

BECKFORD BRIDGE, DALWOOD, DEVON

(NGR ST 26518 01480)

Results of archaeological monitoring and recording

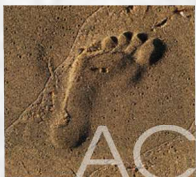
Heritage List for England references 1020418 and 1098481

Prepared by:
Laurence Vinnels

On behalf of:
Devon County Council

Report No: ACD2555/2/0

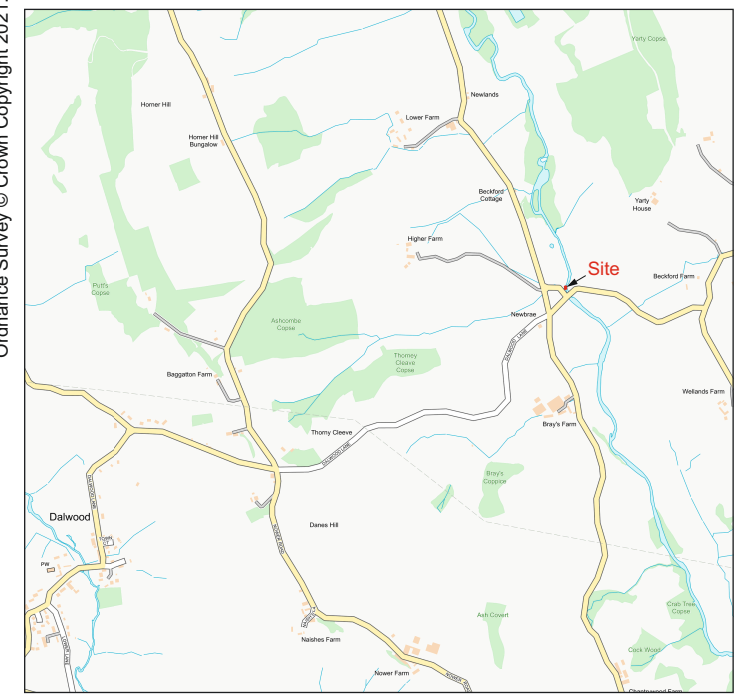
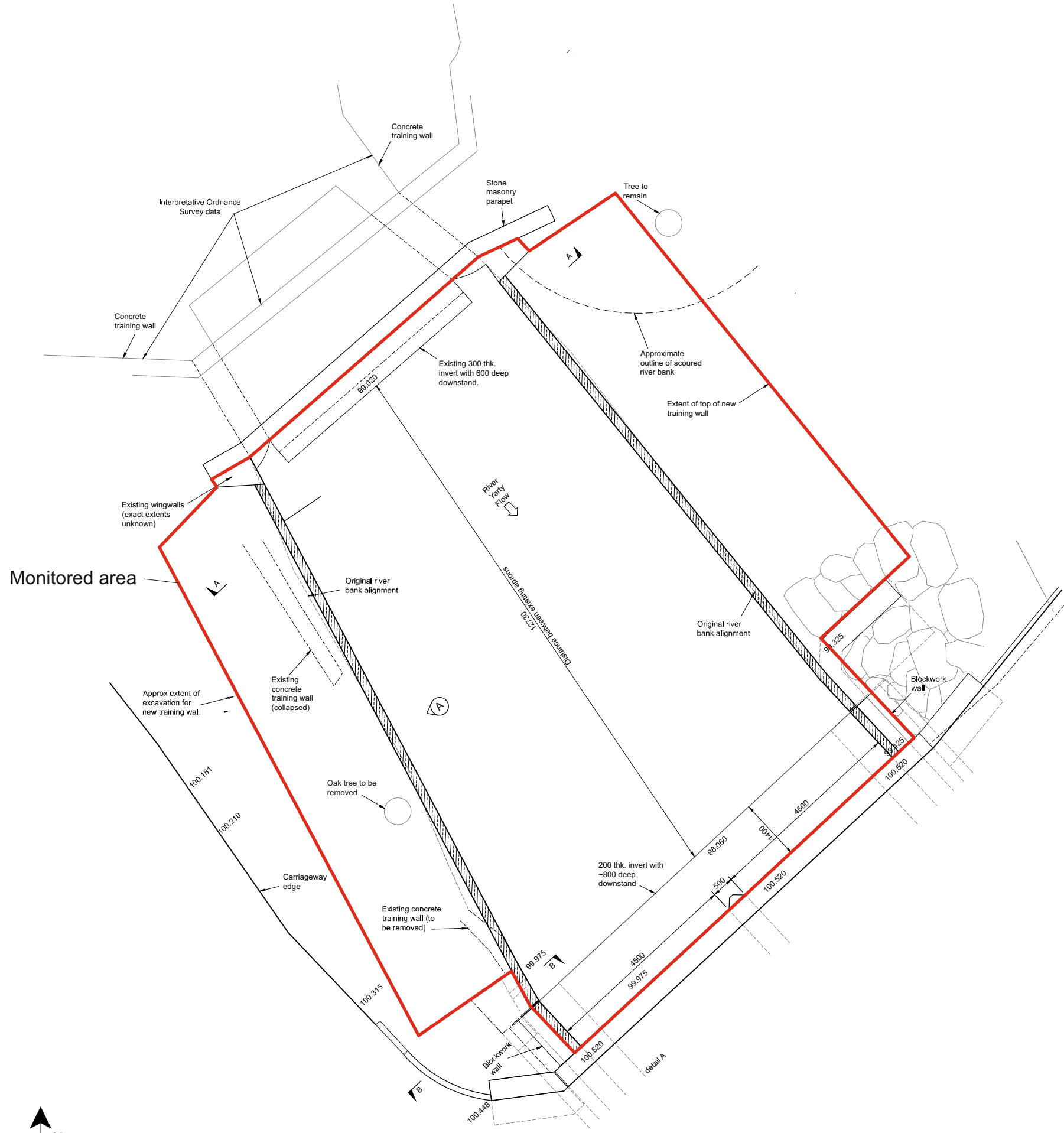
Date: January 2022



archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Dalwood, East Devon	National Grid Reference ST 26518 01480	Number:
Subject: Beckford Bridge, Dalwood, Devon: Results of archaeological monitoring and recording		Photo attached: Plates 1-3
Planning Application no: N/A	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 425410	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD2555	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 9 & 16 August 2021	
<p>Introduction (Fig. 1; Plate 1)</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out by AC archaeology during repair work at Beckford Bridge, Dalwood, Devon (ST 26518 01480). The monitoring was carried out during the installation of retaining walls adjacent to Beckford Bridge following erosion to the riverbank.</p> <p>Beckford Bridge spans the River Yarty some 2km to northeast of Dalwood and sits at the junction between the parishes of Dalwood, Membury and Stockland. The bridge is situated within riverside woodland and is currently used as a footbridge, with it having been replaced by a modern road bridge to the south. The bridge is rubble built, largely of local stone, and has a single segmental arch of ashlar. It is a Scheduled Monument (Heritage List for England reference 1020418) and a Grade-II listed building (1098481) that considered to largely date from the 18th or 19th centuries but incorporates earlier masonry.</p> <p>Nearby find spots of worked flint have been recovered suggesting the presence of prehistoric activity in the surrounding plots. These include a water-worn palaeolithic hand from the River Yarty immediately to the northwest of the bridge. Further evidence for prehistoric occupation in the vicinity of the site ranging from the Mesolithic to Bronze Age periods has been provided by extensive flint scatters recovered from the adjacent fields to the north and south.</p> <p>Results (Fig. 1; Plates 2-3)</p> <p>The monitored groundworks comprised the machine-excavation of both eroded riverbanks immediately to the southeast of Beckford Bridge. The cutting back the riverbanks created level platforms for the installation of new retaining walls. This exposed approximately 1.4m high sections comprised of mid blueish grey and yellowish-brown sandy clay alluvium, which was overlain by a 0.4m thick mid-yellowish brown silty sand topsoil.</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were exposed, and no finds were recovered.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>The groundworks did not expose any further structural elements of the bridge. A simple and consistent undated sequence of alluvial sandy clays was exposed during cutting back for the riverbanks.</p> <p>This report represents the archive for the project.</p>		
Recorder: Laurence Vinnels, AC archaeology		Date sent to HER: 25 January 2022



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PROJECT
 Beckford Bridge, Dalwood,
 Devon
 TITLE
 Fig. 1: Location of site and
 monitored area

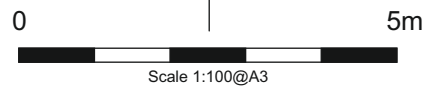




Plate 1: View of Beckford Bridge.
Looking north



Plate 2: General working view
during excavation of southwest
riverbank. View to northwest



Plate 3: Representative section of riverbank
alluvial deposits beneath topsoil.
View to northeast (scale 1m)

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