

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Ringmore, South Hams	National Grid Reference: SX 6523 4601	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording on land at Higher Manor Farm, Ringmore, Devon.		Photo attached: Y
Planning Application no: 2342/18/FUL	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-395648	Museum Reference no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1691	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 22/06 & 29/09/2020	
<p>Background</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology for the client in June and September 2020 on works associated with the construction of a new house on land at Higher Manor Farm, Ringmore, Devon (SX 6523 4601). The work was required by South Hams District Council (SHDC), as advised by the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>The site (Fig. 1) lies in an area of archaeological potential immediately to the north of the Grade II* Listed parish church of All Hallows. The site is located in the centre of the historic village of Ringmore, a settlement of possible Saxon origin and recorded in the 1086 Domesday survey as '<i>Reimore</i>'.</p> <p>Description of the works</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during the terracing of the site and the excavation of the foundations (Fig. 2, pls. 1-2). The works entailed the excavation of an area of terracing approximately 18m long and 13m wide to a maximum depth of 2.10m. In addition, a 14.5m length of foundation trench was monitored at the western end of the development where the ground was not affected by the terracing and a trial hole for the soakaway test. The works revealed a simple deposit sequence extending across the whole site. This exposed shale natural subsoil (100) at a depth of 0.85m below current ground level. This was overlain by a 0.55m thick mid reddish-brown silty clay colluvial subsoil (101) which was in turn sealed below a mid to dark brown silty clay topsoil (102).</p> <p>A very small collection of archaeological material was recovered from the topsoil, consisting of a single sherd of South Somerset coarseware (18th-19th century), 6 sherds of 19th and early 20th centuries industrial whitewares and a single clay pipe stem (19th century).</p> <p>Conclusion:</p> <p>No deposits, features or dating evidence indicative of archaeological activity was found. The lack of pottery and other artefacts from the site, despite examination of spoil heaps, further indicates that the site is archaeologically sterile. This is the only report on these works.</p> <p>OASIS entry</p> <p>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).</p>		
Recorder: M. Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)		Date sent to HER:



Fig. 1 Location of site.

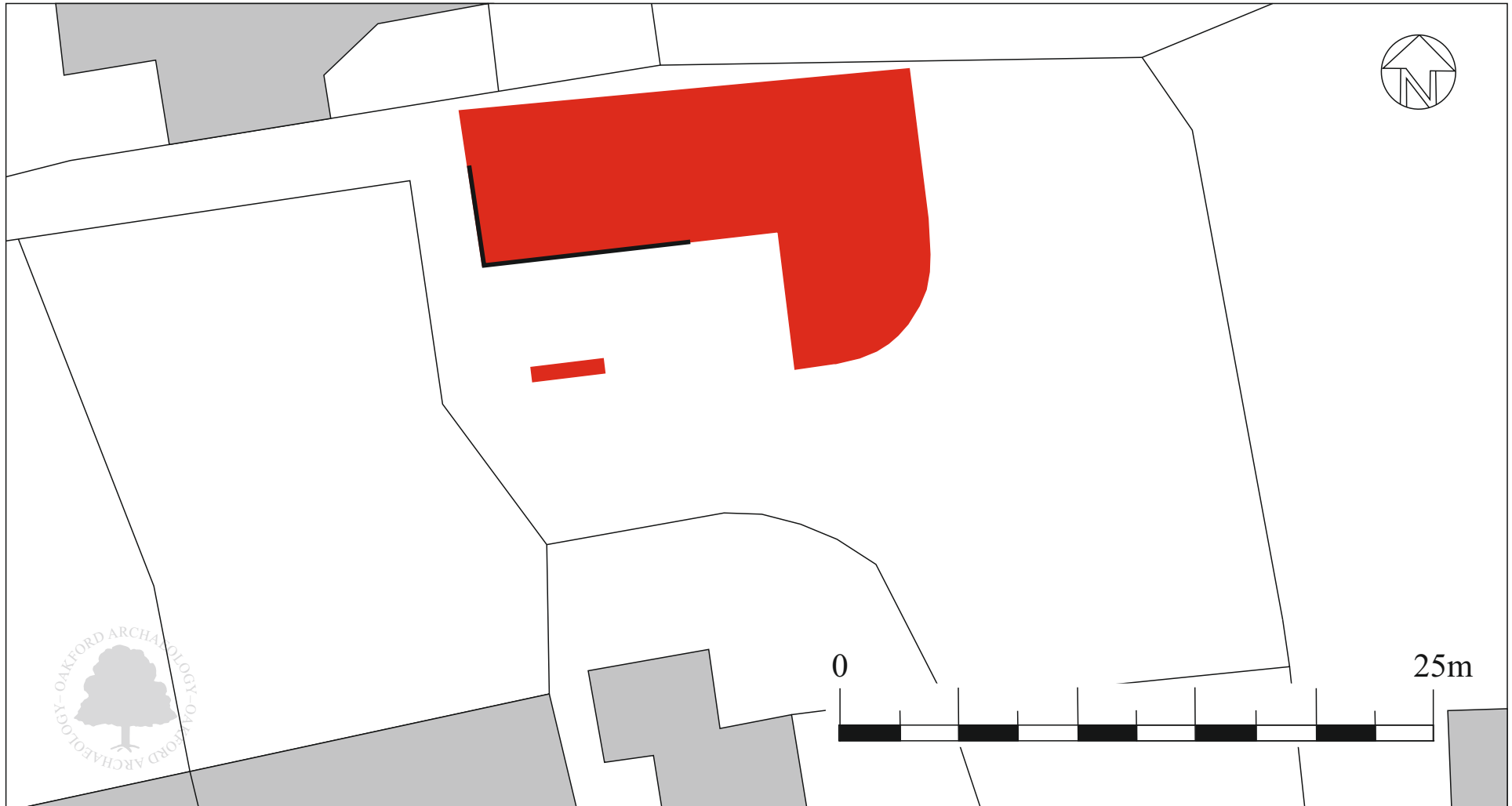


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of observations.



Pl. 1 General view of excavations showing depth of terracing (background) and shallow nature of foundation trenching at western edge. Looking northeast.



Pl. 2 Sample section showing depth of deposits. 2m scale. Looking north.