

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Kingswear, South Hams	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SX 8952 5156	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological observation and recording at Mount Ridley Road, Kingswear, South Hams		<b>Photo attached:</b> N
<b>Planning Application no:</b> <b>DCCHEs Ref No. Arch/ut/sh/13777</b>	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Royal Albert Memorial Museum	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 78941	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> 151/2010	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b>  EA 6659	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b>  2/10/08-6/10/08	
<p><b>Background</b></p> <p>The following presents a summary report on archaeological observations and recording carried out on mains water rehabilitation works on the west side of Mount Ridley Road, Kingswear, near Dartmouth. The main pipeline runs from Boohay Reservoir to Kingswear parallel and to the west of Mount Ridley Road. The Devon County Council Historic Environment Record holds details of crop-marks (suggested to be evidence of a possible prehistoric double-ditched enclosure), about 340m SW of Boohay Reservoir on the east side of Mount Ridley Road. As a result the Devon County Council Historic Environment Service (DCCHEs) requested archaeological monitoring and recording of the works undertaken to expose sections of the water main where these were to occur in the vicinity of the suspected archaeological features (DCCHEs Ref Arch/ut/sh/13777).</p> <p><b>Description of works</b></p> <p>Three investigative pits were dug on the course of the pipeline (see Fig.1) at intervals of between 100-120m to allow the main water-pipe to be scraped and re-lined. These pits were monitored and although no archaeological features were recorded a record was made of the exposed soils and undisturbed natural deposits (see below).</p> <p><b>Results:</b></p> <p><i>Pit 1</i> 1.5m E/W by 2m N/S 1.3m deep. The deposit sequence was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.0-300mm. Dark grey brown, friable, loam topsoil and turf.</li> <li>• 300-500mm. Strong brown, moderate compaction, silt/clay subsoil, with frequent fractured shale shards.</li> <li>• 500mm-1.30m+. Undisturbed shale bedrock.</li> </ul> <p><i>Pit 2</i> 2.3m E/W by 5m N/S by 1.2m deep. The deposit sequence was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.0-250mm. Dark grey brown, friable, loam topsoil and turf.</li> <li>• 250mm-450mm. Strong brown, moderate compaction, silt/clay subsoil, with frequent fractured shale shards.</li> <li>• 450mm-1.20m+. Undisturbed shale bedrock.</li> </ul> <p><i>Pit 3</i> 2.6m E/W by 1.6m N/S by 1.4m deep. The deposit sequence was as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 0.0-150mm. Dark grey brown, friable, loam topsoil and turf.</li> <li>• 150mm-400mm. Strong brown, moderate compaction, silt/clay subsoil, with frequent fractured shale shards.</li> <li>• 400mm-1.40m+. Undisturbed shale bedrock.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conclusion:</b></p> <p>No archaeological features were exposed within any of the three observed pits. Three fragments of late 19<sup>th</sup> –early 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery were retrieved and later discarded.</p>		

**Recorder:**

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**Date sent to HER:**