## Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Great Torrington	National Grid Reference SS 48731855		Number:	
Subject: 38 Taddiport, Great Torrington				Photo attached? Yes
Planning Application no: 1/0264/2008/FUL		Recipient museum: North Devon District Museum, Barnstaple		
<b>OASIS ID</b> : 58128		Museum Accession no: NDDMS 2002.103		
Contractor's reference number/code:		Dates fieldwork u	nderta	ıken:
EA6698		24/10/2008		

## Description of works.

A watching brief was carried out on groundworks in advance of the construction of a new access/driveway.

The site lies within the historic core of Taddiport, a known Domesday settlement. It is located within the south of the hamlet just beyond the river Torrington (Fig. 1). The site is contained within a long thin stretch of land demarcated to the south and west by a sloping tree-lined bank and to the north by property No. 36. Contained within the site are the remains of two buildings; an agricultural barn and a domestic dwelling (cottage?). Both of these structures are indicated on an 1839 tithe map and 1904 O.S. map, the barn represented as a stand-alone structure while the 'cottage' appears to have been a large building amalgamated with No. 36. The most prominent remains of the 'cottage' are located immediately to the south of the groundworks and comprise an east-west aligned stone wall containing a gable fireplace and associated oven.

The works comprised the ground reduction of an area measuring  $16m^2$ , located at the western end of the site. The maximum depth excavated was 0.2m in the east rising to 0.05m in the west. The uppermost deposit consisted of fragmentary stone intermixed with disturbed topsoil measuring 0.1m thick. Underlying this were the remains of an E-W aligned wall, and on the north side a 0.1m deep cobbled, presumably internal, surface (Fig. 2). The wall was partially exposed, to a maximum height of 0.1m, measuring  $0.75m \times 0.5m$  in plan, and was constructed of an irregularly coursed mudstone type stone bonded by a light yellow to brown coarse clayey sand combined with a lime mortar. The wall had been cut into a light brown sandy clay natural subsoil.

Although no stratified evidence was recovered from the excavated area, a number of unstratified *c*.1500 to early 19th-century North Devon type pottery fragments, including a single sherd of Portuguese faience tin-glazed ware, were collected from the existing ground surface immediately to the west and south.

Both the wall and cobbled surface are probably structural elements associated with the upstanding remains of the former 'cottage' building. The layer sealing both these is probably derived from the demolition of the building sometime during the 20th century.

No significant archaeological deposits or features were observed.

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
Paul Jones, Exeter Archaeology	15.4.09

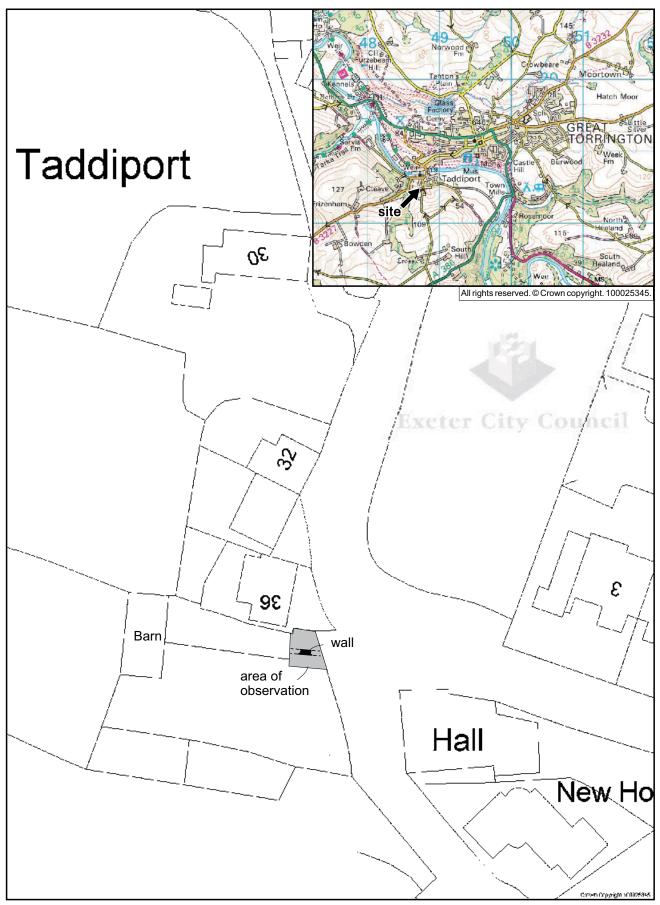


Fig. 1 Location of site indicating area of observation and exposed wall. Scale 1:500.



Fig. 2 Plate showing exposed E-W aligned wall, looking west. 1m scale.