

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Kingsbridge	National Grid Ref. SX 7334 4480	Number:
Subject: Archaeological trench evaluation at The Old Nurseries, Kingsbridge, Devon.		Photo attached? Yes
Planning Application no: South Hams District Council 28/2466/07/F	Recipient museum: Plymouth City Museum	
OASIS ID: 39823	Museum Accession no: AR.2008.12	
Contractor's reference number/code: EA6421	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 19 March 2008	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>An archaeological trench evaluation at the Old Nurseries, Kingsbridge, was undertaken by Exeter Archaeology on behalf of Mr J. Moore. The Old Nurseries lies at the north end of the historic town of Kingsbridge. The nearest known archaeological site is the remains of a medieval manor house, located less than 200m to the east, while the pattern along the north side of Fore Street of houses, with narrow street frontages and long back closes, is typically medieval in character. The site is shown as an orchard by 1841, with a property and nurseries added by 1885.</p> <p>The trench evaluation comprised the machine-excavation of two trenches, with Trench 1 8m long and Trench 2 18m. Each trench was 2m wide. Trench positions were agreed with the South Hams Archaeology and Historic Environment Officer prior to commencement on site, although Trench 2 was moved east of its intended position because of the presence of a large spoilheap. The positions of trenches as excavated are shown on Fig. 1.</p> <p>Results</p> <p>The layer sequence revealed by the trenching typically consisted of the following and is shown on Plate 1:</p> <p>0-0.7m – friable mid brown silty clay loam (topsoil) 0.7-1.1m – friable mid red brown silty clay (subsoil) 1.1m+ - loose mid red pink slates and clay (natural subsoil)</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>No features or dating evidence was found to indicate post-medieval or earlier archaeological activity within the site. The remains of a 20th-century greenhouse, shown on the 1955 Ordnance Survey map, were uncovered running parallel with Trench 1 (Plate 2).</p>		
Recorder: M. Steinmetzer, Exeter Archaeology	Date sent to HER: 27th March 2008	

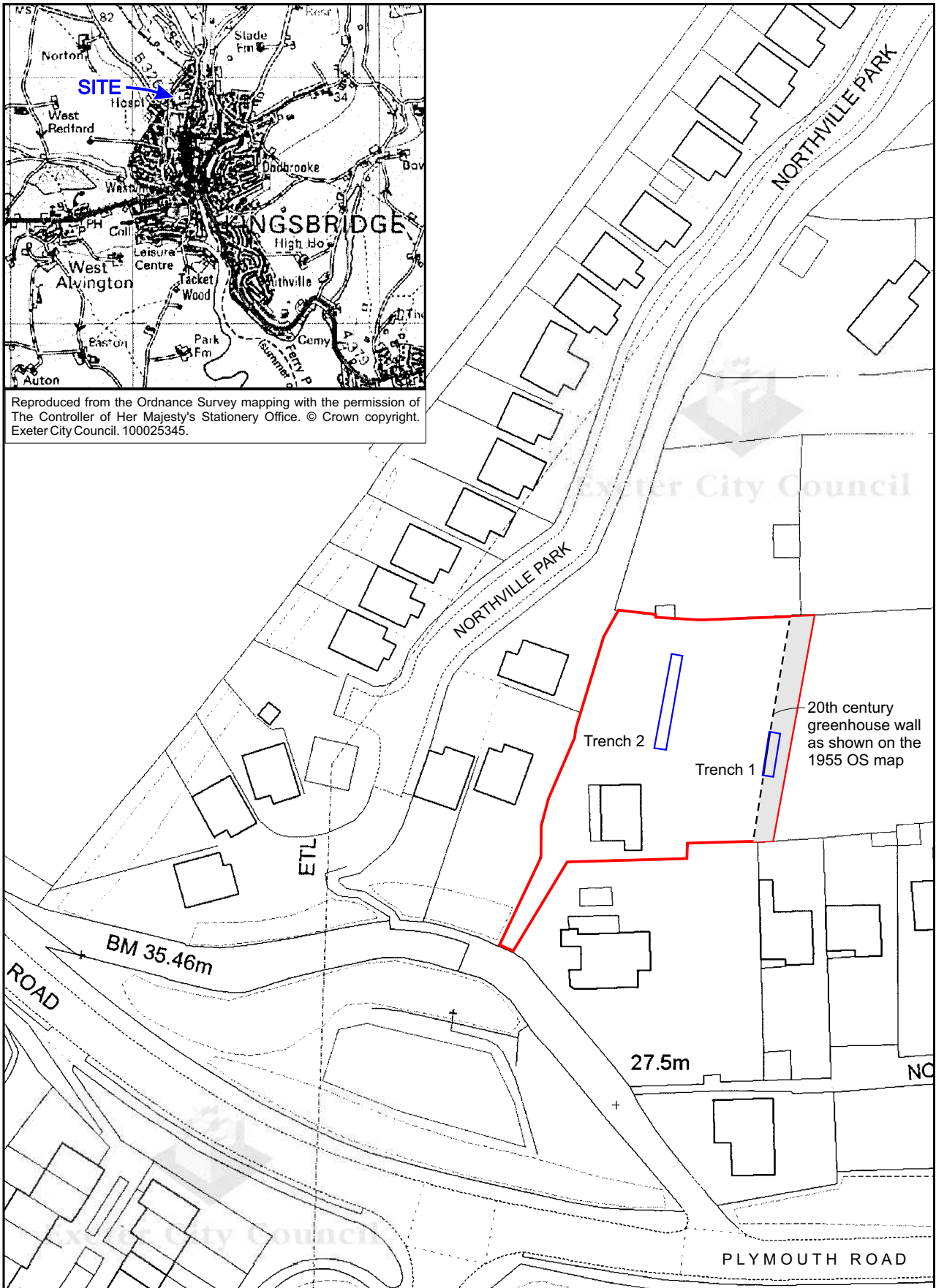


Fig. 1 Location of site and trenches. Scale 1:1000 @ A4.



Plate 1 General view of Trench 1, looking south-west.



Plate 2 General view of 20th-century greenhouse foundations, looking north-west.