

LAND AT HIGHER MOOR CROSS, PANCRASWEEK, DEVON

NGR SS 2944 0689

Results of an archaeological watching brief

Prepared by
Peter Stead

On behalf of:
Mr Tim Bacon

Report No: ACD193/1/0

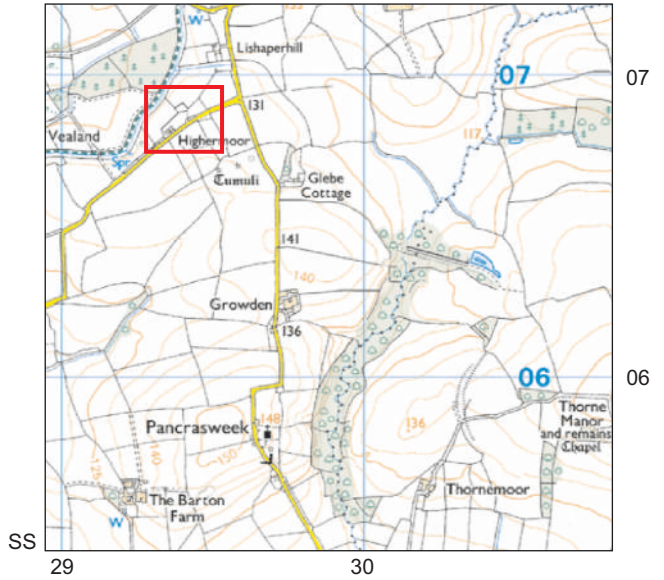
Date: 11th June 2012



AC archaeology

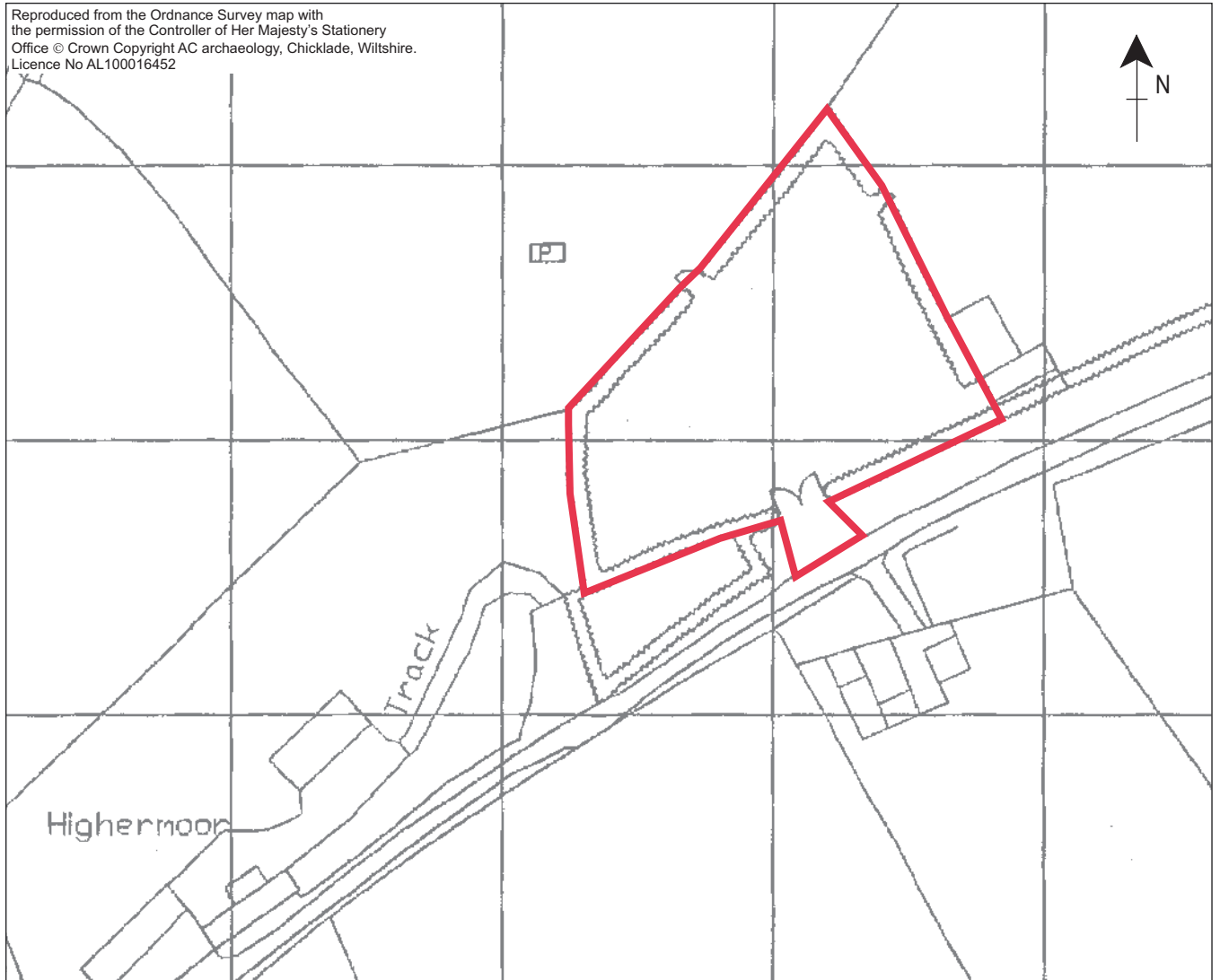
Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Pancrasweek, Torridge	National Grid Reference SS 2944 0689	Number:
Subject: Land at Higher Moor Cross, Pancrasweek, Devon: Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached: Plates 1-2
Planning Application no: 1/1123/2009/FUL	Recipient museum: Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon	
OASIS ID: 127736	Museum Accession no: NDDMS 2010.47	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD193	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 21st and 22nd May 2012	
<p>Description of works</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was carried out by AC archaeology on behalf of Mr Tim Bacon, during groundworks associated with the construction of three dwellings on land at Higher Moor Cross, Pancrasweek (Fig. 1). The work was required by Torridge District Council under a condition attached to the grant of planning permission for the development.</p> <p>The site occupies an irregularly-shaped field of c 0.2 hectares which lies at a height of approximately 130m aOD. It is situated approximately 180m to the north of three probable Bronze Age bowl barrows (Scheduled Monument no. 34273), and a further two barrows lie to the southwest of these. A further three barrows lie 240m to the northeast of the site. Worked flint scatters have also been recorded to the west.</p> <p>Monitored groundworks consisted of topsoil stripping across the footprint of the new buildings and adjacent parking; an area measuring approximately 60m x 16m (Fig. 2). The new access utilises the existing gateway into the field but as this gateway has been heavily stoned in the past, it was not disturbed. All operations were carried out using a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a grading bucket.</p> <p>Results</p> <p>A simple deposit sequence was exposed throughout, consisting of mid-brown clay loam topsoil (100) over natural subsoil (101), which comprised buff brown clay. The topsoil measured approximately 30cm deep to the northeast, increasing slightly to 40cm deep to the southwest (Plates 1 and 2).</p> <p>No significant archaeological features or deposits were present. Occasional plough scarring was noted, perpendicular to (i.e. respecting) the southern field boundary. Nine sherds of 19th to 20th-century pottery were recovered from the topsoil (100), together with a single fragment of tobacco pipe stem and a fragment of modern glass. The pottery consisted of five sherds of industrial whiteware (one transfer-printed) and four sherds of green and brown glazed earthenware. These have not been retained.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>No evidence has been found for occupation or activity within the site prior to the 19th century. Some evidence for ploughing was noted, although this is likely to be post-medieval in date as it post-dates the southern field boundary. The pottery, clay pipe and glass were probably brought into the site during episodes of manuring.</p>		
Recorder: Peter Stead, AC archaeology		Date sent to HER: 11 June 2012




Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright AC archaeology, Chicklade, Wiltshire. Licence No AL100016452

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey map with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright AC archaeology, Chicklade, Wiltshire. Licence No AL100016452



0 50m
Scale 1:1000@A4

 Site boundary

PROJECT

Land at Higher Moor Cross, Torrridge, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site





-  Area monitored
-  Site boundary

PROJECT

Land at Higher Moor Cross, Torrington, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 2: Extent of monitored groundworks



Plate 1: General view of eastern part of site. View to southwest (1m scale)



Plate 2: General view of western part of site. View to southwest (1m scale)

Devon Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Unit 4, Halthaies Workshops
Bradninch
Nr Exeter
Devon
EX5 4LQ

Telephone/Fax: 01392 882410

Wiltshire Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Manor Farm Stables
Chicklade
Hindon
Nr Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP3 5SU

Telephone: 01747 820581
Fax: 01747 820440

www.acarchaeology.co.uk