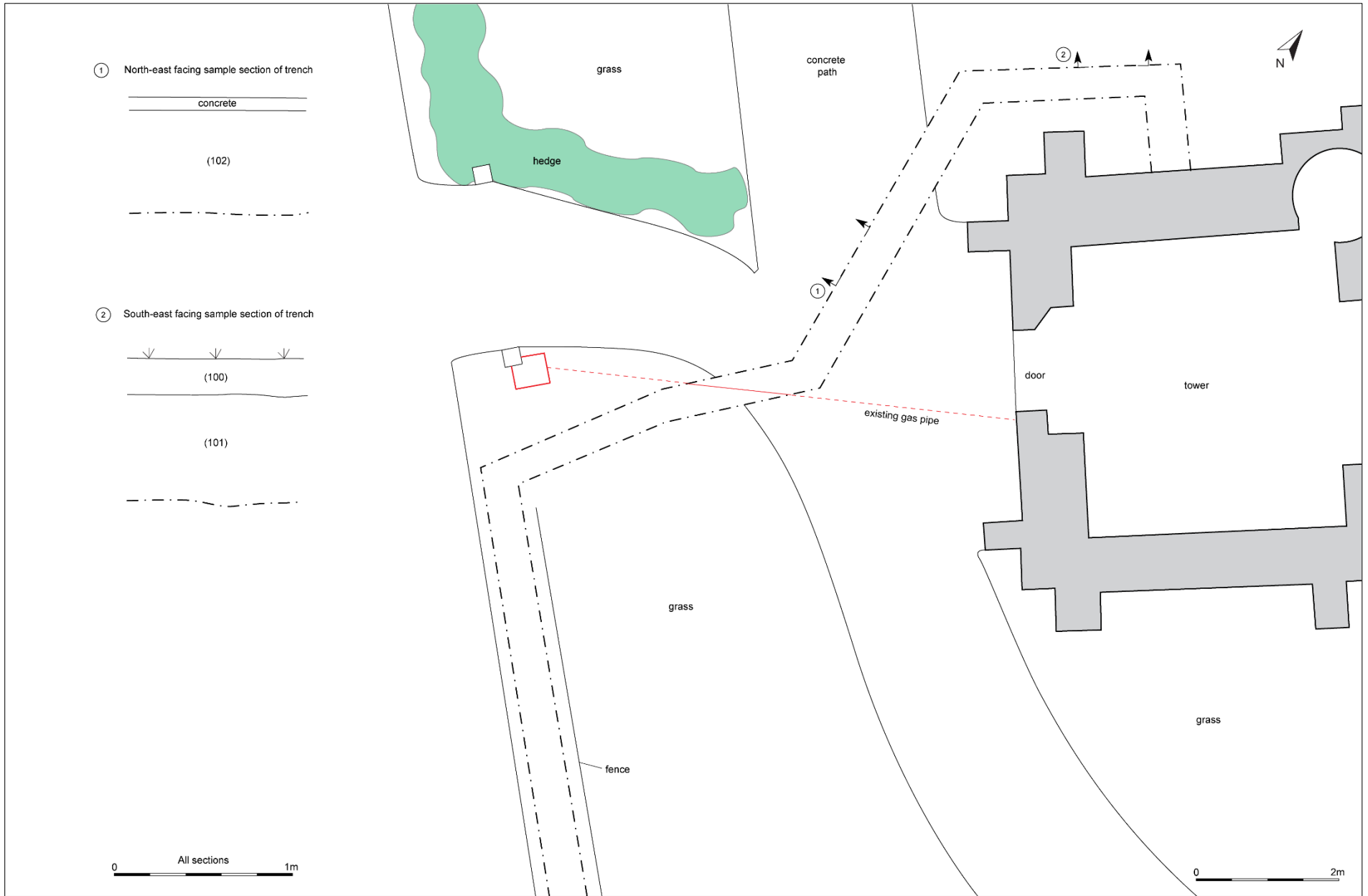


FIGURE 1: SAMPLE SECTIONS AND SITE PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF TRENCH AND SURROUNDING AREA.



FIGURE 2: EXCAVATED TRENCH; FROM THE NORTH (1M SCALE).



FIGURE 3: SAMPLE SECTION (1) OF TRENCH; FROM THE NORTH-EAST (1M SCALE).