

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Thurlestone, South Hams	NGR: SX 66899 42930	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks for installation of a water tank at Thurlestone Golf Club, Thurlestone, Devon.		Photo attached? Yes
Planning Reference: 3643/19/FUL	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: southwes1-380798	Museum Accession no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: TGC20	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 11 th November 2020	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of Thurlestone Golf Club as part of works associated with the construction of a water tank at Thurlestone Golf Course, Thurlestone, South Hams, Devon. This work was carried out by S. Walls on 11th November 2020 in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Boyd 2020) having been agreed during consultation with the Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>The site is located on the south facing slopes of the upper part of the golf course at the western edge of Thurlestone (c.400m west-north-west of the Church) and c.425m to the east of the coastline, at an altitude of approximately 46m AOD. The soils of the site are the well-drained fine loamy and fine silty soils over rock of the Denbigh 1 Association (SSEW 1983), which overlie the sedimentary slate, siltstone and sandstone of the Meadfoot Group (BGS 2020).</p> <p>The site is located in a landscape containing a concentration of prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman archaeological sites and some c.285m to the north-east lies a cluster of prehistoric funerary monuments that are protected as a Scheduled Monument (UID: 1019534). Approximately 800m to the north-west lies the Scheduled Roman settlement site at Bantham Ham (UID: 1019322).</p> <p>The monitoring consisted of excavating with a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket a 10.5m diameter area circular in plan. The stratigraphy consisted of a 0.24m deep soft red-brown silt-loam topsoil (100), which overlay a soft to firm 0.36m deep greyish-red silt-clay subsoil (101), this was very clean and homogenous, with occasional small shillet fragments. Deposit (101) directly overlay the natural a firm red to pinkish-red silt-clay with common to abundant shillet. There were two features cut into the natural. To the south of the site was a 0.35m wide and 0.3m deep vertical sided and flat based linear gully [103], presumed to be a removed service trench. Linear [103] had been machine dug and was backfilled with a soft grey-silt fill (104), comprising a mixture of topsoil and re-deposited natural. To the north of the excavated area was a shallow flat based pit [105] tear shaped in plan and measuring 1.45m x 0.6m and with a maximum depth of 0.06m. Pit [105] contained a clean yellow-red silt-clay fill (106), and appears to potentially be a shallow tree-throw.</p> <p>The finds assemblage recovered consisted of 42 modern gold balls from the topsoil (100) and a single sherd of White Refined Earthenware from the subsoil (101). These were discarded/retained on site.</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>The results of the strip did not identify any evidence of significant archaeological deposits, finds or features being present, although the relatively good depth of topsoil on the site may suggest that there is potential in the wider area for archaeological features/deposits to survive.</p> <p>Bibliography</p> <p>Boyd, N. 2020: <i>Thurlestone Golf Club, Thurlestone, South Hams, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH WSI no. TGC20WSIv1</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. Walls		Date sent to HER: 13.11.19

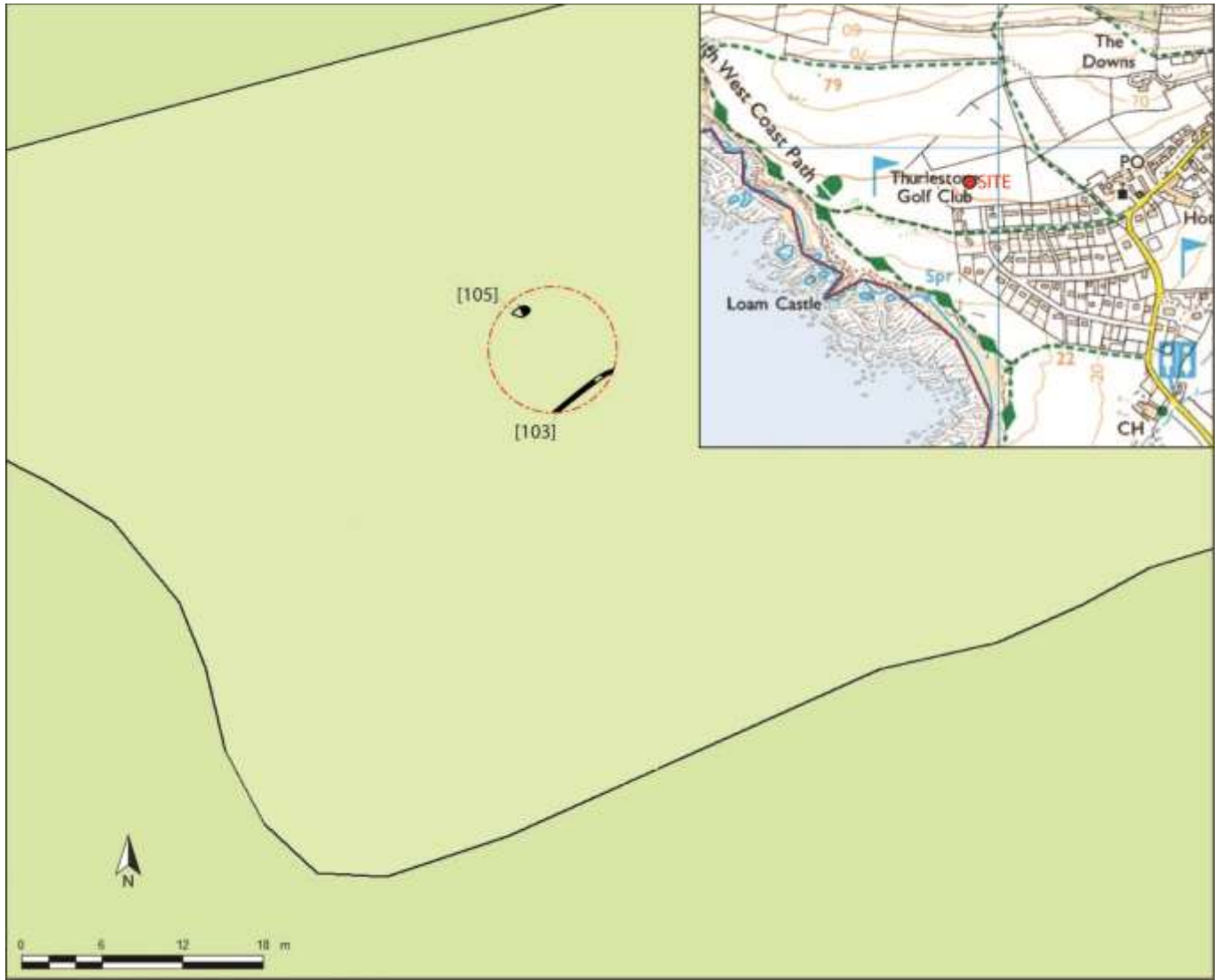


FIGURE 1: SITE PLAN, SHOWING THE EXCAVATED AREA.



FIGURE 2: WORKS IN PROGRESS, VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M SCALE).



FIGURE 3: PIT [105], HALF-EXCAVATED, VIEWED FROM THE WEST (1M SCALE).