

EASTBEARE FARMHOUSE, MERTON, OKEHAMPTON, DEVON

NGR SS 5139 1288

Results of archaeological monitoring and recording

Torridge District Council planning ref. 1/0410/2017/FUL
(condition 3)

Prepared by:
Abigail Brown

Report No: ACD1686/2/0

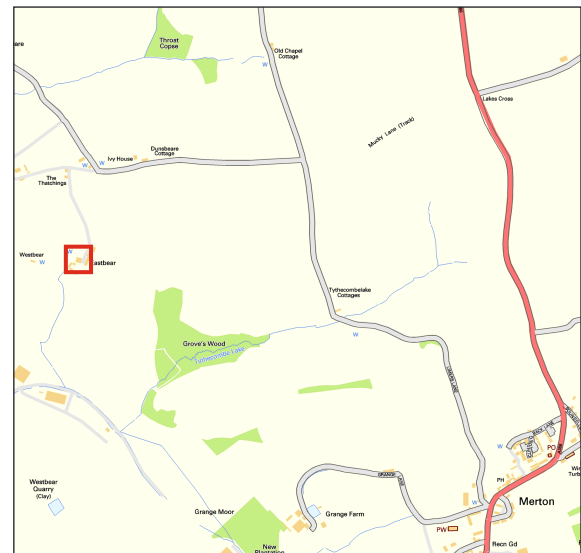
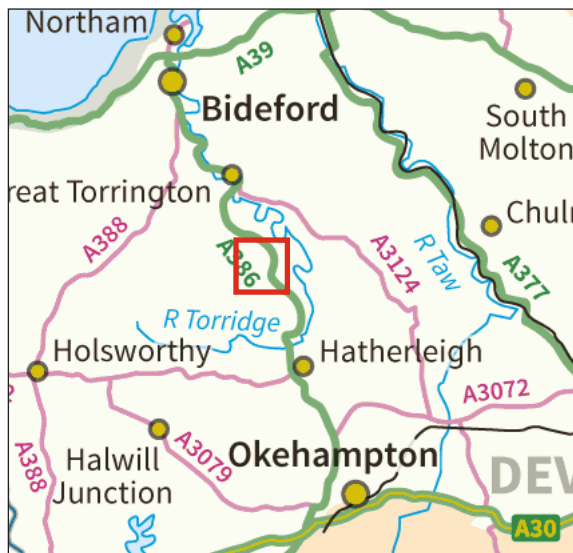
Date: August 2018



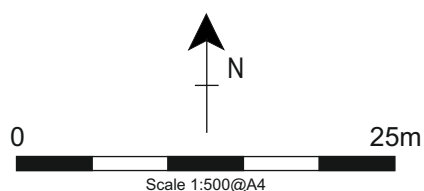
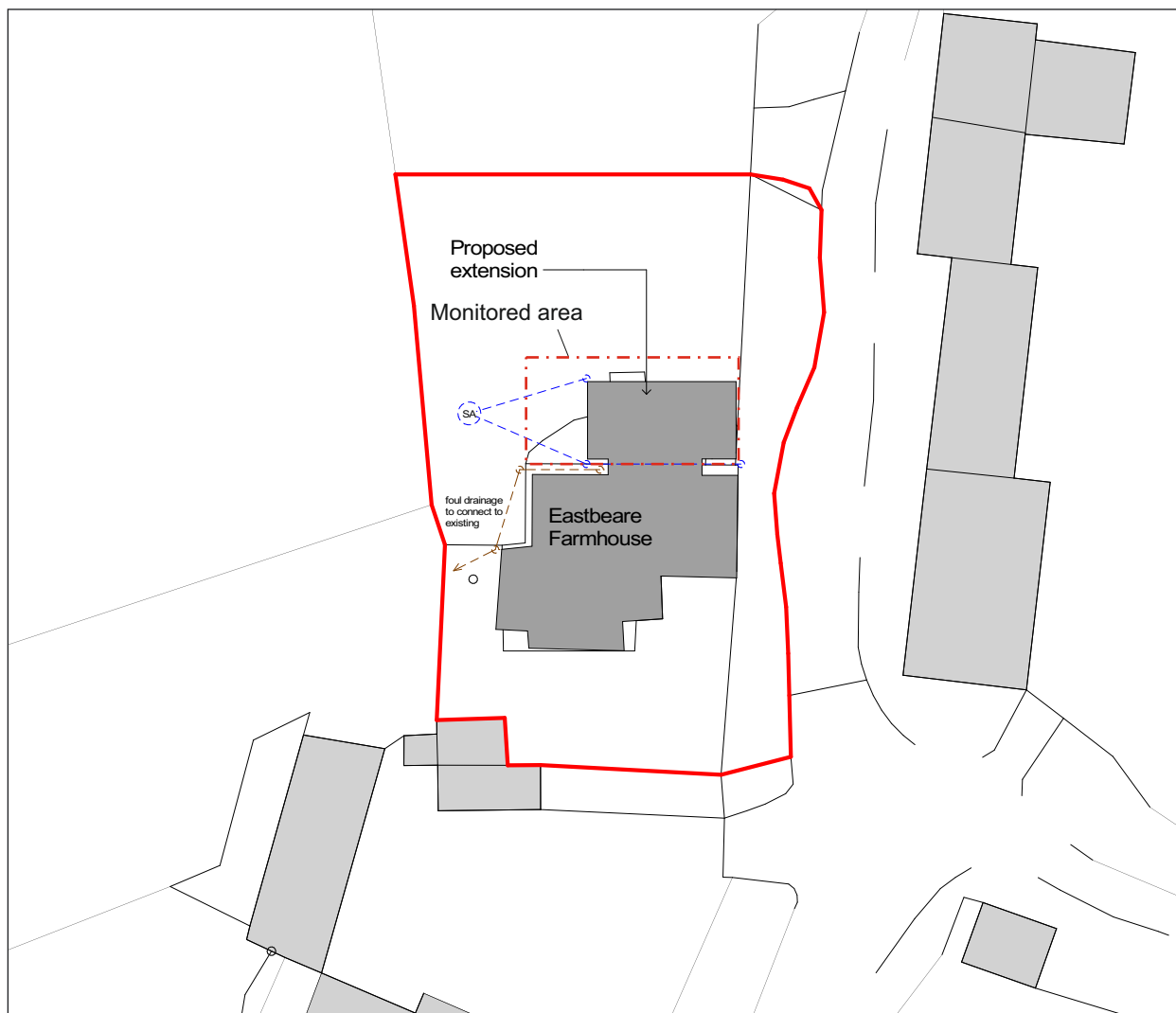
AC archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Merton, Torridge	National Grid Reference SS 5139 1288	Number:
Subject: Eastbeare Farmhouse, Merton, Okehampton, Devon: Results of archaeological monitoring and recording		Photo attached? Plates 1-2
Planning Application no: 1/0410/2017/FUL	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 326873	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1686	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 25th to 27th July, 2018	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p><i>Introduction</i> Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by AC archaeology during groundworks associated with an extension to Eastbeare Farmhouse, Merton, Okehampton, Devon (SS 5139 1288) (Fig. 1). Eastbeare Farmhouse is located 1.5km to the northwest of the village of Merton on land to the west of the A386 road to Great Torrington. The position of the extension partially overlay a terrace, which was cut into the gradual hillslope and had been occupied by a previous extension and yard (Plate 1).</p> <p>The farmhouse is a Grade II-listed building (Heritage List for England reference 1105032) of late 16th or earlier origin with 17th and 20th centuries alterations. The north-west range is described as being the older part and originally of a three through passage plan.</p> <p><i>Results</i> (Fig. 1; Plate 2) Groundworks consisted of the bulk reduction of an area measuring approximately 15m by 7.5m to the rear (north) of the farmhouse. This was followed by the excavation of footings trenches, which measured 1m wide and 0.45m deep. Natural subsoil, which consisted of a weathered slate in a mid yellow silty-clay matrix was exposed at a depth of between 0.1m and 0.5m below existing levels. This was overlain by a mid brown silty-loam topsoil.</p> <p>A small number of 19th century finds were recovered from the topsoil, which are described below.</p> <p><i>The Finds by Naomi Payne</i> A small group of modern finds consisting of seven sherds pottery and a fragment of glass was recovered from the topsoil. The seven sherds (127g) of modern pottery include transfer-print, English stoneware, Staffordshire white ware and flower pot. All of the pottery dates from the 19th century. The only other find was a single fragment (34g) of the base of a green glass bottle of 18th or 19th century date.</p> <p><i>Comments</i> No archaeological features or deposits were exposed by the groundworks. The site had been partially disturbed by the previous smaller extension. No finds were recovered that were contemporary to the origins of the farmhouse.</p> <p>This report and the associated OASIS entry represent the archive for the project.</p>		
Recorder: Abigail Brown, AC archaeology		Date sent to HER: 28 August 2018



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



PROJECT

Eastbeare Farmhouse, Merton,
Okehampton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Site location



Plate 1: General view of site with Eastbeare Farmhouse to the left. Looking west



Plate 1: Showing post-excitation view of extension footings. Looking west (scale 1m)

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