



Bewley Down House near Axminster Devon

Archaeological Watching Brief



for Mrs. Dana White

CA Project: EX0005 CA Report: EX0005_1

December 2019



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Document Control Grid								
Revision	Date	Author	Checked by	Status	Reasons for revision	Approved by		
A	20 December 2019	Paul Clarke	Derek Evans	Internal review	-	Duncan Coe		

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Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Boton Gounty Gounon Inclosed Entitionin Rosord							
Civil Parish & District:	National Grid Reference:	Number:					
Chardstock; East Devon	328225 105100						
Subject:		Photo attached:					
Bewley Down House, near Axminster, Devon		N/A					
Planning permission no:	Recipient museun	n:					
18/1907/AGR	N/A						
OASIS ID:	Museum Accession	on no:					
cotswold2-365052	N/A						
Contractor's reference number/code:	Date fieldwork und	dertaken:					
Site code: BDH19; project number: EX0005	8–13 February 201	8–13 February 2019					

Introduction

In February 2019, Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief on groundworks associated with the construction of an agricultural building at Bewley Down House, near Axminster, Devon (Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken for Mrs. Dana White.

Archaeological background

The following text is summarised from the project written scheme of investigation (CA 2019).

A small mound to the immediate east of the site has been interpreted as a possible banked and ditched prehistoric enclosure. There is an account of further barrows to the immediate north of the site, although there is no extant physical evidence for these monuments.

Extensive assemblages of prehistoric worked flint and chert have been recovered during fieldwalking exercises to the south of the site.

Lidar surveys and aerial photographs have documented several linear features in the landscape around the site. These are conjectured to be the remnants of medieval/post-medieval agriculture.

A geophysical survey (Geoflo 2018) identified no potentially archaeological anomalies within the site.

Methodology

An area measuring c. 35m by c. 15m in plan was stripped to c. 0.15m depth (Fig. 2). This strip removed the topsoil and exposed the upper surface of the subsoil. Hardcore was then deposited across the stripped area to a depth of 0.3m. A series of 29 pits for concrete stanchions were then excavated through the hardcore (Fig. 3). These pits generally measured c. 1m by 1m in plan and were excavated to depths of between 0.25m and 0.65m below the original ground surface.

Results

The natural substrate was not exposed by any of the groundworks. The earliest identified deposit was a clayey sand subsoil. The base of this subsoil deposit was not reached, but it was over 0.5m in thickness. The subsoil was sealed by 0.15m of topsoil. No archaeological features or deposits were present.

Discussion

The monitored groundworks were not deep enough to expose the natural substrate. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded, although it is possible that archaeological remains survive at a greater depth than the present limit of excavation.

References

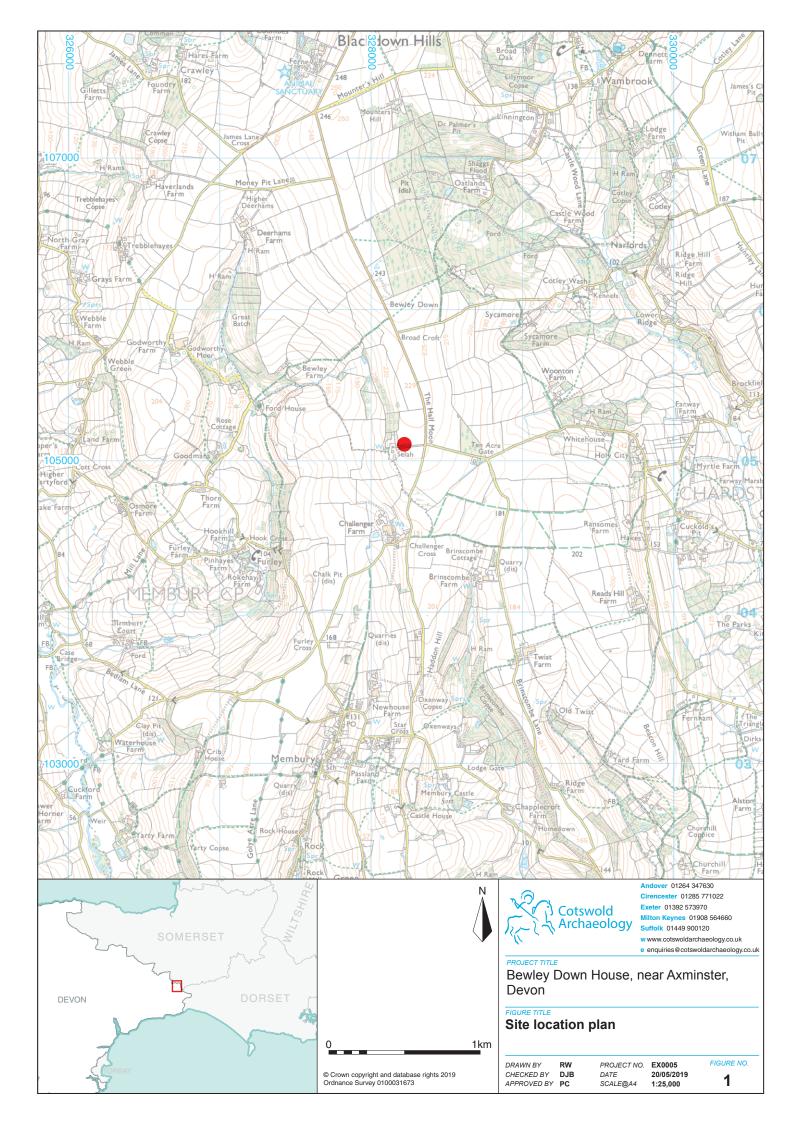
Cotswold Archaeology 2019 Bewley Down House, Near Axminster, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief

Geoflo 2018 Selah, Bewley Down: Gradiometer Survey Geopflo report no. G F1064B

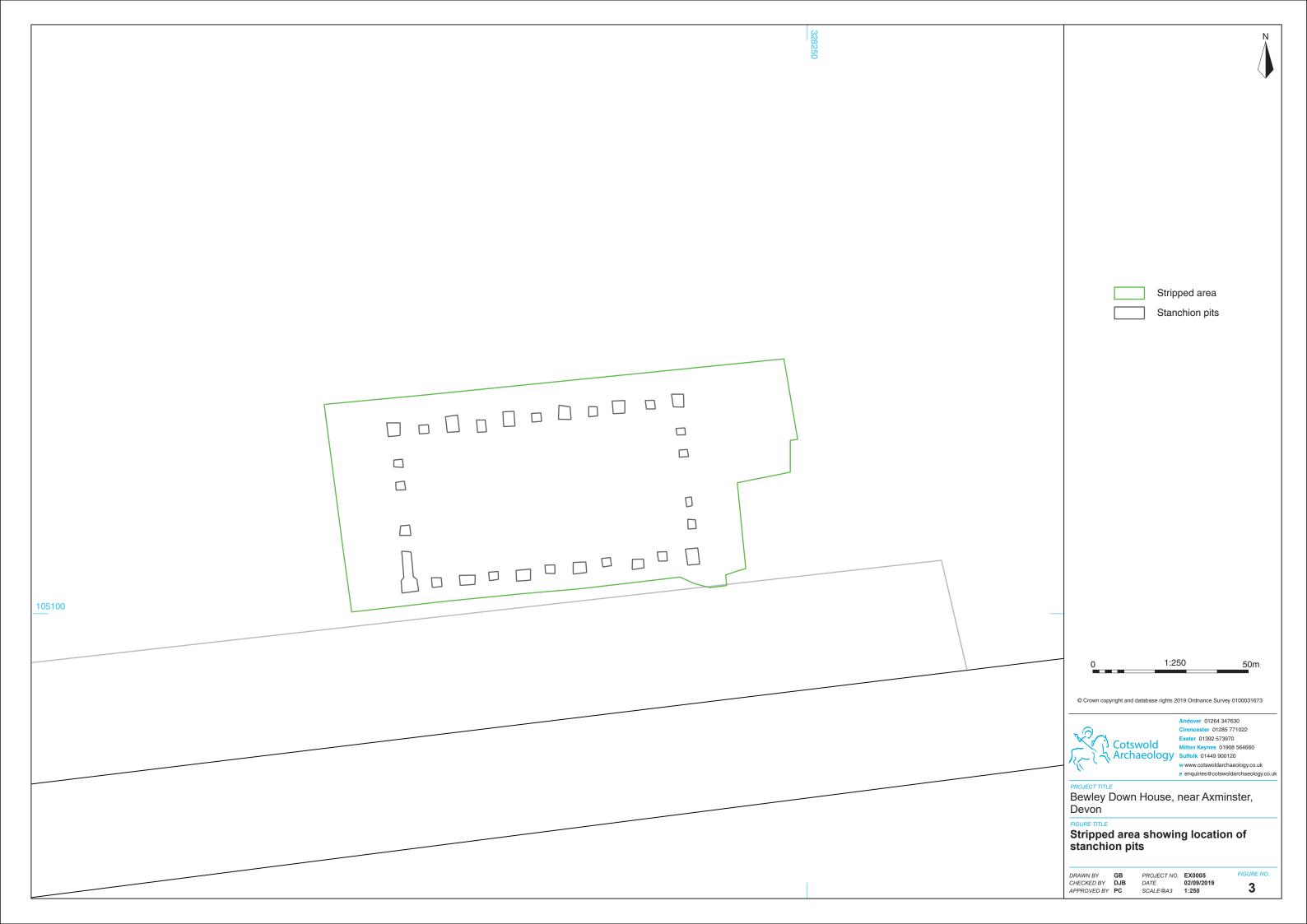
Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
Paul Clarke, Cotswold Archaeology	

APPENDIX A: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS				
Project name	Bewley Down House, near Axminster, Devon			
Short description	archaeological watching brief on ground construction of a barn at Bewley Do Devon. No archaeological features although the monitored groundworks expose the natural substrate and it is	In February 2019, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological watching brief on groundworks associated with the construction of a barn at Bewley Down House, near Axminster, Devon. No archaeological features or deposits were recorded, although the monitored groundworks were not deep enough to expose the natural substrate and it is possible that archaeological remains survive at a greater depth than the present limit of		
Project dates	8-13 February 2019	8–13 February 2019		
Project type	Watching brief			
Previous work	Geophysical survey (Geoflo 2018)	Geophysical survey (Geoflo 2018)		
Future work	None			
PROJECT LOCATION				
Site location		Bewley Down House, near Axminster, Devon		
Study area (m²/ha)	610m ²	610m²		
Site co-ordinates	328225 105100	328225 105100		
PROJECT CREATORS				
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	Cotswold Archaeology		
Project brief originator	N/A	N/A		
Project design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	Cotswold Archaeology		
Project Manager	Derek Evans	Derek Evans		
Project Supervisor	Richard Coe	Richard Coe		
MONUMENT TYPE	TYPE None			
SIGNIFICANT FINDS	None			
PROJECT ARCHIVES	Intended final location of archive	Content		
Physical	N/A	N/A		
Paper	N/A	N/A		
Digital	N/A	N/A		
BIBLIOGRAPHY				
Cotswold Archaeology 2019 Bewley D No. EX0005_1	own House, near Axminster, Devon: Archaeo	logical Evaluation CA Report		









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