

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Bideford, Torridge	National Grid Reference SS4659126485	Number:
Subject: Future residential development		Photo attached? Yes
Planning Application no: Pre-planning	Recipient museum: Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon	
OASIS ID: southwes1-95085	Museum Accession no: NDDMS 2011.7.	
Contractor's reference number/code: BMW11	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 25.02.11	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. at the request of Steven Sherry of Sherry Consultants (the Agent) on behalf of Mr J.G. Taylor of Grenville Estates (the Client) in advance of future residential development on the site at Manteo Way, East-the-Water, Bideford. The work was carried out in accordance with a Project Design approved by DCHES, and the work was undertaken by S. Walls.</p> <p>A 59m long trench was excavated by a mechanical excavator using a 1.4m wide grading bucket under the careful supervision of S. Walls (Figure 1). The trench was positioned in order to bisect the area of a rectangular structure visible on 1930s Ordnance Survey maps. No evidence of the rectangular structure was identified within the trench.</p> <p>The topsoil (201) consisted of a dark-brown silt-clay up to 0.4m thick, it was relatively clean containing rare small stones (up to 0.05m) and charcoal fragments. In the northern 10m of the trench the topsoil was only 0.05-0.1m deep and overlay a thick (0.6m) deposit (203) predominantly composed (80%) of large and blocky stone rubble but with patches of dark grey-brown silt-clay between the stones. This rubble deposit tapered away towards the south and could be seen to account for the slight raised mound against the northern boundary of the field (see Figure 1c). This overlay (202) a 0.1m thick grey-yellow/brown silt-clay subsoil which contained occasional small stones (up to 0.05m) and charcoal smears. This overlay the natural (204), a very clean yellow-brown clay-silt which contained occasional bands of grey-yellow gravels.</p> <p>Only a single archaeological feature was noted cutting into (204), a 0.5m wide linear [205] running north-east to south-west 14.5m south of the northern end of the trench (Figure 1b). Linear [205] was filled by (206) a loose yellow-grey silt-clay with abundant (65%) small stones (up to 0.1m). This feature [205] is most likely a land drain.</p> <p>The finds recovered were all from the topsoil and included 1x sherd of North Devon Ware (16th-17th century), 1x sherd of North Devon Sgraffito (17th/18th century), 1x sherd of North Devon Slipware (18th century), 4x sherds of white refined earthenware (post-1720) and 1x fragment of drain pipe (19th-20th century).</p>		
<p>A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.</p>		
Recorder: S. Walls		Date sent to HER: 03.03.11

Please email completed form to: archaeol@devon.gov.uk or post to County Archaeology Service, Environment Directorate, Matford Lane Offices, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QW. Information recorded on this form will be added to the Historic Environment Record, and made available to all researchers.

Any plans or photographs embedded within or attached to this form remain the copyright © of the recorder, and must not be reproduced in any publication without the explicit consent of the copyright holder.

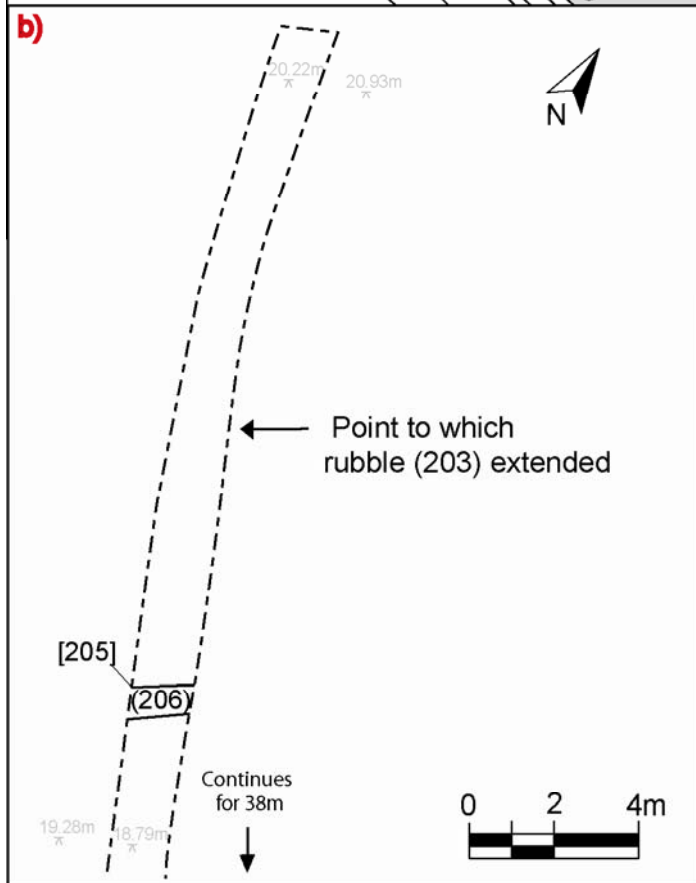
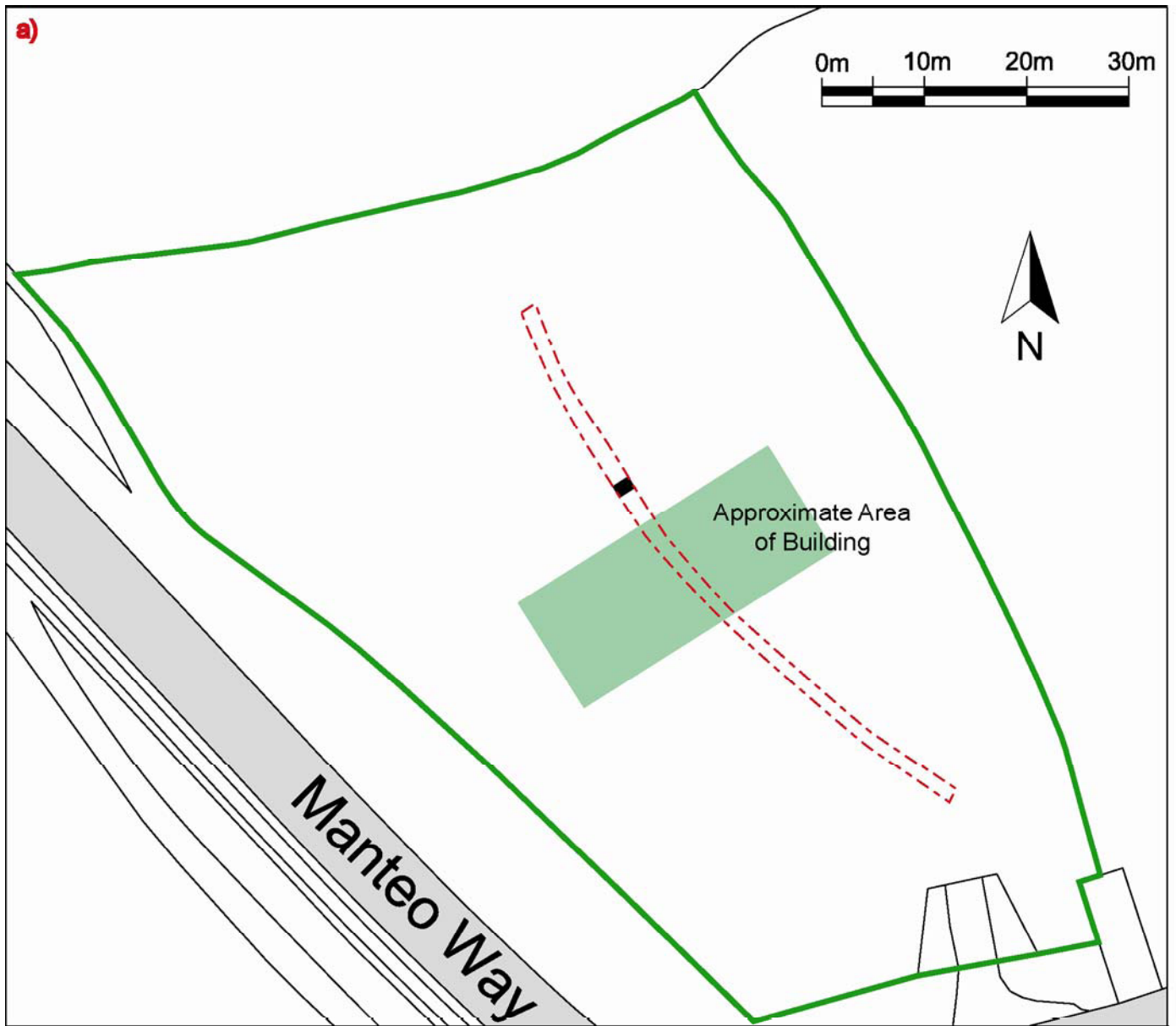


Figure 1: a) Location map. b) Plan of feature [205]. c) Photo of the trench from the north (2m scale).