

LAND AT HIGHER COXES FARM, WESTON, SIDMOUTH, DEVON

(NGR SY 17407 88975)

Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

East Devon District Council Planning Reference:
17/2052/FUL (Condition 4)

Prepared by:
Laszlo Lichtenstein

On behalf of:
Mr Burrough

Report No: ACD1726/2/1

Date: January 2018



AC archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

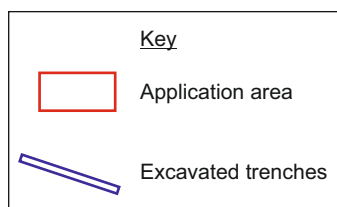
Civil Parish & District: Branscombe, East Devon	National Grid Reference ST 17407 88975	Number:
Subject: Land at Higher Coxes Farm, Weston, Sidmouth, Devon: Results of archaeological monitoring and recording		Photo attached? Plates 1-2
Planning Application no: East Devon District Council planning ref 17/2052/FUL	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 306931	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1726	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 6th January 2018	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out by AC archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of an agricultural livestock building on land at Higher Coxes Farm, Weston, Sidmouth, Devon (SY 17407 88975). Higher Coxes Farm lies approximately 600m to the east of Weston on land north of Berry Hill Road. The position of the proposed new livestock building is located on the west side of existing farm buildings on what is currently rough surface for materials storage. It lies on flat ground at 165m aOD (Fig.1).</p> <p>The site lies in an area where numerous scatters of prehistoric worked flints have been recorded. Nearby examples of these have are located in the plots to the east and southwest of the farm (Devon County Council Historic Environment Record references MDV59685 and MDV74344). The recovery of a stone coffin thought to be of Roman date was excavated from the field to the south of the farm and Berry Hill Road (MDV10904). This is now in the churchyard at Branscombe. The Branscombe parish tithe map depicts the site as having been historically within agricultural fields. This remains the case until the recent construction of the adjacent farm buildings.</p> <p>Results (Fig.1)</p> <p>The monitoring comprised the machine excavation of two trenches totalling 33m in length, with each trench 0.9m wide. These were positioned to provide representative coverage of the proposed development area.</p> <p>Natural substratum comprised a light red brown sandyclay with common flint nodules. This was exposed at a depth of between 0.20m and 0.37 below existing levels. The north part of the site the topsoil and subsoil have been removed during previous development, the natural substratum was overlain by a mixed crushed demolition material currently used as a temporary road next to the existing farm building. At the south part of the development area the natural substratum overlain by mid red grey siltyclay subsoil with occasional flint fragments which measured approximately 0.1m thick. This was sealed by mid grey brown clayey silt topsoil mixed with demolition rubble and occasional flint inclusions.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were exposed by the groundworks. The presence of a mixed soil and demolition spoilheap south to the site and temporary road surface at the north part of the development area suggested that the site had been previously stripped and extensively disturbed probably during the late 20th century.</p>		
Recorder: Laszlo Lichtenstein, AC Archaeology		Date sent to HER: January 2018



Ordnance Survey © Crown Copyright 2015. All rights reserved. Licence number 100022432



0 50m
Scale 1:1250@A4



PROJECT

Land at Higher Coxes Farm, Weston, Sidmouth, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site and development plan showing trench location





Plate 1: General view of site, looking northwest



Plate 2: Showing trench excavated in south of site. View to east

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