

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Wembworthy, Mid-Devon	National Grid Reference SS 66108 09805	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording on land at Paddons, Wembworthy		Photo attached? YES
Planning Application no: 19/01340/FUL	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum	
OASIS ID: southwes1-389621	Museum Accession no: RAMM: 20/19	
Contractor's reference number/code: WAP20	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 15 th September 2020	
<p>Description of works. Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of a private client during groundworks associated with the start of works for the construction of a dwelling on land at Paddons, Wembworthy, Mid-Devon, Devon (Figure 1). This work was undertaken on 15th September 2020 in accordance with a WSI (Boyd 2020) drawn up in consultation with the Devon County Historic Environment Team.</p> <p>The site occupies an area recorded on the c.1840 tithe map to contain farm buildings associated with Paddons Farm. The age of the farm is unknown, but there is a possibility it has early origins. Surviving historic barns to the east of the site have been converted into residences in the 20th century. The site is shown to have contained a yard of farm buildings and a pump on 19th and 20th century mapping, these were located primarily to the southern and northern sides of the site.</p> <p>The site lies in an undulating landscape surrounded by springs, small streams and copses of trees. The site lies at a height of approximately 136m AOD at the western end of the village, c.120m west of St. Michael and All Angels Church. The site sits, slightly (c.1m) above the public road to the south. The soils are recorded as well drained fine loamy soils over rock of the Neath Association (SSEW 1983), overlying the sedimentary sandstone of the Bude Formation (BGS 2019).</p> <p>An area 16m × 17m over the northern part of the site had previously been stripped of a concrete silage tank and, surfaces in April 2020. This revealed that the site has been subject to significant terracing over the majority of the site, with the former concrete floors having sat directly upon the natural, a firm yellow to grey clay silk with abundant shillet. To the western part of the site (down slope), the ground had been raised with a made-ground of stone rubble and shillet, for the final c.7m of the strip; this contained alkathene pipe, and was built up against a concrete retaining wall. This deposit was not fully excavated.</p> <p>An additional c.9m x 17m area was stripped by machine with toothed bucket. The area was covered with a thin yellow brown friable silt-clay topsoil, which overlay a 0.4m thick deposit of blocky stone rubble, with some concrete and brick rubble within the deposit, This rubble layer got thinner to the east, and there were several concrete footing pads covered by and within this deposit. The deposit is likely to represent the demolished remains of former buildings, the partial elevations of which survived in the southern boundary to the site. These surviving remnants were partly of concrete block, and the stone central (seemingly historic) portion, which was demolished, was cement bonded. Traces of the western footing to this stone barn, were noted to continue into the site, but no northern survived, perhaps suggesting it had been open-fronted.</p> <p>There were no finds retained from the monitoring, although an assemblage of a 20th century mug was noted in the rubble.</p> <p>The site contained no significant archaeological features or deposits.</p> <p>Bibliography Boyd, N. 2020: Land at Paddons Farm, Wembworthy, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation. WSI ref: WAP20WSIv1 British Geological Survey 2020: http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales.</p>		
Recorder: S. Walls		Date sent to HER: 18/09/2020

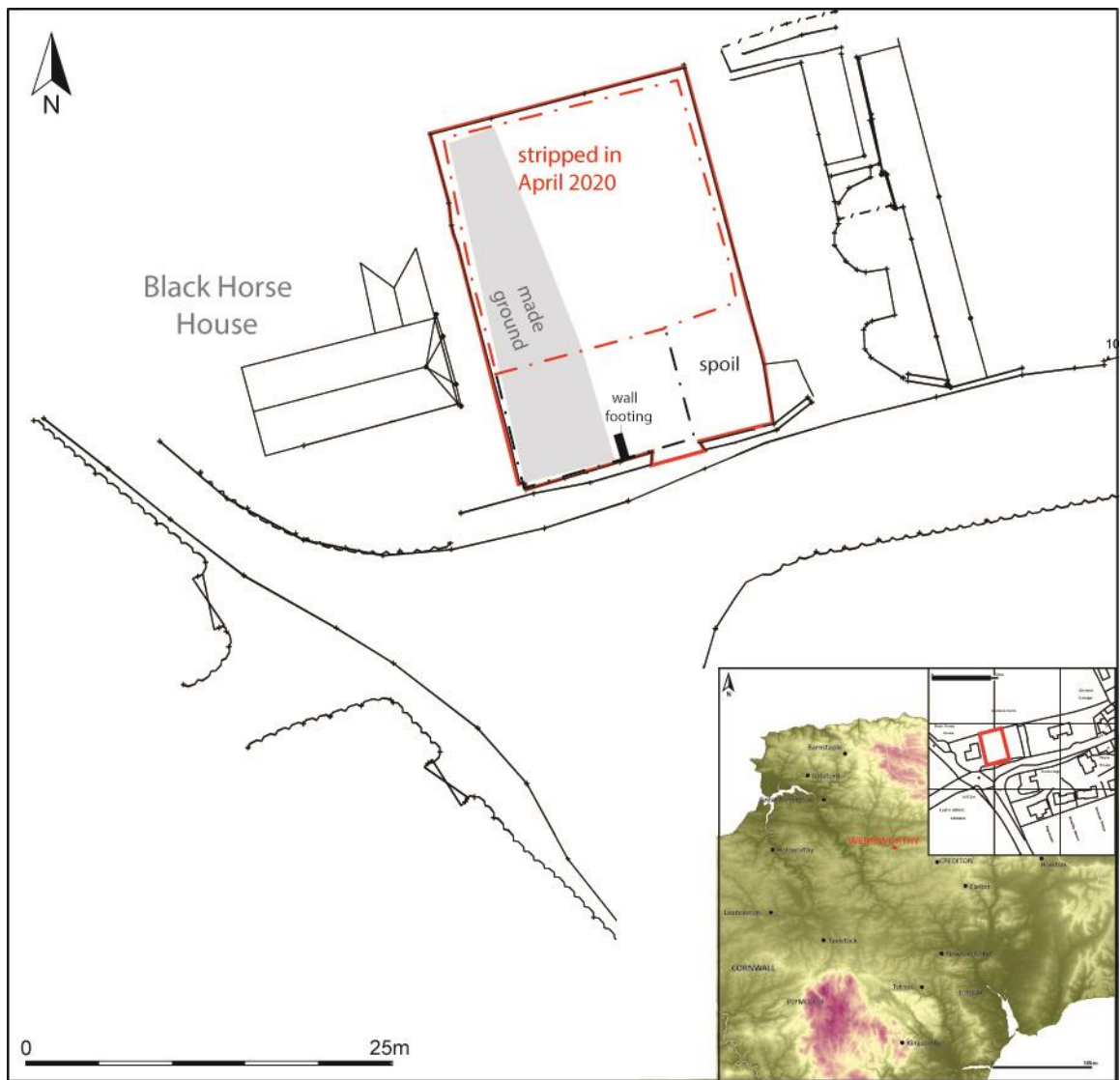


FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION, PLANS AND SECTION DRAWING.



FIGURE 2: POST-EX SHOT OF THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M SCALE).



FIGURE 3: THE MADE-GROUND DEPOSIT TO THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (NO SCALE).