

BURY BARTON FARM, POLBURY, LAPFORD, DEVON

(NGR SS 73225 07118)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

Mid Devon District Council planning reference 14/00393/PNAG

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Prepared by:  
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On behalf of:  
Mr A Quick

Document No: ACD970/2/0

Date: December 2014



archaeology

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# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

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| <b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b><br>Lapford, Mid Devon  | <b>National Grid Reference</b><br>SS 73225 07118          | <b>Number:</b> (Leave blank for HES to fill in) |
| <b>Subject:</b> Bury Barton Farm, Polbury, Lapford, Devon: Results of an archaeological watching brief   |   | <b>Photo attached?</b> Y                        |
| <b>Planning Application no:</b> 14/00393/PNAG  | <b>Recipient museum:</b> N/A                              |   |
| <b>OASIS ID:</b> 198105  | <b>Museum Accession no:</b> N/A                           |   |
| <b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b><br><br>ACD970   | <b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b><br><br>3 November 2014 |   |
| <p><b>Description of works</b> (Fig. 1)<br/>An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the construction of an extension to an agricultural barn at Bury Barton. The works were required as a condition of the grant of planning consent by Mid Devon District Council (planning reference 14/00393/PNAG). The site lies within the area of a Roman Fort complex. The majority of the fort is designated as a Scheduled Monument, although much of the existing farm complex, including the site of the new extension, falls outside the Scheduled area.</p> <p><b>Results</b> (Fig. 2; Plates 1-2)<br/>The extension covers an area of 22m by 14m on the east side of the existing barn. A total of 11 stanchion pits were machine excavated and monitored. The deposit sequence in each pit is summarised below:</p> <p><i>Pit 1</i> (1.50m by 0.80m by 0.90m deep): 0.50m made ground consisting of mid reddish-brown silty clay with common weathered mudstone and ceramic land drain fragments overlying natural mudstone.</p> <p><i>Pit 2</i> (1.20m by 1m by 0.90m deep): 0.50m mixed deposits including dark brown silty clay redeposited topsoil with modern rubbish and a concrete wall foundation overlying natural mudstone.</p> <p><i>Pit 3</i> (1.50m by 1m by 0.90m deep): 0.80m dark brown silty clay topsoil with brick and mudstone inclusions overlying natural mudstone. The topsoil was disturbed by (the remains of) an east-west aligned mudstone wall (F301) bonded with mud and pointed in cement mortar.</p> <p><i>Pit 4</i> (1.30m by 1m by 0.90m deep): 0.50m redeposited natural mid brown silty clay containing decomposing manure overlying 0.40m dark brown silty clay former topsoil, overlying natural mudstone.</p> <p><i>Pit 5</i> (1.30m by 0.70m by 1.30m deep): 1m redeposited natural mid brown silty clay containing decomposing manure overlying dark brown silty clay former topsoil overlying natural mudstone. A north-south aligned brick wall (F501) laid in English bond with cement mortar was exposed in the east section.</p> <p><i>Pit 6</i> (1.50m by 1m by 1m deep): redeposited natural mid brown silty clay containing decomposing manure overlying dark brown silty clay former topsoil with brick and mudstone inclusions that was exposed at the base of the pit.</p> <p><i>Pit 7</i> (1.50m by 1m by 1m deep): redeposited natural mid brown silty clay containing decomposing manure that continued below the base of the pit.</p> <p><i>Pit 8</i> (1.60m by 1m by 1.30m deep): redeposited natural mid brown silty clay containing decomposing manure overlying dark brown silty clay former topsoil with brick and mudstone inclusions that was exposed at the base of the pit.</p> <p><i>Pit 9</i> (1.50m by 0.90m by 1.85m deep): 1.45m redeposited natural mid brown silty clay containing decomposing manure overlying dark brown silty clay former topsoil with brick and mudstone inclusions.</p> <p><i>Pit 10</i> (1.70m by 0.90m by 0.90m deep): redeposited natural mid brown silty clay containing decomposing manure that continued below the base of the pit.</p> <p><i>Pit 11</i> (1.60m by 1.10m by 1m deep): made ground consisting of mid reddish-brown silty clay with common weathered mudstone and ceramic land drain fragments that continued below the base of the pit.</p> <p><b>Comments</b><br/>The extension to the barn is located on a terrace that has been formed from raising the ground using redeposited natural deposits. This activity is probably contemporary with the construction of the barn to the west. The topsoil below the raised ground is also of modern date and represents topsoil in the field west of the historic farm and gardens before the present modern agricultural buildings were constructed. Limited exposures of the natural, below the topsoil, were made, and no archaeological deposits or features were exposed. No finds were recovered. Wall F301 is the remains of a continuation westwards of the upstanding boundary wall between the garden to the</p> |   |   |

east and the field and farm to the west. This is depicted on 19th-century Ordnance Survey maps. Wall F501 may represent an internal feature to a former structure attached to the west side of the boundary wall.

**Archive**

This report and the associated OASIS entry represent the archive for the project.

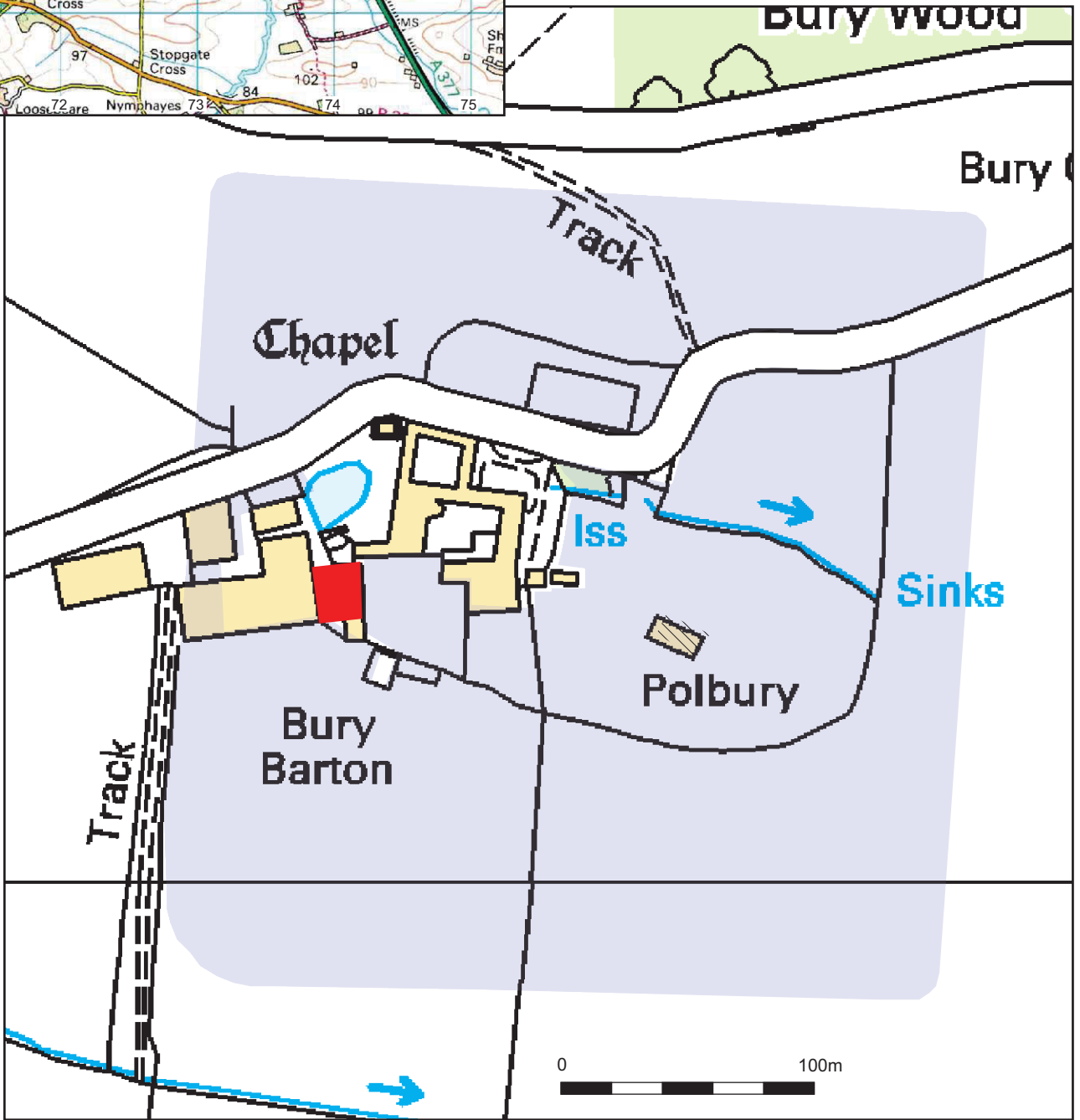
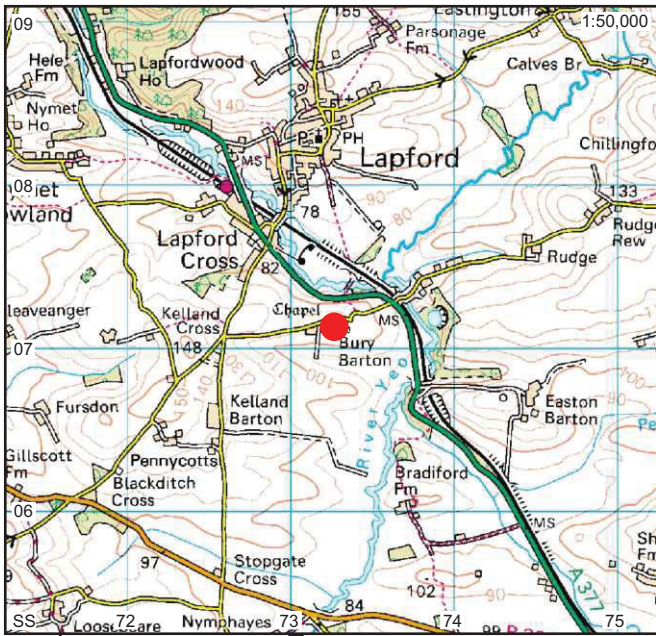
**A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.**

**Recorder:**

Kerry Kerr-Peterson (AC archaeology)

**Date sent to HER:**

23 December 2014



**Key**

- Scheduled area
- Proposed shed extension

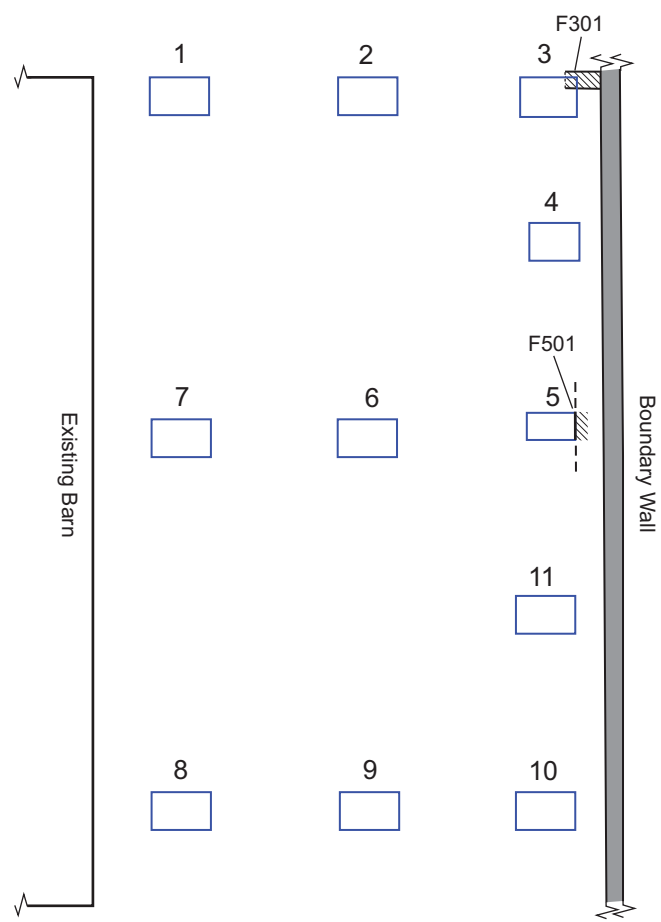
PROJECT



Bury Barton Farm, Lapford

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site





-  8 Location and number of stanchion pit
-  Existing wall

PROJECT

Bury Barton Farm, Lapford

TITLE

Fig. 2: Location of stanchion pits





Plate 1: Pit 3, showing wall F301, looking east. 1m scale



Plate 2: Pit 8, looking east. 1m scale

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