

LAND AT MARSHALLS MEAD, BEAFORD, DEVON

(NGR SS 5525 1475)

Results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation

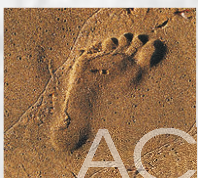
Torridge District Council Planning ref. 1/1333/2014/OUT
(condition 15)

Prepared by:
Chris Caine

On behalf of:
Mr Rodgers

Report No: ACD1550/2/0

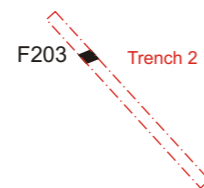
Date: February 2017



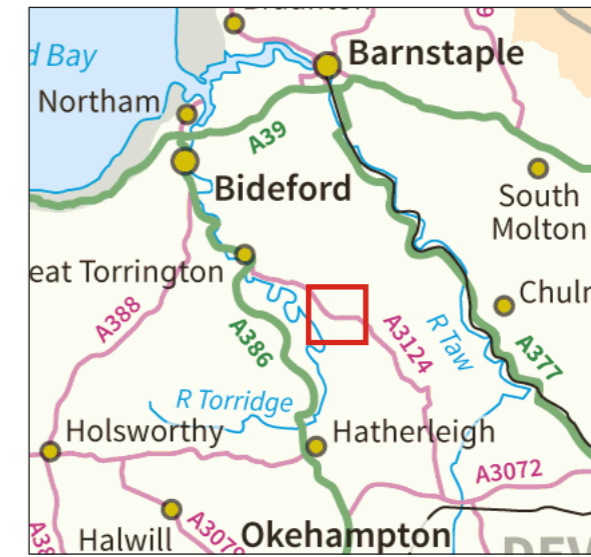
archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

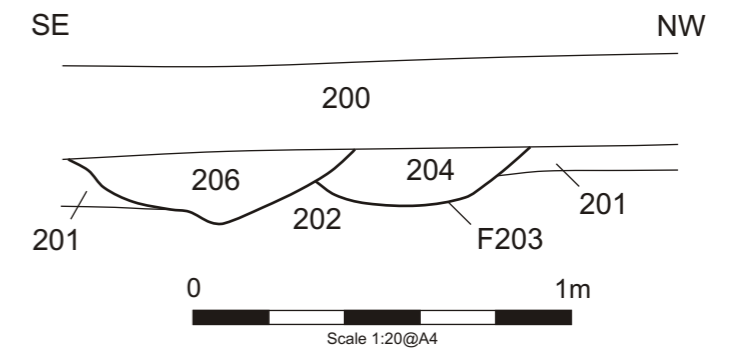
Civil Parish & District: Beaford, Torridge	National Grid Reference SS 5525 1475	Number:
Subject: Land at Marshalls Mead, Beaford, Devon: Results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation		Photo attached Plates 1 and 2
Planning permission no: 1/1333/2014/OUT (condition 15)	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 274293	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1550	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 31 January to 1 February 2017	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>An archaeological trial trench evaluation forming part of a programme of archaeological work was undertaken ahead of the construction of nine dwellings and associated works on land at Marshalls Mead, Beaford, Devon (SS 5525 1475).</p> <p>The site lay on the southwest side of Beaford, with its access via Marshalls Mead to the northwest. It comprised part of a wider pasture plot lying on flat ground at 144m aOD (above Ordnance Datum). A number of the plots surrounding the site had produced a small quantity of worked flint artefacts, which suggested a background of prehistoric activity in its vicinity</p> <p>Results</p> <p>The work comprised the machine-excavation of six trenches totalling 145m in length, with each trench 1.6m wide. These were positioned to provide a sampled coverage the site. Natural subsoil was exposed at a depth of around 0.44m below existing levels and varied from mid grey to mid yellow silty-clay with common gravel inclusions. It was overlain by a mid brownish-yellow silty-clay subsoil, sealed beneath a dark brown silty-loam ploughsoil.</p> <p>Archaeological features were present in Trenches 2 and 6. In Trench 2, a ditch and tree-pit was present (F203 and 206), while a likely continuation of the same ditch was also exposed in Trench 6 (F603).</p> <p>Ditch F203 measured 0.55m wide and 0.15m deep with a shallow concave profile. It contained a light brownish-grey silty-clay fill (204) from which a fragment from a 19th century glass bottle was recovered. It was cut to the southwest by tree-pit 206.</p> <p>No finds were recovered from the subsoil and topsoil layers.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>The results from the trial trenching were largely negative, with only a single ditch exposed in two of the trenches. This was likely to have represented a former agricultural feature such as a plot sub-division or drain, which based on the recovered glass fragment, was of late post-medieval origin.</p>		
Recorder: Chris Caine, AC archaeology		Date sent to HER: February 2016



Based on drawing provided by John Blaney Ltd



Section of ditch F203 and tree-pit 206



PROJECT
Land at Marshalls Mead,
Beaford, Devon
TITLE
Fig. 1: Location of site with
proposed development,
location of trial trenches and
archaeological features shown





Plate 1: General view of site, looking northwest towards Marshall's Mead



Plate 2, Trench 2, ditch F206 and tree-pit 206. View to southwest (scale 1m)

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