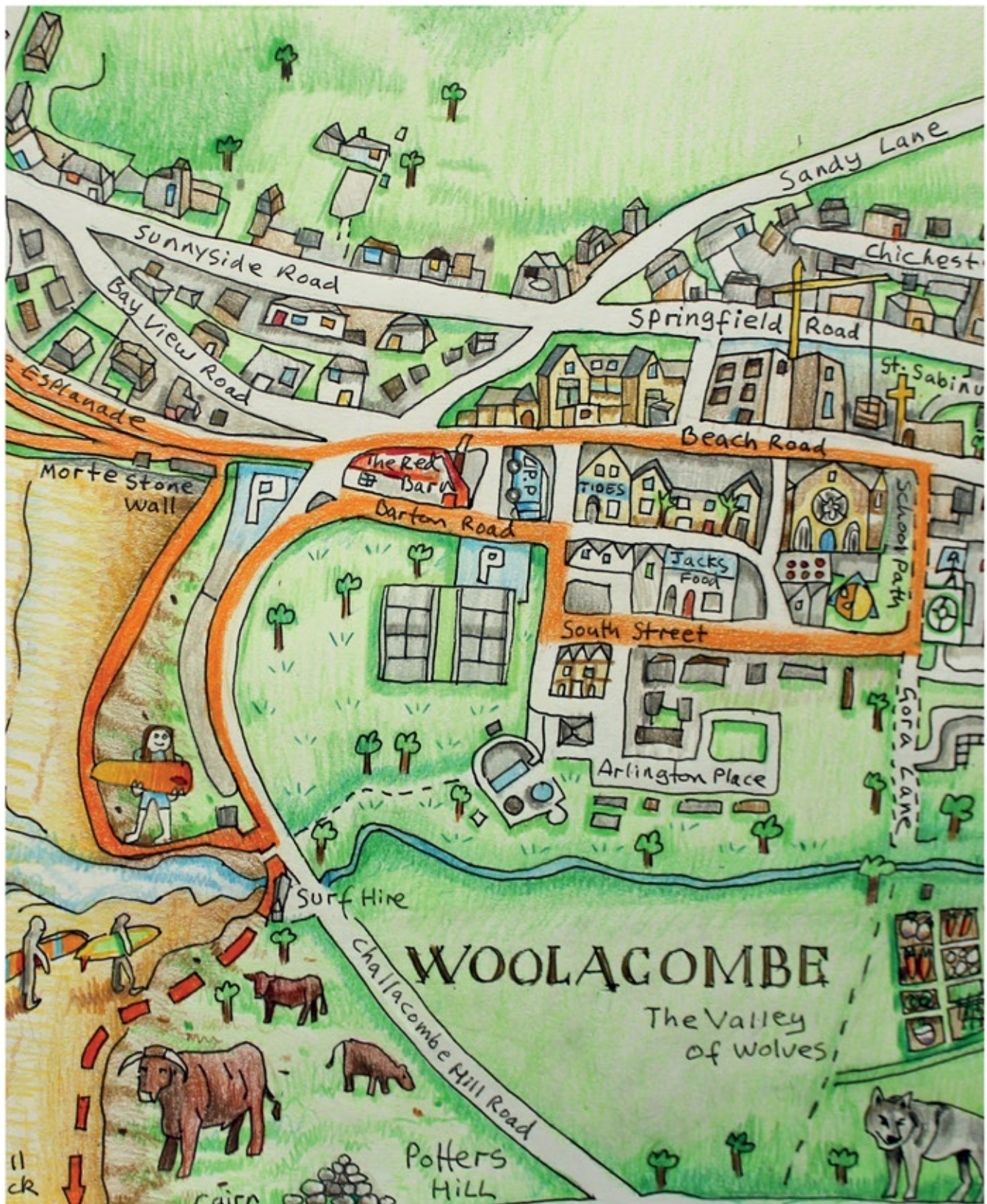


beaford

exploring our land, lives and future

Community Trails Woolacombe



HERE !

Where we find our inspiration.



Girl on beach with rabbit 'mask', Westward-Ho!, August 1973. Documentary photograph by James Ravilious for the Beaford Archive © Beaford Arts

Beaford is a rural arts charity funded by Arts Council England. For over 50 years we have been working in partnership with schools, communities and organisations to deliver creative projects and events across North Devon. By working together we celebrate and take inspiration from the diversity of our rural and coastal landscape. Indeed, the Beaford Archive with its more than 80,000 photographs shows us how deeply we are linked to the environment from its seasonal traditions to the deep rooted farming practices passed down through generations.

This photographic collection has been preserved and made public through the *Hidden Histories* project supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund which digitised 10,000 unseen images taken in the 1970s and 80s by James Ravilious and Roger Deakins. To accompany these photographs a team of staff and volunteers recorded oral histories that document life and events from the memories of those who experienced them. Their stories are added to the archive so that future generations can hear them. We hope you will listen to their voices, look at the photographs, and reflect on the past.

Community Trails did just that through the eyes of the children who live and go to school in North Devon. With them we compared photographs from 1900s onwards to the present day to record and respond with what was important to them, whilst thinking about the future.

We hope you enjoy these trails and that you find inspiration from their work and the Beaford Archive.



WOOLACOMBE

The Valley of wolves!

Sandy Lane
Chickster Park
Springfield Road
St. Sabinus
School Path
Beach Road
Gora Lane
South Street
Arlington Place
Jacks Food
The Red Barn
Darton Road
Surf Hire
Challcombe Mill Road
Potters Hill
Cairn
Mill Rock
The Esplanade
Morte Stone Wall
Sunnyside Road
Bay View Road
Rockfield Road
Barricane Beach
Lundy Ferry
Morte Point

Community Trails

Looking through the eyes of the children from Woolacombe Primary School, and walking in the footsteps of photographers James Ravilious and Roger Deakins, we invite you to follow our Woolacombe Community Trail...

The children of Yr5 invite you to explore the footprints of the past and present in Woolacombe. Look at their work while you walk and learn about the environment through their art and creativity. They have investigated the heritage of the Beaford Archive to create themes such as 'landscape', 'seascape' and 'trade' for you to explore through this trail. Altogether, there are 10,000 newly digitised photographs, and this trail presents you with a local selection to enjoy as you walk.

Organised by Beaford Arts, the children have worked with Devon Wildlife Trust and resident artist Clare Russell to create this work.

You can find these images, downloadable trails, and more photos from across North Devon through www.beaford.org

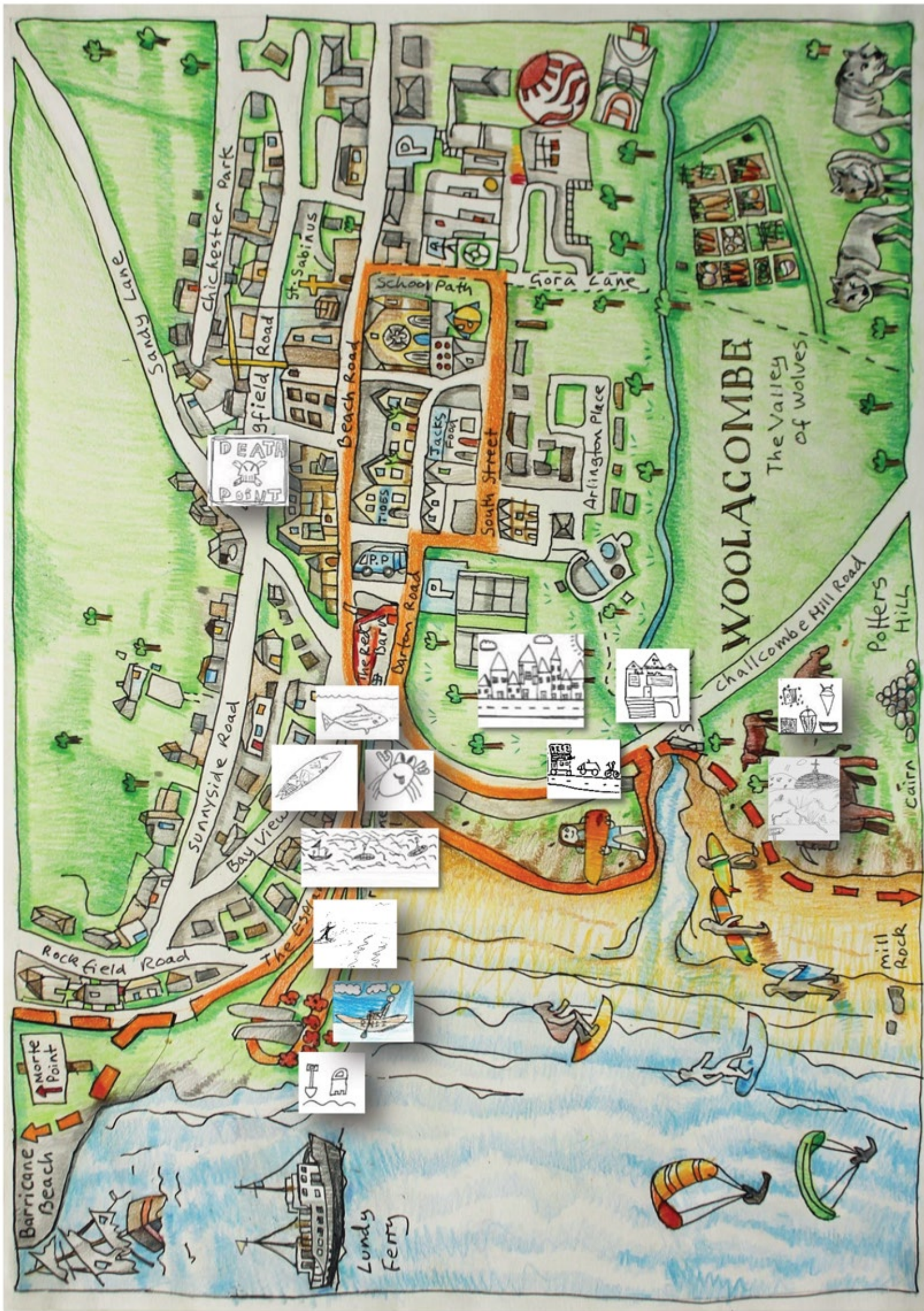
Please join us in looking for continuity and change in this rich and diverse landscape by going out to find the scenes in the photographs of this trail. Why not take a walk in different seasons and see what you can discover by comparing our past and present selection of photographic similarities and differences.

This trail features the photographs and artwork created by all the children inspired by walking in the community.

We hope you enjoy it!

Point of Interest Symbols:

Transport 	Church 
Trade 	Buildings 
Street 	Mortehoe 
Seascape 	Groups 
Events 	Tourism 
RNLI 	Sport 
Species 	Landscape 



WOOLACOMBE

The Valley of Wolves

Sandys Lane

Chichester Park

Giffield Road

St. Sabinus

Beach Road

School Path

Gora Lane

DEATH POINT

TACKS FOOT

South Street

Arlington Place

The Red Barn

Darton Road

Chalcombe Hill Road

Potters Hill

Cairn

mill rock

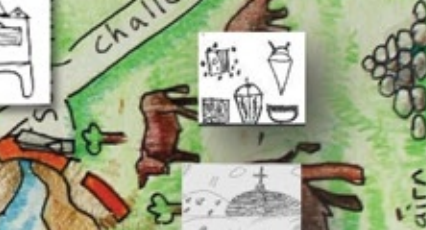
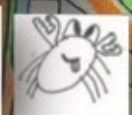
Rockfield Road

The Esplanade

Morte Point

Lundy Ferry

Barricane Beach





Above: Yr5 class weaving & batik featuring in locations throughout the trail. The Batik: framed, St Sabinus church. Find the weaving with a clue after your Batik visit!

At the start of this residency I worked closely with the Beaford artists to create the group backdrops for the children's Points of Interest, and from this initial collaboration I was able to identify which themes to focus on for my work as the artist on the project. These ideas were explored in class art sessions, which then led to the design ideas for the larger pieces.

During the residency I have had the opportunity to work closely with the year 5 children, both as a textile artist and as their regular art teacher. I have also been able to collaborate with the class teacher to really embed the themes from the initial Beaford work into their learning - in art and across the wider curriculum. This flexible approach has meant that the children have been immersed in a creative way of working and have responded in a very positive way to the tasks and activities. These have included collaborative landscape drawing, observational sketching in our local church, working with a National Trust Ranger to learn about and research local species. Literacy was used to extend their thinking about the themes they'd discovered in James Ravillious' photos. This resulted in individual creative projects - exploding origami books, species bunting, mini weaving, habitat collage - and the larger artist-led collaborative textile pieces - a batik banner, felting, and tapestry weaving on a big loom.

A highlight for me was inviting parents, grandparents and members of our community to contribute to a 'Points of Interest' quilt, in which all the themes from the project are represented. The children planned this afternoon, and organised the layout as each square was created.

Throughout the project the children have been highly engaged and have clearly developed as artists and designers - able to contribute with confidence to the collaborative textile pieces and to create their own individual work to a high standard. It was great to see the way they sparked off each other creatively, sharing ideas and reflecting on many aspects of the creative process: composition, colour, use of media, lettering etc. They also developed a much greater ability to self-evaluate and make changes and improvements to their work. The children have been fully engaged, motivated and have all valued the experience of working in this way.

The project has provoked a lot of discussion about what is unique in our community and landscape and we are excited to share this with you.

Clare Russell
June 25th 2018

By Ellie, Daisy & Ruby, aged 9 & 10



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The snake-like streets go on and on...
...What would we do if this place was gone?

By Edie Taylor aged 10

Photographs: Right: 'People, donkeys and carts above Barricane Beach on the old Woolacombe - Morteheo Road', date unknown, from the Beaford Old Archive. Below: responding to the archive & trail, 2018.

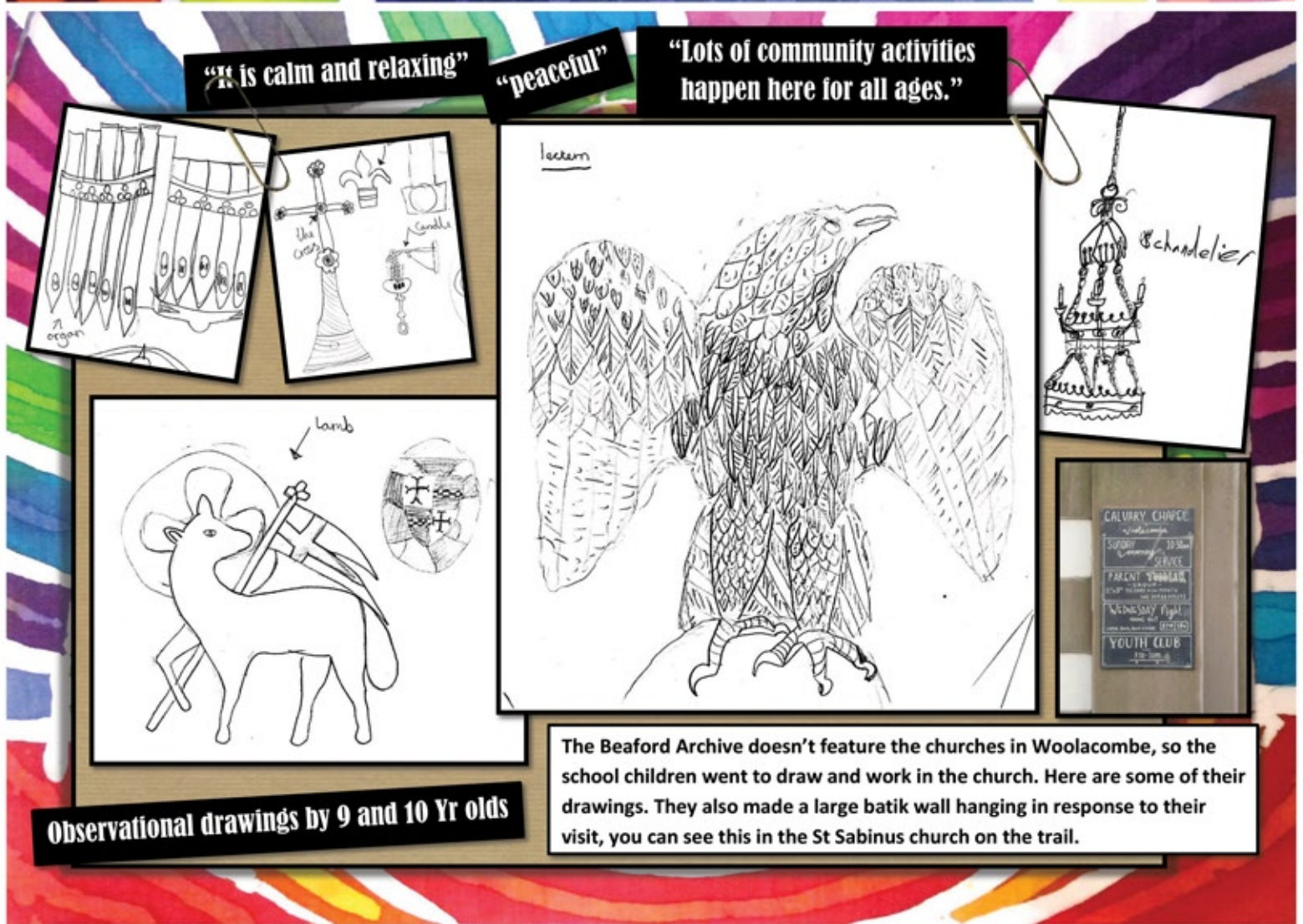


These photographs were taken by James Ravillious for the Beaford Archive on 7th September 1973. Above: 'Car park barrier & attendant' Below: 'Bus on road at Woolacombe'. Look out for what has changed and what has stayed the same.



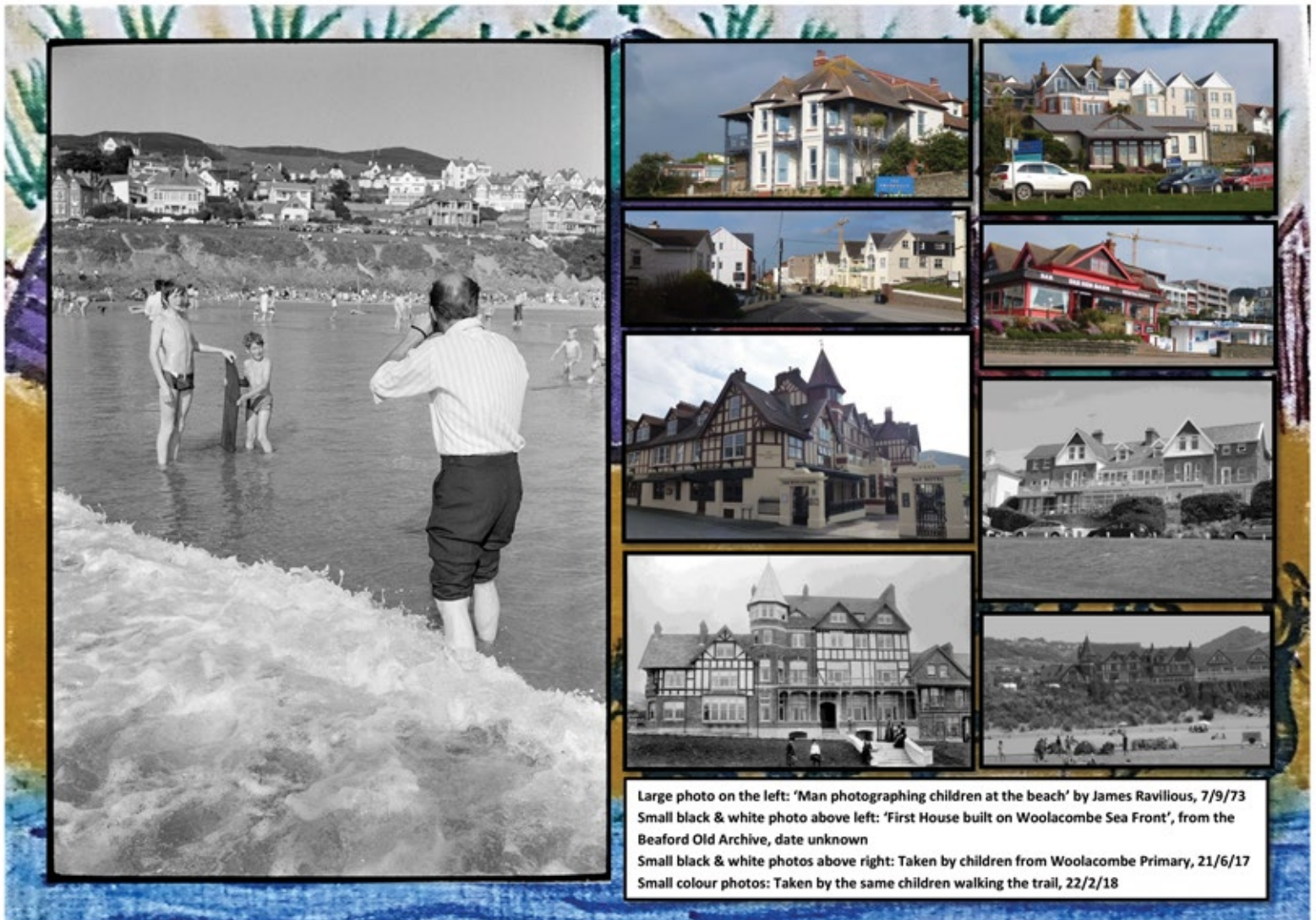
Black and white photo above: 'Bathers on Woolacombe Beach. Note Donkey and Huts on wheels' pre. 1914. (Bathing machines, with one in the car park photographed 2018!)







Small photos: taken in February 2018 by Yr5, Woolcombe Primary School. Artwork: by children and family members working together at school for their 'Community Quilt' (also on exhibition as part of the trail). Large Photo: 'Beach café with amusements, "Stripy" zebra' by James Ravillious for the Beaford Archive, 7th September 1973





Artwork: the Community Quilt and sketchbook art celebrating Woolacombe by Yr5 & their families. Photos: 'Famous streets' by Alice, Edie & Hayley, February 2018.

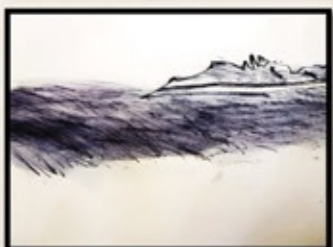


Mortehoe is closely linked to Woolacombe, with a fascinating history between the two (visit tourist information and take a trip to the Mortehoe museum for more). You can continue on to Mortehoe from this trail, taking in **Barricane Beach** on your left, to **Morte Point** with seascape views as you go. Be aware this is quite a long walk for young children and families. We recommend checking the route before embarking on it, or travelling there and enjoying it separately to this trail.

Above left: A colour photograph of the **Morte Stone** wall in Woolacombe taken by Jackson and Mack, February 2018. **Bottom left and top right:** **Pen and sea-wash drawings** by the children from Yr5.

Black and white photography from the Beaford Old Archive: 'St Mary's Church with Horse and cart outside', Mortehoe, date unknown (above). **Left:** 'View of village, Wesleyan Chapel on left (small spire). **Centre left:** St Mary's Church. **Centre right:** Board School. **Small Hut on right, Rocket Hut',** Mortehoe, c.1880. **Below Left:** Chichester Hotel, Mortehoe, date unknown.

Below: Barricane Beach c1914, compared by the children with their photograph **below on the right**, taken in June 2017.





The calm waves
gently washing
over the beach.

The sun was smiling
at the ocean.

A ribbon of
shimmering
water on the sea.

Poetry by Zaiph aged 10

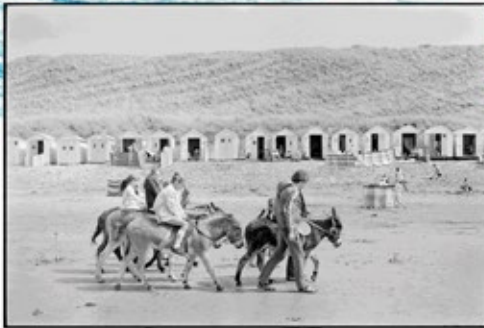


The
breaking waves
swept calmly across
the golden beach moving rocks
and leaving a
trail of
foam
by Zaiph



Above right: 'Holidaymakers on the beach', Woolacombe, 7 September 1973, rated 'Good' by James Ravilious for the Beaford Archive.
Below left: Also by James Ravilious: 'Man & boys walking along beach, with dog', August 1982. Rated 'Fair' and made available for this project as part of the newly digitised 10,000 images from the Beaford Archives.
Above left: By Yr5, February 2017
Below right: 'View of beach, ice-cream van' August 1982 by James Ravilious, rated 'Fair'. All of these images can be seen at beaford.org





These photographs were taken by James Ravillious for the Beaford Archive in August 1982. Above from left to right: 'Donkeys tied to post on the beach, scratching neck', 'Beach scene with donkey rides, beach huts' and 'People on beach, rocks, woman & child'
 Left: 'Seascape with bullocks grazing on hills above beach'



Below left and right: Photographs by Yr5 exploring the breadth of species, the evidence of habitats where creatures can live and feed in Woolacombe and a few we spotted during our trail walk, June 2017.
 Artwork below: Learning about the species that can be seen throughout the seasons and presenting these facts as bunting to teach the whole school. The class worked with Devon Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Beaford Arts, and local artist in residence Clare Russell to investigate, create and present their community research. Funded by Paul Hamlyn Foundation and the Heritage Fund.



What can you spot on your walk?



By Sol, Ryan & Layton, aged 9 & 10



The sea like a swimming pool.
 The rocks ready to climb.
 The wind powering kites and boards.
 The best place to spend time.
 Share your special times @beaford #CommunityTrails



Above Left: 'Boys and Boards' August 1982
Right: 'Holidaymakers on the Beach' 7th September 1973
 Both are by James Ravilious for the Beaford Archive. He classified these as 'Good'.
Below Left: 'People on beach, rocks etc' by James Ravilious made available through this Heritage Lottery Funded project for the digitisation of 10,000 archive photos. The image below is classified by James as 'Fair'. Taken on the same day as the large photograph on the right, you can clearly see the difference between his artistic and documentary style in these images and the reasoning behind his classifications.
Below Right: During this year-long project we used the archive to investigate the community. You can see us at work in the photograph below. Back in the classroom we tried a 'denim filter' for a digital twist to our photographic technique and enjoyed exploring the effect of both colour and black and white, on our photographs; having a debate about what worked best for each. **You try it and see what you think!**

beaford.org



Tennis balls bouncing, golf clubs clatter. Pasty smells fill the air...

We do lots of sport so we don't get fatter!

Time passes by without a care.



Art by Max, Zaiph & Oscar aged 10



Top Left: children on the trail 2018.
Above & Bottom Right: Archive response photos by the children, summer 2018.
Top right: 'Holidaymakers on the Beach' by James Ravillious for the Beaford Archive, 7th September 1973, rated 'Good'.



Above Left: 'Beach scenes, people sitting behind windbreaks & on recliners', August 1982, rated 'Fair' by James Ravillious for the Beaford Archive.



From sand sculpting to sporting competitions and having great fun. There's an event in Woolacombe for everyone!

Photographs: Below right: 'Surf up!' taken by Ollie and Ryan in February 2018. Below Left: 'Children on beach with bathing huts and pool' taken on 7th September 1973 by James Ravilious. He rated it 'Fair' in the Beaford Archive collection. **Artwork left and right:** By the children and families of Yr5 working together on the Community Quilt.

The powerful surfbord skims over the water like a jet ski. The waves are as loud as lightning.

By Ollie aged 10





Photographs Above - Left: 'Ice cream Vendor on the Beach' classified 'Good'. **Right:** 'Queuing for ice-cream' classified 'Fair'. Both were taken by James Ravilious for the Beaford Archive on 7th September 1973. **Middle:** 'Beach scene, wind-break, wet & windy weather', August 1982, classified 'Fair'. **Photographs Below - Right:** 'Surfers and Bathers' 7th September 1973, by James Ravilious for the Beaford Archive, rated 'Good'. **Middle:** 'Tourists?' Summer 2017 taken by the children of Class 4. **Left:** 'Man and his daughter wading in the sea. Dress hats' Mr Blackmore (Probably) & Daisy Blackmore, 8th August 1923 from the Beaford Old Archive. **What magic moments and photographic angles can you capture on camera? Share them with us @beaford**





By Thurstan & Ripley, aged 9 & 10

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Potter's HILLS AN UNDISTURBED SANCTUARY THE GRASS IS WET AND The sheep bleat, you can hear them blossom flowers. Blossomed flowers.



Left: 'View of coast and Woolacombe Bay Hotel'
Date unknown, from the Beaford Old Archive and Ilfracombe Museum.

Below Left & Middle: 'View of Potters Hill and the Woolacombe Bay Hotel' February 2018

Middle & Below: Landscape views 2018

Below Right: 'View of the allotments' by the Gora Lane footpath. (Seen towards the end of this trail.) February 2018. You will certainly have noticed Potters Hill on your travels around Woolacombe!



It isn't without hard work, passion and enjoyment that projects like this thrive. With the creativity of all involved, and the organisation, dedication, and support of many from the school and community to make this a success, together we are delighted to present the Woolacombe Community Trail.

It is with heartfelt thanks to all involved - experts, artists of all ages and every community member who helped – that we share these unseen images from the Beaford Archive with you. They are a testament to James Ravilious's eighteen years of work documenting North Devon for future generations. They are for all of us.

We encourage your involvement, so please enjoy walking this trail to explore it and respond to it through our website: www.beaford.org and on social media @beaford #CommunityTrails

The map was designed by artist Rob Turner and this document by Caroline Preston, Arts Education Leader at Beaford Arts, to celebrate the outstanding work of the children. We hope it inspires you.



HERITAGE FUND

phf Paul Hamlyn Foundation



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The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development:
Europe investing in rural areas



Devon Wildlife Trust



This project has been supported by the North Devon Coast AONB Sustainable Development Fund

Fullbrook CIC
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Funding Community Projects in North Devon



THE END!

OR IS IT THE BEGINNING?!

Now it's in your hands, share with us your responses:

www.beaford.org @beaford #CommunityTrails



For your notes and responses:

For your notes and responses:






Chulmleigh Fair, July 1972. Documentary photograph by Roger Deakins for the Beaford Archive © Beaford Arts



Archive event at Hatherleigh Community Centre

be adventurous

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