Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Ottery St Mary, East Devon	National Grid Reference: SY 0983 9546		Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording on land behind No. 11 Silver Street, Ottery St Mary, Devon. Photo attached: Y			
Planning Application no: 16/0205/FULL		Recipient museu n/a	m:
OASIS ID: oakforda1-279621		Museum Referen	ice no:
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1394		Dates fieldwork 08/03, 09/03 and	

Description of works:

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology in March 2017 on land behind No. 11 Silver Street, Ottery St Mary, Devon (SY 0986 9547). The work was required by East Devon District Council (EDDC) as advised by the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).

The site (Fig. 1) lies on the western edge of the historic town of Ottery St Mary. It is thought that the original settlement grew up around the church of St Mary where four routeways converged. The medieval burgage plots are still clearly visible running at right-angles to Silver Street, defining long narrow property strips of generally similar length.

Results:

A watching brief (Fig. 1) was maintained during the construction of a new dwelling at the rear of No 11 Silver Street. Prior to the main building works starting the entire site was reduced to the level of the natural subsoil. This identified successive layers of cultivation soil. The groundworks exposed a midyellowish sandy clay natural subsoil (100) at a depth of 1.75m below current ground level. This was overlain by a 0.65m thick mid-reddish brown sandy clay subsoil (101). Overlying this was a 0.75m thick mid to dark brown loamy topsoil (102). This was in turn sealed by 0.35m of modern made ground (103).

The removal of these overlying deposits failed to identify any earlier features or structures.

Finds:

by John Allan

In total there are 48 sherds weighing 1181g that are medieval in character. All of these were recovered from the topsoil (102). They consist of a single sherd of Dorset-type sand-tempered coarseware from a flat dish (13th-14th century) and 47 sherds of South Somerset coarseware from 1 vessel (late 15th-16th century).

The post-medieval pottery, consisting of 24 sherds (total weight 422g) and recovered from the topsoil (102), consists of six sherds of South Somerset Donyatt-type pottery (16th century), a single sherd of Surrey or Hampshire border ware (late 16th-17th century), six sherds of South Somerset coarsewares (17th-18th century), a single sherd of English or Dutch Delft ware (late 17th-early 18th century), 10 sherds of early 19th century Staffordshire white ware. A single Exeter type clay pipe bowl (1680-1710) and 6 clay pipe stems (17th-18th century) were also present.

OASIS entry

Due to the limited nature of the findings a project archive will not be produced. A summary of the investigations has been submitted to the on-line archaeological database OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological InterventionS).

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)	

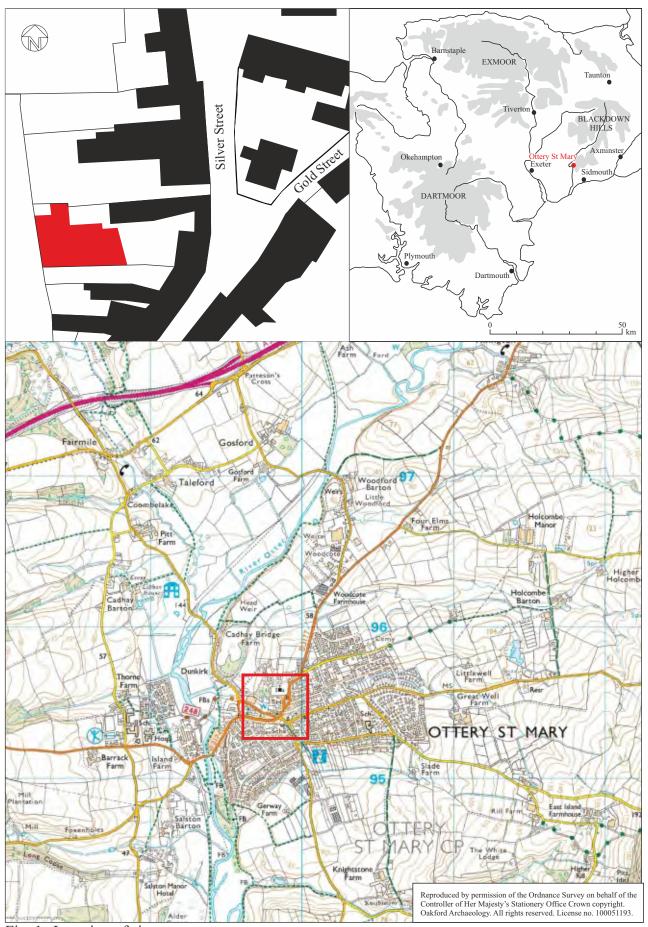


Fig. 1 Location of site.



Pl. 1 General view of reduced area showing natural subsoil (100). 1m scale. Looking west.



Pl. 2 Section showing deposit sequence. 1m scale. Looking north.