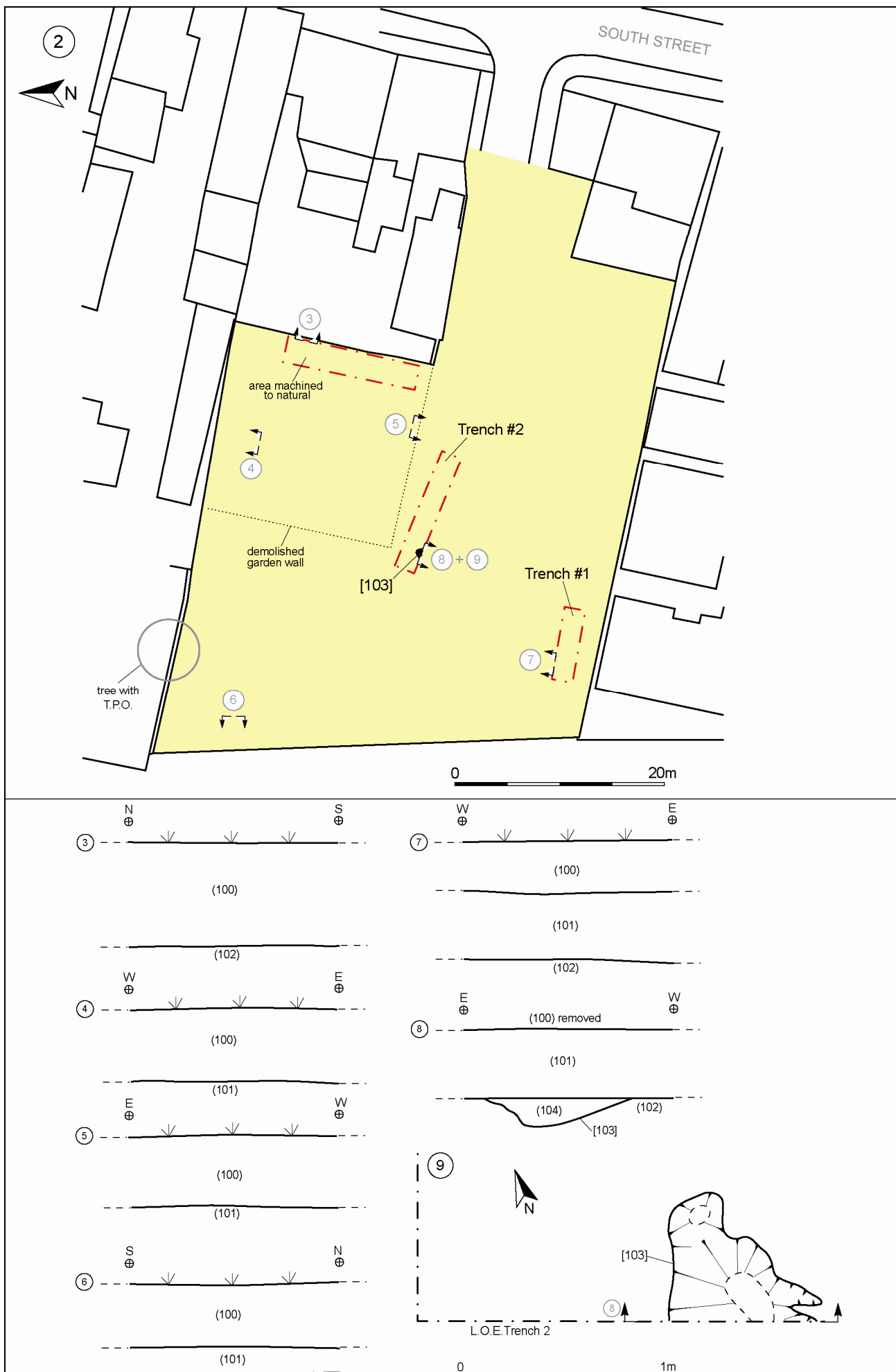


Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Braunton, North Devon	National Grid Reference SS 48740 36492	Number:
Subject: Erection of 14 dwellings and 1 flat over new access building together with demolition of 18 South Street, Braunton, Devon		Photo attached? YES
Planning Application no: 51029	Recipient museum: MBND	
OASIS ID: Southwes1-128394	Museum Accession no: NDMS 2012.10	
Contractor's reference number/code: BSS12	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 27 th & 29 th November 2012	
<p>Description of Works: South West Archaeology Ltd. monitored the removal of topsoil across the area subject to the proposed development (land at 18 South Street, Braunton, Devon - see Figures 1 & 2; Photos 1 & 2). A building (no.18) flanking South Street scheduled for demolition was previously recorded by Exeter Archaeology in 2008 (Passmore 2008). It became clear during the strip that the proposed depth of formation lay within the modern topsoil, so two evaluation trenches were opened. Trench #1 lay adjacent to the location of the proposed buildings; Trench #2 lay along the proposed access road. All groundworks were undertaken by a mechanical excavator using a 1.8m wide toothless grading bucket under strict archaeological supervision.</p> <p>Site Stratigraphy: (see Figures 3-8; Photos 1, 4, 5) 0.00-0.25m garden soil (100); dark brownish-grey, friable clay-silt with occasional small rounded stones and charcoal flecks. Finds included 18th-20th century pottery, plastic, CBM, glass and asbestos. 0.25-0.57m subsoil (101); mid yellowish-brown, soft silt-clay with occasional small sub-rounded stones. Very clean on the eastern half of the site, very dirty with modern disturbance (demolished sheds and associated pits/postholes) on the western half of the site; only occasional charcoal flecks and modern disturbance in the south-west corner. Finds as above. 0.57+m; natural (102); light yellowish-brown, compact clay with moderate gravel and medium stones occurring in bands across the middle of the site, more frequently in the south-west of the site.</p> <p>An initial area 13x2m in the north-west corner of the site was excavated to natural, within what had once been a walled area of garden, and modern pits and refuse were evident in this area. The depth of excavation then continued to formation level, leaving at least 0.32m of soil (101) obscuring any evidence of archaeological deposits relating to Medieval Braunton. It showed evidence for modern cuts such (e.g. recently demolished sheds and walls).</p> <p>Two trenches (7x1.8m and 12x1.8m) (see Figures 2, 7, 8; Photos 3-6) were then opened on the eastern half of the site. The soils on this half of the site were extremely clean and revealed no definitive archaeological features. A single irregular feature [103] was identified at the south-west end of Trench #2, probably generated by the roots of a truncated treebole (0.7m wide, 0.6m+ in length and 0.13m deep) (see Figures 8 & 9; Photo 5). It contained a single fill (104), a light yellowish-brown friable silt-clay, with rare charcoal flecks and one abraded scrap of North Devon Medieval coarseware.</p> <p>Finds A small assemblage of material was recovered during the topsoil strip. This included 834g pottery, of which the majority by count were white refined earthenwares post 1720 (22 sherds, 254g), although the majority by weight were the North Devon gravel-tempered post-medieval wares (10 sherds, 497g). There were two sherds of North Devon Medieval coarseware (36g), a sherd of Mottled Ware (13g), and a good partial early 19th century clay pipe bowl (9g). A sample of this material was retained for the archive.</p>		
A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.		
Recorder: J. Bampton		Date sent to HER: 18.12.12

Please email completed form to: archaeol@devon.gov.uk or post to County Archaeology Service, Environment Directorate, Matford Lane Offices, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QW. Information recorded on this form will be added to the Historic Environment Record, and made available to all researchers.
 Any plans or photographs embedded within or attached to this form remain the copyright © of the recorder, and must not be reproduced in any publication without the explicit consent of the copyright holder.



Figures 2-9: Site plan, location of trenches, sample sections and partial plan of Trench #2.



Photo 1: Sample Section 2, looking north-west (scale 1m).



Photo 2: Eastern half of site, showing disturbed subsoil, looking south (scale 1m).



Photo 3: Trench #1: post-excavation, looking south-west (scale 1m & 2m).



Photo 4: Trench #1 sample section, looking north-west (scale 1m).

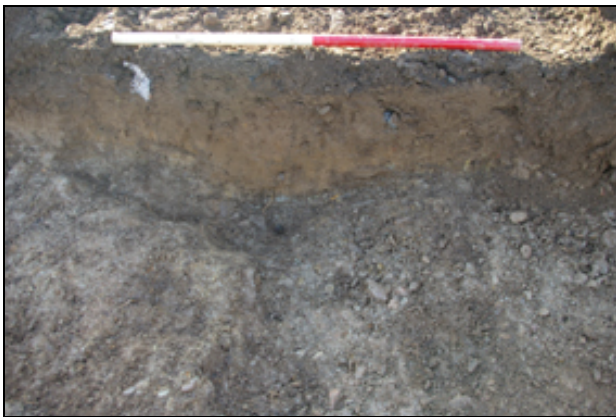


Photo 5: Feature [103] and Trench #2 sample section, looking south-east (scale 1m).



Photo 6: Trench 2: post-excavation, looking north-east (scale 1m).