

LAND AT HAZARD FARM, HARBERTON, DEVON

(NGR SX 7503 5923)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

South Hams District Council planning reference
23/2485/12/F

Prepared by:
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On behalf of:
Biostar Energy

Document No: ACD786/1/0

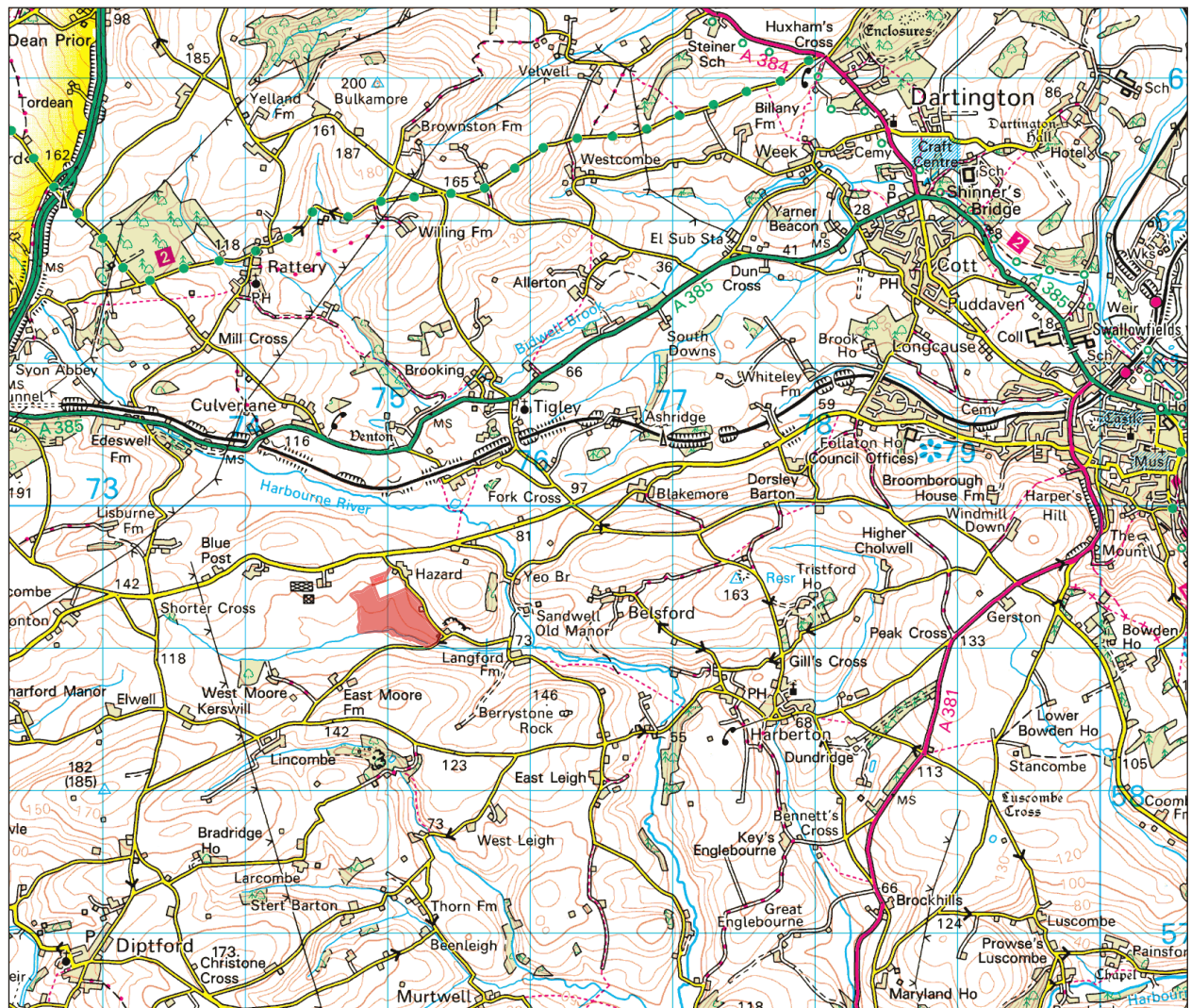
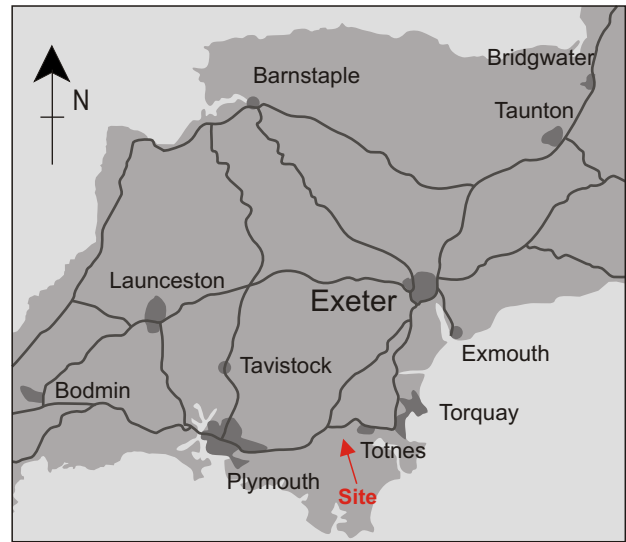
Date: September 2014



AC archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Harberton, South Hams	National Grid Reference SX 7503 5923	Number:
Subject: Land at Hazard Farm, Harberton, Devon: Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached? Yes
Planning Ref no: 23/2485/12/F	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 189614	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD786	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 18/12/13 – 30/01/14	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was carried out by AC archaeology during groundworks for the construction of a solar park at Hazard Farm. The development site covers 12.4ha to the southwest of the farm (Fig. 1). It lies within a col between two hills at a height of approximately 105m aOD. The underlying geology comprises Middle Devonian Slates. The site has been subject to an historic environment assessment (James 2012), geophysical survey (Dean 2012) and archaeological trench evaluation (Pears 2013). The archaeological watching brief was required during the development as further mitigation within archaeologically sensitive areas (ASAs) defined by the previous works.</p> <p>Hazard Farm can be identified with a medieval manor, probably the Domesday estate of Haroldesore. To the southeast of the farm is Hazard Hill where a Neolithic settlement was excavated in 1951-52. Mesolithic and Bronze Age artefacts have also been found on the hill. The placename "the berries" in a field southwest of the farm has also been identified from a documentary source. In advance of the construction of the solar farm a geophysical survey was carried out (Dean 2012) followed up by an archaeological trench evaluation (Pears 2013). In the field with the placename "the berries" these identified a double ditched enclosure of later Iron Age date. To the east and southeast of this enclosure ditches of agricultural origin were encountered, whilst in the southeast part of the site a small group of features may represent settlement activity during the post-Roman period.</p> <p>Methodology (Fig. 2)</p> <p>The watching brief consisted of the monitoring and recording of the stripping of topsoil for a haul road and compound (Plate 1), and the excavation of infrastructure trenches in the areas within the ASAs (Areas 1 and 2; Plate 2). In the ASA where the double ditched enclosure had been identified by the previous investigations an access track was constructed without the stripping of the topsoil and by placing terram sheeting on the ground surface and the building up of a gravel track. No monitoring took place here.</p> <p>Results</p> <p>Stripping of topsoil for the haul road and compound was not deep enough to expose the archaeological features identified during the evaluation. In Areas 1 and 2 the monitored trenches measured 200mm wide by 200mm deep. This was too shallow to expose the anomalies and archaeological features identified during the geophysical survey and evaluation.</p> <p>In summary, no archaeological features or deposits were exposed, and no artefacts were recovered.</p> <p>References</p> <p>Dean, R., 2012, <i>An Archaeological Gradiometer Survey: Land at Hazard Farm, Harberton, South Hams</i>, Unpublished Substrata report for client, ref. 121220</p> <p>James, T., 2012, <i>Land at Hazard Farm, Harberton, South Hams, Devon: Historic Environment Assessment</i>, AC archaeology document no. ACD554/1/0</p> <p>Pears, B., 2013, <i>Hazard Farm, Harberton, Devon (SX 7503 5923): Results of an archaeological trench evaluation, Planning ref. South Hams District Council 23/2485/12/F</i>, AC archaeology document no. ACD554/3/1</p>		
Recorder: Ben Pears (AC archaeology)		Date sent to HER: 23 September 2014



PROJECT

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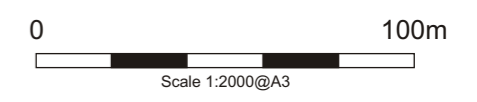
TITLE

 Site location

Fig. 1: Location of site



- Legend**
- gradiometer survey area
 - gradiometer potential archaeology**
 - likely archaeology, positive anomaly (4)
 - likely archaeology, negative anomaly (4)
 - possible archaeology, positive anomaly
 - possible archaeology, negative anomaly
 - ▨ possible archaeology, mixed anomalies
 - gradiometer services and modern**
 - possible services, field drains
 - possible services, field drains
 - gradiometer potential natural**
 - ▨ likely natural, stream
 - ▨ possible natural, spring
 - ▨ Archaeological trenches
 - ▨ Archaeological features
 - Medium potential
 - Monitored areas



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Fig. 2: Location of watching brief observations





Plate 1: Haul Road, looking south-west (scale 1m)



Plate 2: Cable trench, Area 2, looking south-east

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