

THE OLD COACHING INN, QUEEN STREET, SOUTH MOLTON DEVON

Results of a Desk-Based Appraisal
& Archaeological Evaluation



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The Old Coaching Inn, South Molton

**The Old Coaching Inn, Queen Street,
South Molton, Devon**

Archaeological Evaluation

For

Shaun Watts

of

PWH Associates (Barnstaple) Ltd. (The Client)

By



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February 2013

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Summary

This report presents the results of a desk-based appraisal and archaeological evaluation trenching carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) on land to the rear of The Old Coaching Inn, Queen Street, South Molton, Devon on the 14th and 15th of February 2013.

Two evaluation trenches were excavated and revealed four ditches, two rectangular pits, six postholes and a cobbled pathway. It also revealed a substantial depth of made ground across the site of post-medieval and modern events. Two of the ditches were parallel and dated to the medieval period with a third ephemeral ditch is probably of the same date. Four of the postholes, aligned east-west, had identical characteristics, and were also dated to the medieval period. The footpath was dated to the post-medieval period but predated the majority of the made ground layers deposited in the post-medieval to modern period. All the other features were at least 20th century in date.

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Sally Cotton
Terry Green

1.0 Introduction

Location: The Old Coaching Inn
Parish: South Molton
District: North Devon
County: Devon
NGR: SS 7128 2583

1.1 Project Background

This report presents the results of a desk-based appraisal and archaeological evaluation carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) of a site to the rear of The Old Coaching Inn, Queen Street, South Molton, Devon (Figures 1-2). The work was commissioned by Shaun Watts of PWH Associates (Barnstaple) Ltd. (the Client) and in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Appendix 2) devised in accordance with a brief (Appendix 1) supplied by Stephen Reed of the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).

The desk based appraisal and evaluation were carried out in order to establish the survival of below ground archaeological deposits and inform decisions for any further archaeological mitigation that may be required prior to the development of the site for eight dwellings.

1.2 Topographical and Geological Background

The location of the proposed development is to the rear of The Old Coaching Inn on Queen Street, South Molton. It is situated on a levelled area at a height of about 135m (AOD). In part it comprises the existing tarmac car park to the pub and some residential parking. The majority of the site is an allotment area penned in by a retaining wall with some derelict remains of 20th century structures. The land is level from the site running north and east toward Queen Street and the town proper. Beyond the retaining wall to the west and southwest of the site the land immediately falls away due to both a natural slope and some terracing of the land northeast of the towns Hospital (see Figure 1).

The underlying rocks fall within the Bude Formation of mudstone and siltstone formed in the Carboniferous Period (BGS Viewer 2013). The soils of this area are typically the well drained fine loamy soils of the Denbigh 2 or Neath Association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

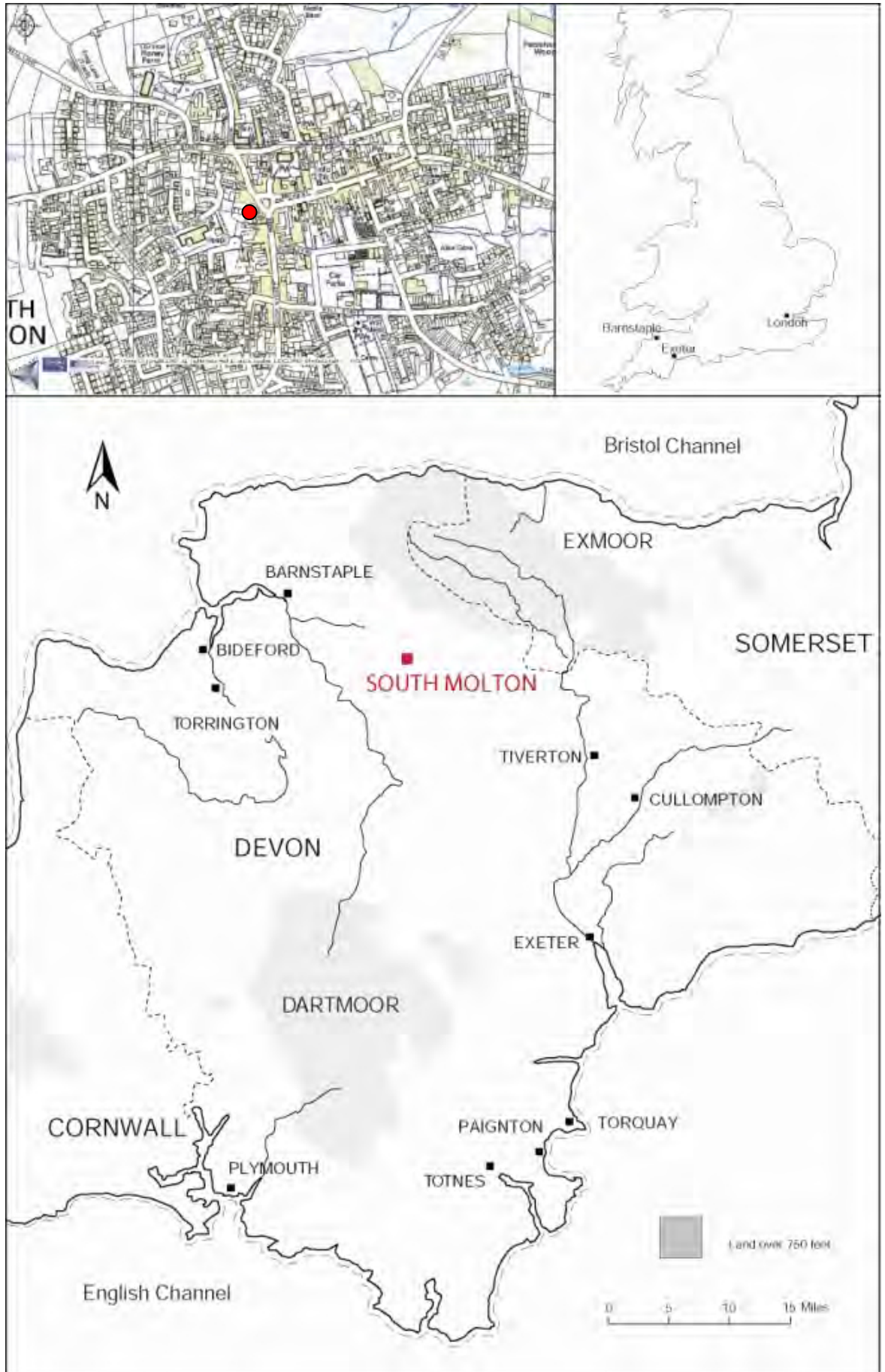


Figure 1: Location Map. The site is indicated.

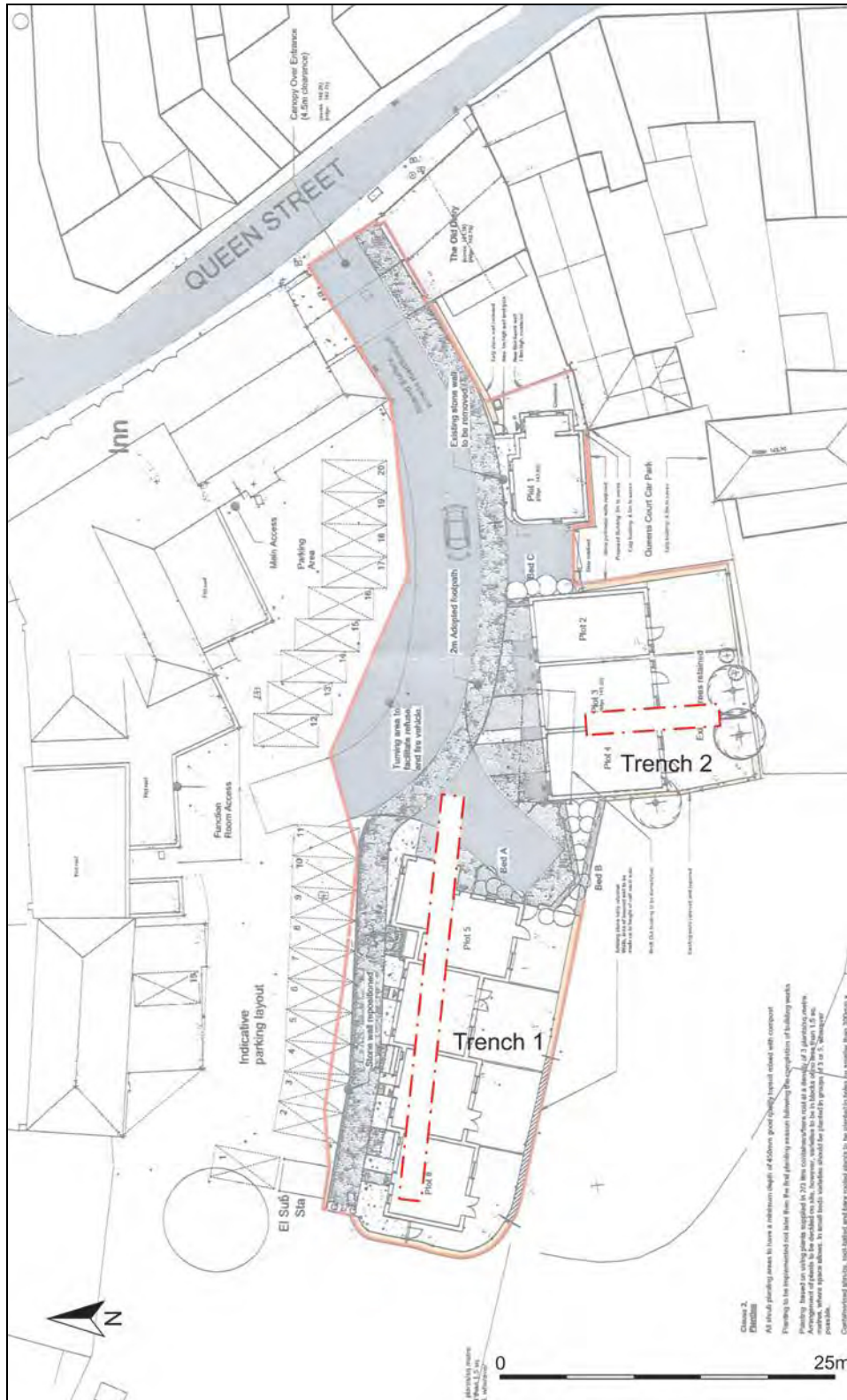


Figure 2: Location of the evaluation trenches in relation to the proposed development.

1.3 Historical Background

South Molton originated as the centre of an Anglo-Saxon estate with an important church and extensive field system. Against this background, the borough of South Molton was created in the 12th century. The prosperity of the borough relied on the woollen trade and through the

marketing of livestock. Prosperity declined in the 19th century and was modestly restored in the later 20th century.

As noted South Molton acquired a borough charter in the late 12th century (Beresford and Finberg 1973, 98), and was granted a fair in 1327. Numerous boroughs were created in this period, principally with the purpose of boosting manorial incomes. The scheme was to concentrate the freemen of the manor in a settlement consisting of a wide main street with long, narrow burgage plots stretching out either side. The street would be wide enough to accommodate a regular weekly market from which the lord of the manor would take a levy.

As appears to be the case elsewhere in Devon, the borough with its burgage plots and wide, central street and market place was probably laid out within an existing field-system, the divisions between the arable strips becoming the boundaries of the burgage plots (Weddell 1985, 96-100). Map evidence suggests that to the west of the town lay a considerable area of medieval strip fields laid out with respect to an axial route represented by Nadder Lane (the B3227). It may be that the southwards deflection of this axial route seen to the west of the church represents a deviation from the original line. On the evidence of plot boundaries, it has been suggested (Sally Cotton, *pers. comm.*) that this lay along the line of North Street, heading south-east towards Mole Bridge roughly at the point where Elysian Court is now situated. If this was the case, then with the laying out of the borough and the creation of a central street, this (possible) ancient route became the “back lane” to the burgage plots providing a routeway for goods, access to the fields beyond and perhaps somewhere to dump rubbish.

1.4 Archaeological Background

The proposed development lies within the historic core of South Molton and in an area occupied by medieval property boundaries. Groundworks for the proposed development may expose and destroy archaeological deposits associated with the early settlement here. Archaeological investigations undertaken nearby have demonstrated the survival of archaeology in the area such as at land adjacent to the Hospital to the southwest of the site (HER No.: MDV80117). The presence of a number of post-medieval finds has also been recorded at No.5 Queen Street (HER No.: MDV71105) (see Appendix 3).

1.5 Methodology

The desk-based assessment was undertaken by Dr. Samuel Walls, with reference to the IfA guidelines on the preparation of Archaeological Desk-based Assessments (2008). Printed and unpublished material in the Devon HER (DCHET), the North Devon Record Office and the Devon Record Office and the Devon County Historic Environment Service and internet resources were consulted as part of this work in.

The archaeological evaluation comprised two trenches, totalling 40m in length through the proposed housing areas (in the western part of the development area) (see Figure 2). The trenches were excavated by a machine with a 1.6m wide toothless grading bucket under supervision of Joe Bampton on the 14th-15th February 2013. This work was undertaken with reference to the appropriate IfA and English Heritage guidelines.

For all features a photographic record, a drawn record at appropriate scales (1:20 and 1:50) and a written record of standard single context sheets was compiled.

2.0 Desk-Based Appraisal

The earliest cartographic source available for this study was Donn's 1765 map of Devonshire (Figure 3), which shows the layout of the town, with its 'Broad Street' which meets a north-south orientated road at its western end, which includes Queen Street and South Street. By this date buildings are clearly shown running along both sides of this north-south orientated road. However, no specific detail of the development area is discernible from this map.

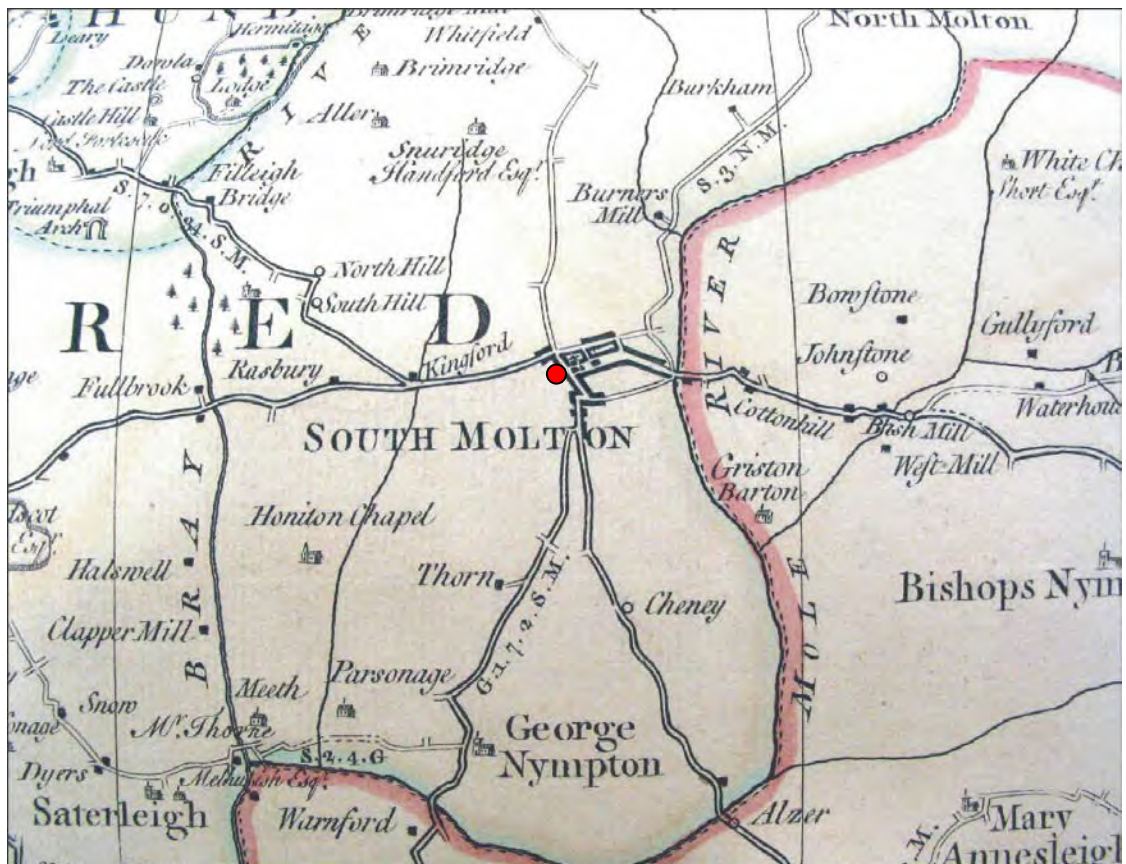


Figure 3: Extract from Donn's Map of Devonshire, 1765. The approximate location of the site is marked.

2.1 Tithe Map

The 1840s tithe maps typically provide the first detailed cartographic source for most places in Devon, however the South Molton example includes limited detail of the layout of the buildings within the town (Figure 4). Unfortunately the proposed development site is situated within one of these undefined areas of the 1844(?) Tithe map (see Figure 4) labelled as 2229 - *Part of Town*. The plot abutting the development site (1840 on the Tithe map) belonged to the West Blackpool farm estate, owned by Humphry John Norris Bawden, and occupied by Robert Hancock and was arable land named *Mill Hill*.

The arrangement of the field patterns on the tithe map to the west of the development area are clearly suggestive of two systems of burgage plots, with one group extending south from *West Street* to the north of the development, and a further arrangement extending west from *South Street*. The area immediately adjacent (west) to the development area had however been amalgamated by this date into larger irregularly shaped enclosures, although these are likely to have been part of the east-west orientated burgage plots seen further south (backing onto *South*

Street), rather than the north-south orientated plots on *West Street*. The straighter boundaries of the system of burgage plots extending from *South Street* may suggest that this group is of a slightly later date than those along *Queen Street* and *South Street*.



Figure 4: Extract of the South Molton Tithe Map (c.1844). The site location is indicated.

2.2 1st Edition Ordnance Survey

The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1890 is therefore the first detailed cartographic source of the site available (see Figure 5). The First Edition Map shows that at this time the Old Coaching Inn was known as the *Unicorn Hotel* and that there was a building (stables for the Hotel?) located to the immediate north of the western part of the development area. The western boundary appears to be shown to curve on this map, which is still evident (see Figure 3).

2.3 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey

The 2nd edition map shows no dramatic changes within the development area, with the exception of a small rectangular structure on a north-south orientation in the centre of the western portion of the site.

The Old Coaching Inn, South Molton



Figure 5: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1st Edition Map, 1890. The site is indicated.



Figure 6: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition Map, 1904. The site is indicated.

2.4 20th Century Developments

By the time of the 1938 revision this small rectangular structure within the development area is no longer depicted. There are no other changes depicted on later cartographic sources, although to the west of the development area the formerly open fields have now almost entirely been redeveloped with a new hospital and residential developments since 1945.



Figure 7: Extract from the 1938 Ordnance Survey Revision.

3.0 Excavation Results

A post-medieval cobbled footpath, two ditches, and four postholes were encountered in the archaeological evaluation. The stratigraphy relating to each trench and the features encountered are tabulated and described below. Detailed context descriptions can be seen in Appendix 4 and of the finds in Appendix 5.

3.1 Trench 1

<i>Section at East end, South facing (Figures 9.1 and 10.1)</i>		
<i>0.00m = 135.49m AOD</i>		
0.00 - 0.14m	(100)	Topsoil. Dark brown grey, friable clay-silt with occasional small shillet/slate stones.
0.14 - 0.44m	(101)	Made ground. Dark grey, friable clay-silt with occasional charcoal flecks CBM debris.
0.44 - 0.74m	(102)	Made ground. Dark green grey, friable clay-silt. Very dirty with moderate charcoal flecks & small rubble fragments/debris and shillet/slate stones.
0.74 - 1.04m	(103)	Made ground. Mid grey green, firm silt-clay with moderate charcoal flecks. Re-deposited natural and subsoil.
1.04m+	(104)	Natural. Mid yellow, compact clay with slight mid brown orange veins in places

<i>Section at West end, South facing (Figures 9.1 and 10.12)</i>		
<i>0.00m = 134.93m AOD</i>		
0.00 - 0.10m	(105)	Modern layer of concrete over a plastic sheet at the West end of the site. Thin and relatively fragile.
0.10 - 0.21m	(100)	As above.
0.21 - 0.52m	(101)	As above.
0.52 - 0.60m	(102)	As above.
0.60 - 0.98m	(103)	As above.
0.98m+	(104)	As above.

3.1.1 Description

Trench 1 measured 1.60 x 30.25m and was broadly orientated east-west. The Natural (104) slopes down by approximately 0.50m to the west. Any slope on the surface however has been eradicated by the imposition of made ground and re-deposited layers that make up the site stratigraphy (see above). These made ground layers seem to have broadly been deposited in a post-medieval phase and again in the 20th century.

Twelve archaeological features and an extant wall were encountered in Trench 1. These were; six postholes, two of which were modern; four ditches, one of which was modern; and two modern trenches/pits.

At the east end of the trench Postholes [106] and [118] were square in plan, contained 20th century debris and were parallel with extant walls on site (Figures 5.1, 6.2). They were seen to cut layer (102). The other four Postholes; [108], [110], [112] and [114] (Figures 9, 10.3-10.6, 14, 15, 17) ran in a line slightly off East-West and were of a similar character; Oval flat based

postholes, circa 0.48m across with identical fills and sealed by layer (103). Posthole [114] (Figure 15) produced a single sherd of Medieval North Devon Ware pottery.

Near the middle of the trench, immediately east of the extant wall were parallel Ditches [120] and [122] (Figures 8, 9.1, 10.8-10.9). These were between 0.70m and 0.85m wide, aligned northwest by southeast, contained identical fills and were sealed by layer (103). Ditch [122] produced a single sherd of Medieval North Devon Ware pottery. If contemporary, their differences in profile may reflect the role of one as a boundary and the other as a parallel drainage feature. They seem to date to the same phase of occupation as Postholes [108]-[116] and run almost perpendicular to them (see Figure 9.1).

A single modern rectangular Pit/Trench [112] was also exposed in the Eastern half of the trench (Figures 9.1), although was unexcavated as it produced modern finds.

At the west end of the trench a single ephemeral gully, Gully [124] (Figures 9.1, 10.10, 13), aligned north-south and containing a similar fill to the likely medieval features([108], [110], [114], [116], [120] and [122]) was encountered. It may be a terminus or simply the patchy surviving base of a ditch. It was evident at a depth 0.15-0.20m lower than Ditches [120] and [122], so it is possible that the gully [124] may have been truncated during the deposition and landscaping for layer (103). This, and the slope in natural account for the minimal survival and probably lack of survival at all of features in the southwest of the site.

A modern ditch [128] and Pit/Trench [126] (Figures 9.1, 10.11-10.12, 12) also occurred at the west end of the Trench. These may have also truncated any potential archaeology in this part of the site.



Figure 8: Ditch [120], looking north-west (1m scale).

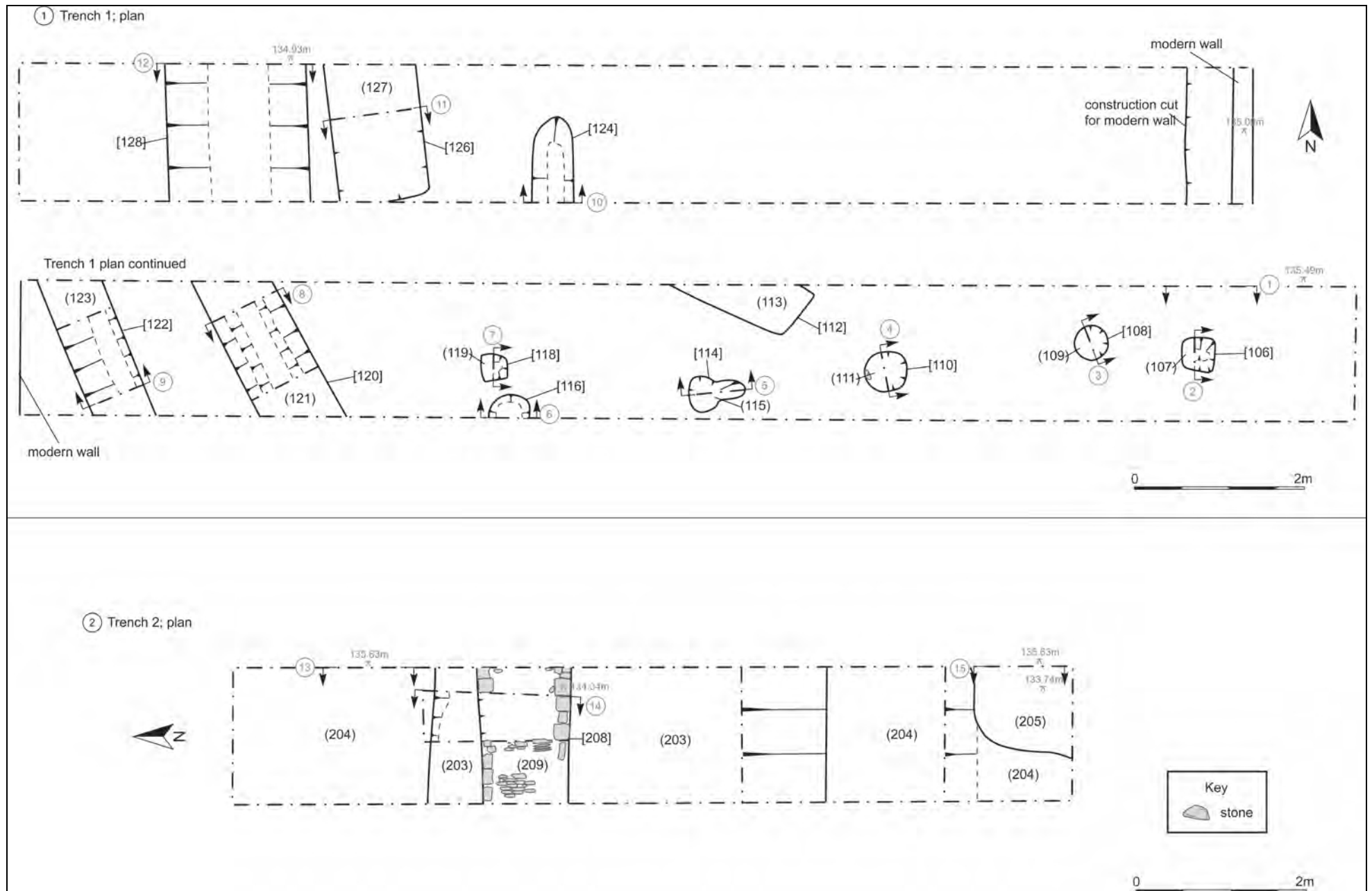


Figure 9: Plan of the excavated trenches.

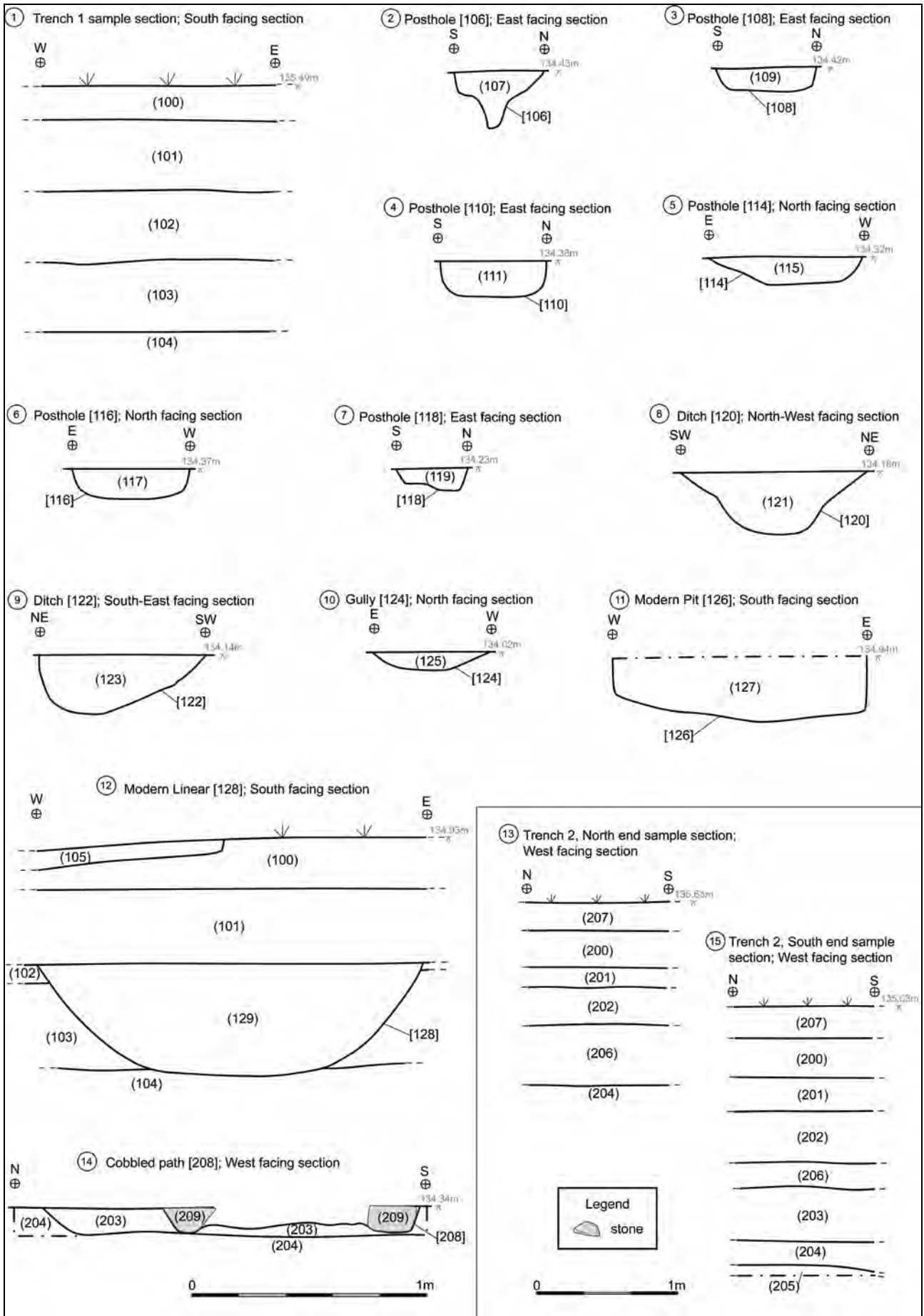


Figure 10: Sections of all excavated features and sample sections of the two trenches.



Figure 11: Ditches [120], [122] looking north-west (1m scale).



Figure 12: Modern ditch [128], looking north (2m scale).



Figure 13: Gully terminus [124], looking south (1m scale).



Figure 14: Posthole [116], looking south (1m scale).



Figure 15: Posthole [114], looking south, (1m scale).



Figure 16: East end of Trench 1, post-excavation, looking west (1&2m scale).



Figure 17: Row of postholes; [108], [110], [114], [116], looking west by south west (2m scale).

3.2 Trench 2

<i>Section at North end, West facing (Figures 5.2, 6.13)</i>		
<i>0.00m = 135.63m AOD</i>		
0.00 - 0.20m	(207)	New topsoil. Mid orange brown, friable clay-silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and modern rubble debris.
0.20 - 0.46m	(200)	Buried topsoil. Dark blackish-grey, friable clay-silt with moderate charcoal flecks. Equates to (100).
0.46 - 0.60m	(201)	Made ground. Dark grey, friable clay-silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Equates to (101).
0.60 - 0.86m	(202)	Made ground. Dark green grey, friable clay-silt with moderate charcoal flecks. Equates to (102).
0.86 - 1.30m	(206)	Made ground. Mid grey green, soft silt-clay with moderate charcoal flecks. May equate to (103).
1.30m+	(204)	Re-deposited natural. Mid yellow-brown, firm silt-clay with slight charcoal intrusions.

<i>Section at South end, West facing (Figures 4.2, 6.15, 14)</i>		
<i>0.00m = 135.63m AOD</i>		
0.00 - 0.22m	(207)	As above.
0.22 - 0.50m	(200)	As above.
0.50 - 0.74m	(201)	As above.
0.74 - 1.09m	(202)	As above.
1.09 - 1.26m	(206)	As above.
1.26 - 1.66m	(203)	Made ground. Dark grey green, soft silt-clay with moderate charcoal flecks. May equate to (103).
1.66 - 1.83m	(204)	As above.

1.83m+	(205)	Natural. Mid yellow, compact clay.
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3.2.1 Description

Trench 2 measured some 1.60 x 9.90m and was orientated north-south. The natural evidently slopes downward sharply at the southern end of the trench, which necessitates the greater depth of made ground and soils above it creating the existing level ground surface. As was evident in Trench 1 there are both post-medieval and modern phases for the deposition and re-deposition of these made ground layers.

One archaeological feature was present in Trench 2. A Cobbled foot path [208] (Figures 4.2, 5.14, 16-18). This was a 1.10m wide cobbled surface with slightly more substantial curb stones set into layer (203). It produced post-medieval pottery and was in turn overlain by layer (206).



Figure 18: The sample section at south end of Trench 2, looking east (2m scale).



Figure 19: Cobbled path [208], post-excavation, from above, (2m scale).



Figure 20: Cobbled path [208] & trench section, looking East, (2m scale).



Figure 21: Cobbled surface [208], pre-excavation, looking west (1m scale).

4.0 Discussion and Conclusions

4.1 Summary

The desk-based appraisal emphasises that although South Molton originated as the centre of an Anglo-Saxon estate with an important church, the borough of South Molton was created in the 12th century. There is extensive evidence of the medieval borough, with burgrave plots identified running north and south from Borad Street (HER No.: MDV60809), and to the north and south of West Street (HER No.: MDV66929). More importantly in relation to the proposed development site is the clear evidence of burgrave plots extending west from Queen Street (HER No.: MDV66176), which although not apparent on the available cartographic sources is likely to have extended to include the Old Coaching Inn.

The archaeological evaluation revealed at least three distinct phases prior to the current use of the land as an allotment.

A Medieval phase defined by a pair of parallel ditches and row of four postholes, which respected the original landscape topography based on the surviving depths of the features along the naturally occurring slope in the natural (104). The ditches may be part of the possible Medieval field system identified during ground works southwest of the site (HER No.: MDV80117) and the medieval field system to the northeast of the site identified through map evidence (HER No.: MDV66929).

This phase may have been truncated in part with the landscaping of the land in the post-medieval period, which saw the levelling up of the site prior to the installation of a cobbled footpath and other works. Layers of topsoil would have been stripped and subsoil and natural layers moved and re-deposited in order to create this level site. The made ground layers from this phase and subsequent phases have been likewise represented by findspots elsewhere on Queen Street (e.g. HER No.: MDV71105)

Subsequent phases of later post-medieval and modern made-ground layers then overlaid the site by up to at least 1m in depth. These layers are cut by 20th century and possibly even more recent features. The site is contained within the retaining wall at its West end. Beyond this wall the sudden sharp slope, although clearly terraced away in recent years, provides some idea of the levelling and terracing that may have taken place.

4.2 Conclusion

Given the depth of survival of the medieval features in the west of the site it is probable that they respected the original slope in the land, which was subsequently terraced and made-up. Therefore it is unlikely any medieval features survive within the area of plot 8, or within plot 7 which is also heavily truncated by modern features. The majority of the footings for Plots 2, 3 and 4 are unlikely to reach a substantial enough depth to reveal medieval features and both post-medieval and modern truncation (a demolished building across plots 3 and 4) also reduce the chance of survival. The majority of the rest of the site is to provide access and gardens, the groundworks of which may not disturb any significant archaeological layers/deposits.

The potential for further discoveries of medieval features is most likely in the eastern half of Trench 1, that is to say plots 5 and 6. Plot 1 and the access to the residential area also remain as higher potential areas of survival if the natural continues to slope up toward Queen Street and if there has not been any subsequent truncation.

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Unpublished Sources:

Devon Record Office:

- South Molton Tithe map 1844(?)
- South Molton Tithe apportionment 1839

Appendix 1

BRIEF FOR A STAGED PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND MITIGATION

Location: The Old Coaching Inn
Parish: South Molton
District: North Devon
County: Devon
NGR: SS 7128 2583
Planning Application no: 48212
Proposal: erection of eight dwellings
Historic Environment Team ref: ARCH/DM/ND/14470

1. INTRODUCTION AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

1.1 This brief has been prepared by the Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (HET) with regard to the archaeological works required as a condition of planning consent for the above work. This brief has been produced specifically for the above planning application and may require alteration if this application is revised, amended or resubmitted. This document is not transferable to any other scheme or planning application.

1.2 In accordance with paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework (2012)*, the Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, consent has been granted, conditional upon a programme of archaeological work being undertaken. This condition requires that:

'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.' The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or such other details as may be subsequently agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

1.3 The principal objective of the programme shall be to evaluate the survival of below-ground archaeological deposits across the proposed development site. The results will allow the nature, extent, and date of any surviving archaeological deposits within the application area to be understood, these investigations therefore represent the *first stage* of a programme of archaeological mitigation. The information gained will enable the requirement for any further investigations to be determined and - if required - the scope of any subsequent programme of archaeological work undertaken in mitigation for the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource, see section 3.3 below.

1.4 The proposed development lies within the historic core of South Molton and in an area occupied by medieval property boundaries. Groundworks for the proposed development may expose and destroy archaeological deposits associated with the early settlement here. Archaeological investigations undertaken nearby have demonstrated the survival of archaeology in the area.

1.5 This Brief covers the application area as defined in the plans submitted in support of this application.

2. WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

2.1 This document sets out the scope of the works required to record the extent and character of any surviving archaeological deposits within the application area and will form the basis of the *Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)* to be prepared by the archaeological consultant.

2.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation must be submitted by the applicant or on their behalf by their agent or archaeological consultant and approved by the HET and the Local Planning Authority *prior* to any development commencing on site.

3. CONTENT OF PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK

3.1 Desk-based assessment

The programme of work shall include a desk-based *appraisal* of the site to place the development area into its historic and archaeological context. This work will consist of map regression based on the Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map(s) and Apportionments. An examination will also be made of records and aerial photographs held by the HER. The reporting requirements for the desk-based work will be confirmed in consultation with the HET.

This desk-based work will be undertaken in advance of any fieldwork commencing.

If a full report is prepared then this information will be presented as part of the final report along with the results of the fieldwork.

3.2 Fieldwork

3.2.1 Informative work

A series of trenches will be excavated across the proposed development area. The location of these excavations will be determined in consideration of the results of the desk-based assessment, the below-ground impact of the proposed development and the site topography. These excavations should adequately investigate the area affected by the proposed development.

3.2.2 Details of the strategy for positioning trenches must be agreed with the HET. Trenches should be excavated by a 360o tracked or JCB-type machine - fitted with a toothless grading bucket - to the surface of archaeological deposits or *in situ* natural ground - whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Exposed archaeological features and deposits will be cleaned and excavated by hand and fully recorded by context as per the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (1994 - revised 2008)*. All features shall be recorded in plan and section at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50. All scale drawings shall be undertaken at a scale appropriate to the complexity of the deposit/feature and to allow accurate depiction and interpretation.

3.2.3 All archaeological features should be investigated and as a minimum:

- i) small discrete features will be fully excavated;
- ii) larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated); and
- iii) long linear features will be sample excavated along their length - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.
- iv) one long face of each trench will be cleaned by hand to allow the site stratigraphy to be understood and for the identification of archaeological features.

Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts

Any variation of the above will be undertaken in agreement with the HET.

3.2.4 The full depth of archaeological deposits must be assessed. This need not require excavation to natural deposits if it is clear that complex and deep stratigraphy will be encountered.

3.2.5 Should deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements appropriate sampling and post-excavation analysis strategies will be initiated. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits - if required. On-site sampling and post-excavation assessment and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with English Heritage's guidance in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation 2002*.

3.2.6 An adequate photographic record of the excavation will be prepared. This will include photographs illustrating the principal features and finds discovered, in detail and in context. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. All photographs of archaeological detail will feature an appropriately-sized scale. The photographic record should be made in B/W print supplemented by digital or colour transparency. However, if digital imagery is to be the sole photographic record then suitably archivable prints must be made of the digital images by a photographic laboratory. Laser or inkjet prints of digital images, while acceptable for inclusion in the report, are not an acceptable medium for archives. The drawn and written record will be on an appropriately archivable medium.

3.2.7 Human remains must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. Removal can only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal must be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.

3.2.8 Should any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, be exposed, these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2nd Revision). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

3.3 Archaeological Mitigation

3.3.1 In the light of the results of the initial stage of archaeological investigation it will be possible to identify what further work, (e.g. further investigative work to clarify the site stratigraphy, area excavation, watching brief, etc), if any, is needed as mitigation for the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.

The broad scope of any further work(s) that may be required will be set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

3.3.2 Upon completion of the initial stage of investigative fieldwork and in the event of mitigation work following directly on from these investigations the archaeological contractor will supply the HET with a *statement of impact* of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource. This will be produced in a format agreed with the HET and must contain sufficient detail to allow the HET to determine the scope of further archaeological work that may be required.

3.3.3 The *statement of impact* shall demonstrate the archaeological potential of the site and the impact upon it of the proposed development and may make suggestions as to appropriate mitigation of the archaeological impact of the proposal, but these will be subject to review by the HET, who will make final recommendations to the Local Planning Authority

3.3.4 Should the site be demonstrated to be archaeologically sterile then there would be no requirement for further archaeological fieldwork.

3.3.5 The results of the desk-based work and a copy of the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation must be made available to the site director/supervisor to enable the adequate interpretation of exposed features/deposits during fieldwork and that the agreed programme of works is understood and undertaken.

4. MONITORING

4.1 The archaeological consultant shall agree monitoring arrangements with the County Historic Environment Team and give two weeks notice, unless a shorter period is agreed with the HET, of commencement of the fieldwork. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made.

4.2 Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report - see 5.6 below.

4.3 The archaeological contractor undertaking the fieldwork will notify the HET upon completion of the fieldwork stage of these works.

5. REPORTING

5.1 In cases where either:

- (i) the initial investigative excavations will represent the only archaeological works undertaken
- or

(ii) there will be a substantial period of time between the undertaking of the initial investigative work and the subsequent archaeological mitigation work

then a full, detailed and illustrated report will be prepared setting out the results of these investigations. This report will collate the written, graphic, visible and recorded information outlined in section 3 above.

The report will include:

- (i) a summary of the project's background;
- (ii) description and illustration of the site location;
- (iii) a methodology of the works undertaken;
- (iv) include plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
- (v) a description of the project's results;
- (vi) an interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- (vii) a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
- (viii) a site location plan at an appropriate scale on an Ordnance Survey, or equivalent, base-map;
- (ix) a plan showing the location of the trenches in relation to the site boundaries;
- (x) plans of each trench, or part of trench, in which archaeological features are recognised along with adequate OD spot height information. These should be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans must show the orientation of trenches in relation to north. Section drawing locations will be shown on these plans. Archaeologically sterile areas need not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- (xi) section drawings of trenches and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile trenches need not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- (xii) site matrices where appropriate;
- (xiii) photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features and deposits that are referred to in the text. All photographs should contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- (xiv) a consideration of evidence within its wider context;
- (xv) a summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- (xvi) specialist assessment or analysis reports where undertaken;
- (xvii) an evaluation of the methodology employed and the results obtained (i.e. a confidence rating).

5.2 If the archaeological mitigation follows on directly from the initial investigations, an overarching report will be required that collates the results of all of the archaeological works undertaken i.e. the results of the initial investigations and the subsequent archaeological mitigation and post-excavation analysis and dating undertaken. (The scope of the mitigation works undertaken will be based on a consideration of the *Statement of Impact* supplied by the archaeological contractor after the excavation of the investigative trenches - see 3.3.2 - 3.3.3 above.)

The overarching final report will include:

- (i) a summary of the project's background;
- (ii) description and illustration of the site location;
- (iii) a methodology of the works undertaken;
- (iv) include plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
- (v) a description of the project's results;
- (vi) an interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- (vii) a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
- (viii) a site location plan at an appropriate scale on an Ordnance Survey, or equivalent, base-map showing the location of the areas subject to archaeological investigation in relation to the site boundaries;
- (ix) adequately detailed plans of archaeological features and deposits along with adequate OD spot height information. These should be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans must show the direction of north. Section drawing locations will be shown on these plans;
- (x) section drawings of archaeological features and deposits, as well as natural deposits that show how that site stratigraphy has developed or been influence or contain palaeoenvironmental deposits, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of features and deposits in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile area need not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- (xi) the results of the initial investigative works undertaken and any specialist analysis undertaken that is not covered by subsequent archaeological mitigation works;
- (xii) site matrices where appropriate;
- (xiii) photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features and deposits that are referred to in the text. All photographs should contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- (xiv) a consideration of evidence within its wider context;
- (xv) a summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- (xvi) specialist assessment or analysis reports were undertaken;
- (xvii) an evaluation of the methodology employed and the results obtained (i.e. a confidence rating).

5.3 The timetable for the production of the report must be set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation. The HET would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork - dependent upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HET must be informed of this and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HET and the archaeological contractor. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced within three months of the completion of the fieldwork.

5.4 Should the development proceed in a staged manner, with each stage requiring archaeological fieldwork, and where a period of more than three months between each stage is anticipated or occurs, then the archaeological contractor shall prepare an interim illustrated summary report at the end of each stage. The report will set out the results of that phase of archaeological works, including the results of any specialist assessment or analysis undertaken. The report will be produced within three months of completion of each phase of fieldwork. At the completion of the final stage of the fieldwork an overarching report setting out the results of all stages of work will be prepared. HET would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork - dependent upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HET must be informed of this, an interim report will be produced within three months of the completion of the final stage of fieldwork, and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HET and the archaeological contractor.

5.5 On completion of the final report, in addition to copies required by the Client, hard copies of the report shall be supplied to the HET on the understanding that one of these copies will be deposited for public reference in the HER. In addition to the hard copies of the report, one copy shall be provided to the County Historic Environment Team in digital format - in a format to be agreed in advance with the HET - on the understanding that it may in future be made available to researchers via a web-based version of the Historic Environment Record.

5.6 The archaeological consultant shall complete an online OASIS (*Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS*) form in respect of the archaeological work. This will include a digital version of the report. The report or short entry to the Historic Environment Record will also include the OASIS ID number.

6 PUBLICATION

Where the exposure of archaeological, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental remains is limited or of little significance reporting will follow on directly from the field work - see section 5 above.

Should particularly significant archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance (paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2012)). If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the HET.

6.1 Post Excavation Assessment, Analysis and Project Designs for further work

Where excavations reveal archaeological, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental deposits that have potential for yielding important information about the site or its environs, through specialist assessment and analysis, this assessment work will be undertaken and reported on in a separate formal Post-Excavation Assessment and Project Design. This document may also fulfil the role of an interim report if a substantial publication delay is expected.

This document will be produced by the archaeological contractor within three months of completion of the fieldwork - specialist input allowing - and agreed with the HET. It will include:

- A summary of the project and its background
- A plan showing the location of the site and plans of the site showing the location of archaeological features, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental deposits exposed
- Research aims and objectives
- Method statements setting out how these aims and objectives are to be achieved
- Details of the tasks to be undertaken
- The results of any specialist assessment work undertaken as part of the production of the formal Assessment and Project Design
- Proposed project team
- Overall timetable for undertaking the tasks as well as setting out monitoring points with the HET
- Details of the journal in which the material is to be published

7. PERSONNEL

7.1 The work shall be carried out by a recognised archaeological consultant, agreed with the DCHES. Staff must be suitably qualified and experienced for their project roles. All work should be carried out under the control of a specified Member of the Institute for Archaeologists (MIFA), or by a specified person of equivalent standing and expertise. The Written Scheme of Investigation will contain details of key project staff and specialists who may contribute during the course of the works - excavation and post-excavation.

7.2 Health and Safety matters, including site security, are matters for the consultant. However, adherence to all relevant regulations will be required.

7.3 The work shall be carried out in accordance with IfA *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (1994), as amended (2008).

8. CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORILY PROTECTED SPECIES

It is the archaeological contractor's responsibility - in consultation with the applicant or agent - to ensure that the undertaking of the required archaeological works does not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an

impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.

9. DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE AND FINDS

9.1 The archaeological consultant shall contact the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, to obtain a reference number in order to agree future conditions for deposition of the site archive. The reference number must be quoted in the Written Scheme of Investigation and within the final report or the short entry to the Historic Environment Record.

9.2 The artefact discard policy must be set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation.

9.3 Archaeological finds resulting from the investigation (which are the property of the landowner), should be deposited with the appropriate museum - in a format to be agreed with the museum, and within a timetable to be agreed with the HET. The museum's guidelines for the deposition of archives for long-term storage should be adhered to. If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with the landowner, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists.

10. CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS

Stephen Reed, Archaeological Officer, Devon County Historic Environment Team, Planning, Transportation and Environment, AB3 Lucombe House, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter, Devon, EX2 4QD

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6th February 2013

Appendix 2

WSI

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND MITIGATION AT THE OLD COACHING INN, SOUTH MOLTON, DEVON.

Location: The Old Coaching Inn
Parish: South Molton
District: North Devon
County: Devon
NGR: SS 7128 2583
Planning Application no: 48212
Proposal: erection of eight dwellings
HET ref: ARCH/DM/ND/14470
SWARCH ref: SWARCH/SMQ13
Date: 13.02.2013

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document forms a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been produced by South West Archaeology (SWARCH) at the request of Shaun Watts of PWH Associates (Barnstaple) Ltd (The Client) and sets out the methodology for archaeological evaluation of a site to the rear of the Old Coaching Inn, Queen Street, South Molton, for further potential stages of archaeological mitigation and for related off site analysis and reporting, prior to the development of the site for eight dwellings. The project design and the schedule of work it proposes has been devised in accordance with a brief provided by Stephen Reed (06.02.2013) of Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).
- 1.2 In accordance with paragraph 141 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012), the Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, consent has been granted, conditional upon a programme of archaeological work being undertaken. This condition requires that:
'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority.' The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or such other details as may be subsequently agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The proposed development lies within the historic core of South Molton and in an area occupied by medieval property boundaries. Groundworks for the proposed development may expose and destroy archaeological deposits associated with the early settlement here. Archaeological investigations undertaken nearby have demonstrated the survival of archaeology in the area.
- 3.0 AIMS
- 3.1 The work herein detailed represents a first stage of work on the site; the principal objectives of the work will be:
- 3.1.1 To evaluate the survival of below-ground archaeological deposits within the western area of the proposed development site. The results will inform as to the nature, extent, and date of any surviving archaeological deposits within the application area and will enable the requirement for any further investigations to be determined and - if required - the scope of any subsequent programme of archaeological work undertaken in mitigation for the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource;
- 3.1.2 To undertake monitoring and recording of groundworks within the eastern area of the proposed development site;
- 3.1.3 To analyse and report on the results of the project as appropriate.

4.0 METHOD

- 4.1 The Client will provide SWARCH with details of the location of existing services and of proposed groundworks within the site area, and of the proposed construction programme.
- 4.2 Health and Safety requirements will be observed at all times by any archaeological staff working on site, particularly when working with machinery. As a minimum: high-visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear will be worn.
- 4.2.1 Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times.
- 4.2.2 The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client.
- 4.2.3 If the depth of trenching exceeds 1.2 metres the trench sides will need to be shored or stepped to enable the archaeologist to examine and if appropriate record the section of the trench. The provision of such measures will be the responsibility of the client.
- 4.3 The desk-based assessment:
The programme of work will include a desk-based *appraisal* of the site to place the development area into its historic and archaeological context. This work will consist of map regression based on the Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map(s) and Apportionments. An examination will also be made of records and aerial

photographs held by the HER. The reporting requirements for the desk- based work will be confirmed in consultation with the HET.

This desk-based work will be undertaken in advance of any fieldwork commencing.

If a full report is prepared then this information will be presented as part of the final report along with the results of the fieldwork.

4.4 Evaluation excavations:

Two trenches will be excavated within the western part of the proposed development area (see attached plan) by a 360o tracked or JCB-type machine - fitted with a toothless grading bucket - under the direct control of the site archaeologist, to the depth of formation, the surface of *in situ* subsoil/weathered natural or archaeological deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Should archaeological deposits be exposed machining will cease in that area to allow the site archaeologist to investigate the exposed deposits.

Archaeological features and deposits will be excavated by the site archaeologist by hand:

4.4.1 The archaeological work will be carried out in accordance with the *Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation 1994 (revised 2001 & 2008)* and *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief 1994 (revised 2001 & 2008)*.

4.4.2 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts.

4.4.3 All excavation of exposed archaeological features shall be carried out by hand, stratigraphically, and fully recorded by context to IfA guidelines.

4.4.4 If archaeological features are exposed, then as a *minimum*:

i) small discrete features will be fully excavated;

ii) larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated);

iii) long linear features will be sample excavated along their length - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.

4.4.5 Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts.

Any variation of the above or decisions regarding expansion will be considered in consultation with the Client & DCHET.

4.4.6 In exceptional circumstances where materials of a particularly compact nature are encountered, these may be removed with a toothed bucket, subject to agreement with archaeological staff on site.

4.4.7 Should archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains be exposed, the site archaeologist will investigate, record and sample such deposits.

4.4.8 Human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected. Removal will only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal will be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.

4.4.9 Any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, will be dealt with according to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2nd Revision) (Dept for Culture Media and Sport). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures must be taken to protect the finds from theft.

4.4.10 Human remains will initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. Removal will only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal will be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.

4.4.11 Should any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, be exposed, these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2nd Revision). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

4.5 Archaeological Mitigation:

In the light of the results of the initial stage of archaeological investigation it will be possible to identify what further work, (e.g. further investigative work to clarify the site stratigraphy, area excavation, watching brief, etc), if any, is needed as mitigation for the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.

4.5.1 Upon completion of the initial stage of investigative fieldwork and in the event of mitigation work following directly on from these investigations SWARCH will supply the HET with a *statement of impact* of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource. This will be produced in a format agreed with the HET and will contain sufficient detail to allow the HET to determine the scope of further archaeological work that may be required.

4.5.2 The *statement of impact* will demonstrate the archaeological potential of the site and the impact upon it of the proposed development and may make suggestions as to appropriate mitigation of the archaeological impact of the proposal, but these will be subject to review by the HET, who will make final recommendations to the Local Planning Authority.

4.5.3 Should the site be demonstrated to be archaeologically sterile there will be no requirement for further archaeological fieldwork.

4.5.4 Any further stages of work undertaken will be carried out to the specification laid out in sections 4.4.1-4.4.11 above.

- 4.6 Archaeological monitoring and recording:
- 4.6.1 All groundworks carried out within the eastern area of the site will be undertaken by a 360° tracked or wheeled JCB-type mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket where possible, under the supervision and control of the site archaeologist, to the depth of formation, the surface of *in situ* subsoil/weathered natural or archaeological deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Should archaeological deposits be exposed machining will cease in that area to allow the site archaeologist to investigate the exposed deposits. The work shall be carried out in accordance with the *IfA Standard and guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (1994), as amended (2008). Should archaeological features and deposits be exposed, they will be excavated by the site archaeologist by hand to the specification at 4.4 above.
- 4.6.2 If the area is found to be archaeologically sterile there will be no further requirement for further archaeological fieldwork within this part of the site.
- 5.0 MONITORING
- 5.1 SWARCH have agreed monitoring arrangements with the DCHES and have agreed that the fieldwork will commence on the 14th February. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made.
- 5.2 Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report - see 6.5 below.
- 6.0 ARCHIVE AND REPORT
- 6.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991 2nd edition) upon completion of the project. This will include relevant correspondence together with field notes and drawings, and environmental, artefactual and photographic records. The archive and finds will be deposited with the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon under an accession number to be assigned (application in progress). The museum's current guidelines for the deposition of archives for long-term storage will be adhered to.
- 6.2 The reporting requirements will be confirmed with the HET on completion of the site work. A full, detailed and illustrated report setting out the results of these investigations will be produced if these initial investigative excavations represent the only archaeological works undertaken or if there is to be a substantial period of time between the undertaking of the initial investigative work and the subsequent archaeological mitigation work.
- If the archaeological mitigation follows on directly from the initial investigations, an overarching report will be produced that collates the results of all of the archaeological works undertaken i.e. the results of the initial investigations and the subsequent archaeological mitigation and post-excavation analysis and dating undertaken.
- The report will include the following elements:
- 6.2.1 A report number, date and the OASIS record number;
- 6.2.2 A copy of the DCHET Brief and this WSI;
- 6.2.3 A summary of the project's background;
- 6.2.4 A description and illustration of the site location;
- 6.2.5 A methodology of the works undertaken;
- 6.2.6 A summary of the project's results;
- 6.2.7 An interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- 6.2.8 A location plan and overall site plan including the location of areas subject to archaeological recording;
- 6.2.9 Section drawings of deposits and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and will show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile areas may not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- 6.2.10 Site matrices where appropriate;
- 6.2.11 A description of any remains and deposits identified including an interpretation of their character and significance;
- 6.2.12 Discussion of the archaeological deposits encountered and their context.
- 6.2.13 Photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features and deposits referred to in the text. All photographs will contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- 6.2.14 A summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- 6.3 Should the development proceed in a staged manner, with each stage requiring archaeological fieldwork, and where a period of more than three months between each stage is anticipated or occurs, then SWARCH will prepare an interim illustrated summary report at the end of each stage. The report will set out the results of that phase of archaeological works, including the results of any specialist assessment or analysis undertaken. The report will be produced within three months of completion of each phase of fieldwork. At the completion of the final stage of the fieldwork an overarching report setting out the results of all stages of work will be prepared. The HET will receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork - dependent upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HET will be informed of this, an interim report will be produced within

- three months of the completion of the final stage of fieldwork, and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HET and SWARCH.
- 6.4 On completion of the final report, in addition to copies required by the Client, hard copies of the report shall be supplied to the HET on the understanding that one of these copies will be deposited for public reference in the HER. In addition to the hard copies of the report, one copy shall be provided to the County Historic Environment Team in digital format - in a format to be agreed in advance with the HET - on the understanding that it may in future be made available to researchers via a web-based version of the Historic Environment Record.
- 6.5 A copy of the report detailing the results of these investigations will be submitted to the OASIS (*Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations*) database under project reference *southwes1-143616*.
- 7.0 PUBLICATION
- 7.1 Where the exposure of archaeological, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental remains is limited or of little significance reporting will follow on directly from the field work - see above.
Should particularly significant archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance (paragraph 141 of the *National Planning Policy Framework (2012)*). If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the HET.
- 7.2 Post Excavation Assessment, Analysis and Project Designs for further work:
Where excavations reveal archaeological, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental deposits that have potential for yielding important information about the site or its environs, through specialist assessment and analysis, this assessment work will be undertaken and reported on in a separate formal Post-Excavation Assessment and Project Design. This document may also fulfil the role of an interim report if a substantial publication delay is expected.
This document will be produced by SWARCH within three months of completion of the fieldwork - specialist input allowing - and agreed with the HET. It will include:
A summary of the project and its background;
A plan showing the location of the site and plans of the site showing the location of archaeological features, artefactual or palaeoenvironmental deposits exposed;
Research aims and objectives;
Method statements setting out how these aims and objectives are to be achieved;
Details of the tasks to be undertaken;
The results of any specialist assessment work undertaken as part of the production of the formal Assessment and Project Design;
Proposed project team;
Overall timetable for undertaking the tasks as well as setting out monitoring points with the HET;
Details of the journal in which the material is to be published.
- 8.0 CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORILY PROTECTED SPECIES
SWARCH will - in consultation with the applicant or agent - ensure that the undertaking of the required archaeological works does not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.
- 9.0 PERSONNEL & MONITORING
- 9.1 The project will be managed by Colin Humphreys; the archaeological monitoring will be undertaken by SWARCH personnel with appropriate expertise and experience. Where necessary, appropriate specialist advice will be sought (see list of consultant specialists in Appendix 1 below).

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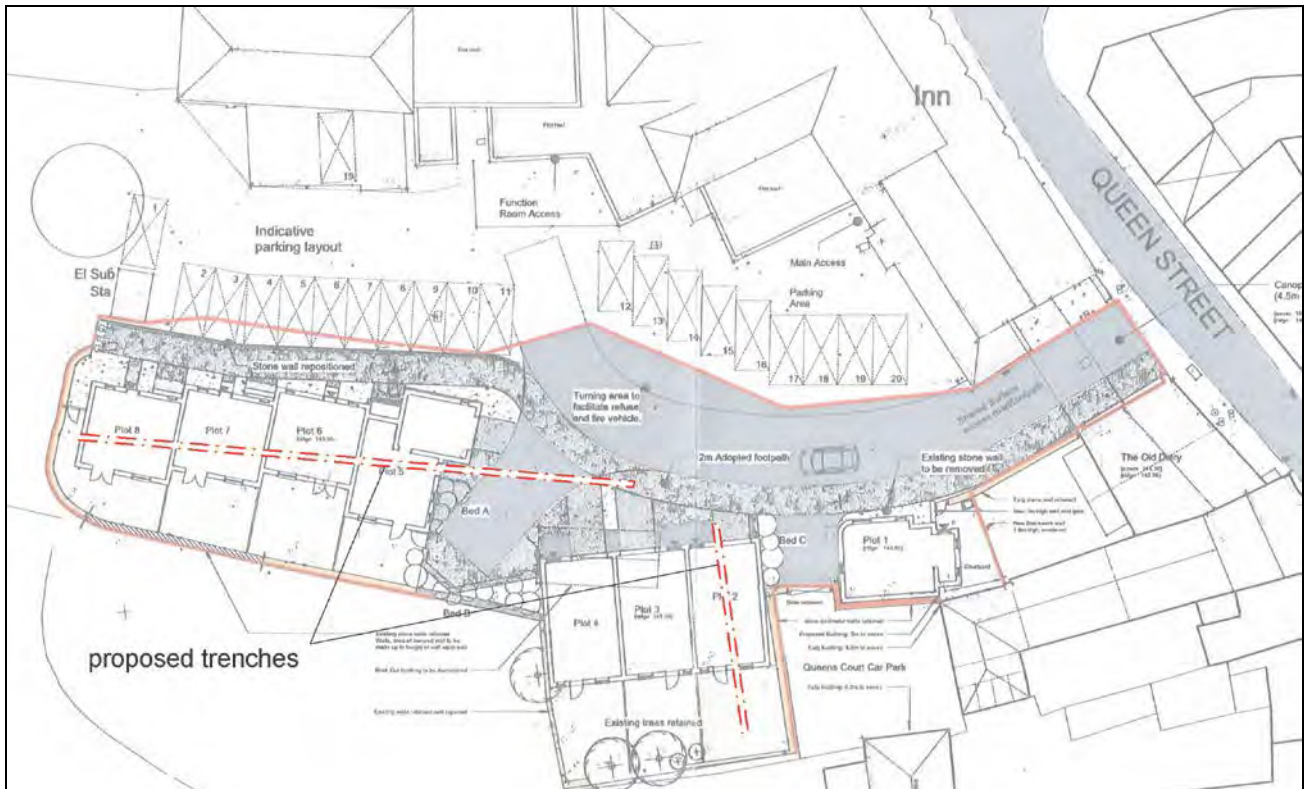


Figure 22: Proposed location of evaluation trenches.

Appendix 3

Key HER Entries



Figure 23: Locations of Key HER Entries.

1

UID MDV66929

Name Field System West of South Molton

RecordType Monument

Character Map evidence of extensive former strip field system to the west of South Molton. FIELD SYSTEM (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD (Between))

2

UID MDV60809

Name Medieval Burgage Plots

RecordType Monument

Character Burgage plots running back from Broad Street to a boundary stream, formerly known as Oliver's Gutter, may be of 12th century origin.

3

UID MDV66176

Name Burgage Plots, South Street

RecordType Monument

Character Possible extent of the burgage plots on the west side of South Street.

4

UID MDV1129

Name Market Cross, South Molton

RecordType Monument

Character The market cross, which had a pedestal of steps in 1642, was taken down in the late 18th century.

5

UID MDV12152
Name South Molton Minster
RecordType Monument
Character Possible Celtic monastic ste.

6

UID MDV19276
Name South Molton
RecordType Monument
Character The settlement originated in the Anglo-Saxon period or earlier, and appears to have been a thriving community by 1086. The manor belonged to the king, and before that to King Edward.

7

UID MDV21776
Name South Molton Borough
RecordType Monument
Character Burgage tenure was introduced in the mid 12th century and confirmed by charter circa 1199. The earliest Royal Market Charter was granted in the 13th century with later Royal Charters granted by Elizabeth I in 1590 and Charles II in 1684.

8

UID MDV80192
Name Field boundary north-east of South Molton Hospital
RecordType Monument
Character Ditches corresponding with a field boundary shown in the Tithe Map and subsequent Ordnance Survey maps.

9

UID MDV71105
Name Clay Pipe and Roofing Slate Fragments, 5 Queen Street
RecordType Find Spot
Character Fragments of post medieval clay pipe and roofing slate recovered from the rear of 5 Queen Street. Lime-based mortar, animal bone and oyster shell were also recovered.

10

UID MDV80117
Name Boundary Ditch to west of South Molton Hospital
RecordType Monument
Character Possible medieval field boundary recorded as a small shallow linear feature during trench evaluation on land adjacent to South Molton Hospital.

Appendix 4

Context List

Context	Description	Relationships	Depth/ Thickness	Spot Date	
(100)	Topsoil	Dark brown grey, friable clay-silt with occasional small shillet/slate stones. Finds = pot, CBM, glass etc.	Overlain by (105), Equates to (200)	0.15-0.22m	C20
(101)	Buried Topsoil	Dark grey, friable clay-silt with occasional charcoal flecks and debris. Finds = pot and 19 th -20 th century debris.	Overlain by (100), Overlies (102) (107) (113) (119) (127) (129), Equates to (201)	0.30-0.32m	C19-C20
(102)	Made ground	Dark green grey, friable clay-silt. Very dirty with moderate charcoal flecks & small rubble fragments/debris and shillet/slate stones. Finds = pot, clay pipe, etc... post-medieval.	Overlain by (101), Overlies (104), Equates to (202), Cut by [106] [118] [112] [126] [128]	0.08-0.30m	C18-C19
(103)	Made ground	Mid grey green, firm silt-clay with moderate charcoal flecks. = re-deposited natural and subsoil. Finds = pot, clay pipe etc, 17 th -18 th century?	Overlain by (102), Overlies (104) (109) (111) (115) (117) (121) (123) (125) Equates to either (203) or (206)	0.30-0.38m	C17-C18
(104)	Natural	Mid yellow, compact clay with slight mid brown orange veins in places. Upper part slightly sub-soil-like.	Overlain by (103), Cut by [108] [110] [114] [116] [120] [122] [124]	-	-
(105)	Concrete	Modern layer of concrete over a plastic sheet at the West end of the site. Thin and relatively fragile.	Overlies (100)	0.10m	C20+
[106]	Cut of Posthole (PH)	Square posthole, vertical sides, stepped to pointed base (sharpened stake?). 0.40m long, 0.39m wide. 1 fill. Similar character to [118] and when lined up with it respects extant walls/divisions on the ground.	Cuts (102), Contains (107)	0.24m	C20
(107)	Fill of PH	Dark blackish-green brown, friable clay-silt with moderate charcoal flecks and mortar debris.	Fill of [106], Overlain by (101)	0.24m	C20
[108]	Cut of PH	Oval posthole (0.40 x 0.42m), vertical sides with curved break of slope and flat base. 1 fill undated, but may be equated to [114]. In row with [110] [114] [116].	Cuts (104), Contains (109)	0.10m	Medieval
(109)	Fill of PH	Light green grey, Firm silt-clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small angular (shillet) stones. No finds.	Fill of [108], Overlain by (103)	0.10m	Medieval
[110]	Cut of PH	See [108], but 0.45x0.50m.	Cuts (104), Contains (111)	0.16m	Medieval
(111)	Fill of PH	See (109).	Fill of [110], Overlain by (103)	0.16m	Medieval
[112]	Cut of Pit	Rectangular trench/pit (0.65x1.55+m) , unexcavated as modern. If like other modern pit [126] = vertical sides and flat base.	Cuts (104), Contains (113)	-	C20
(113)	Fill of Pit	Dark blackish-green grey, friable clay-silt with frequent charcoal flecks & CBM debris.	Fill of [112], Overlain by (101)	-	C20
[114]	Cut of PH	Ovoid posthole (0.65x0.43m), slightly elongated to East with a gentle slope, but otherwise vertical sided with curved break and flat base. part of row [108] [114] [116].	Cuts (104), Contains (115)	0.12m	Medieval/C16
(115)	Fill of PH	See (109), but finds = 1 sherd of medieval pottery.	Fill of [114], Overlain by (103)	0.12m	Medieval/C16
[116]	Cut of PH	See [108], but 0.30x0.45m.	Cuts (104), Contains (117)	0.13m	Medieval
(117)	Fill of PH	See (109)	Fill of [116], Overlain by (103)	0.13m	Medieval
[118]	Cut of PH	Rectangular posthole (0.30x0.30m) with near vertical sides and a slightly stepped base, 1 fill, modern. + (see [106]).	Cuts (102), Contains (119)	0.10m	C20
(119)	Fill of PH	See (107).	Fill of [118], Overlain by (101)	0.10m	C20
[120]	Cut of Ditch	Linear Ditch (0.85m wide). Moderate straight changing to steep curved sides & a flat base. aligned NW-SE. 1 fill, undated, parallel to [122].	Cuts (104), Contains (121)	0.26m	Medieval
(121)	Fill of Ditch	Light green grey with yellow-orange mottling, firm silt-clay with occasional charcoal flecks and small angular stones. No finds.	Fill of [120], Overlain by (103)	0.26m	Medieval
[122]	Cut of Ditch	Linear Ditch (0.72m wide). Vertical NE slope with curved break & moderate SW slope to flat base. aligned NW-SE. 1 fill, dated to C16/Medieval. Parallel to [120].	Cuts (104), Contains (123)	0.25m	Medieval/C16

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(123)	Fill of Ditch	See (121), but finds = 1 sherd of medieval pottery.	Fill of [122], Overlain by (103)	0.25m	Medieval/C16
[124]	Cut of Gully	Ephemeral linear gully (0.50m wide) = possible terminus or part of base that survives. With gentle sides and flat base. 1 fill. Aligned N-S. Fill associable with those of [120] & [122].	Cuts (104), Contains (125)	0.08m	Medieval
(125)	Fill of Gully	See (121).	Fill of [124], Overlain by (103)	0.08m	Medieval
[126]	Cut of Pit	Rectangular pit (1.6+mx1.07m) with vertical sides and a flat base. 1 fill, C20, machine truncated.	Cuts (102), Contains (127)	0.28m	C20
(127)	Fill of Pit	See (113).	Fill of [126], Overlain by (101)	0.28m	C20
[128]	Cut of Ditch	Modern ditch (0.82m wide, aligned N-S. Moderate slightly curved sides to flat base. 1 fill, 20 th century, machine excavated.	Cuts (102), Contains (129)	0.47m	C20
(129)	Fill of Ditch	See (113).	Fill of [128], Overlain by (101)	0.47m	C20
(200)	Buried Topsoil	Dark blackish-grey, friable clay-silt with moderate charcoal flecks. Re-deposited Topsoil?	Overlain by (207), Overlies (201), Equates to (100)	0.25-0.28m	C20
(201)	Buried-buried Topsoil	Dark grey, friable clay-silt with occasional charcoal flecks. Finds = pot etc. Also a Re-deposited Top/subsoil?	Overlain by (200), Overlies (202), Equates to (101)	0.14-0.24m	C20
(202)	Made ground	Dark green grey, friable clay-silt with moderate charcoal flecks, pottery etc. Re-deposited soil.	Overlain by (201), Overlies (206), Equates to (102)	0.26-0.36m	C19-C20
(203)	Made ground	Dark grey green, soft silt-clay with moderate charcoal flecks. Finds = pottery, clay pipe etc.	Overlain by (206), Overlies (204), may equate to (103), Cut by [208]	0.39m	C18-C19
(204)	Disturbed natural	Mid yellow-brown, firm silt-clay with slight charcoal intrusions and pottery & clay pipe pressed into it. Top remnant of a subsoil or very clean compared to the others as a re-deposited natural which seems most likely.	Overlain by (203), Overlies (205), Equates to top of (104)	0.20m	C17-C18
(205)	Natural	Mid yellow, compact clay.	Overlain by (204), Equates to (104)	-	-
(206)	Made ground	Like (203). Mid grey green, soft silt-clay (re-deposited or buried sub-soil?) with moderate charcoal flecks. Its depth increases to level off the slope, which dives most sharply to the South side of the site, while sloping down gradually to the West end of the site.	Overlain by (202), Overlies (203), may equate to (103)	0.18-0.43m	C18-C19
(207)	New Topsoil	Present in NE square of site. Mid orange brown, friable clay-silt with occasional small sub-angular stones and modern rubble debris.	Overlies (200)	0.20-0.23m	C20-C21
[208]	Cut for path	Vertical, flat bottomed cut to cobbled foot path (1.10m wide). Cobbles seemed to be pressed into layer below, therefore the cut takes on the shape of the stones, although there would have had to be some reduction to make the path level.	Cuts (203), Contains (209)	0.12m	C18?
(209)	Fill of path	Cobbled fill/surface to path. Lined by larger (c.0.20m across) curb stones, bevelled on underside. Most cobbles of main path c. 11x6x6.5cm or 9x5x4cm and worn on upper side.	Fill of [208], Overlain by (206)	0.12m	C18?

* Representative samples of pottery and debris taken from layers.

Appendix 5

Finds Concordance

Context	Notes	POTTERY			CLAY PIPES			OTHER			DATE
		Sherds	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frgs.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	Frgs.	Wgt. (g)	Notes	
(100)		5	74	×2 Ironstone China; ×2 flowerpot; ×1 North Devon gravel-tempered post-medieval				2	6	Window glass, modern	C19
(101)		4	127	×3 WRE, inc. blue transfer print; ×1 North Devon gravel-tempered post-medieval				1	3	Bone	C19
								1	120	Salt-glazed sewer pipe	
(102)		3	15	×2 WRE; ×1 North Devon gravel-tempered post-medieval ware							Post-1720
(103)		10	109	×1 North Devon gravel-tempered rim; ×2 North Devon gravel-free (×1 type 10 tall jar); ×2 Bristol/Staffordshire yellow slip dish, brown marvelled trails; ×1 stoneware freckien? tankard base; ×1 North Devon scraffito jug; × North Devon medieval coarse-ware	3	8	Stem frags.	1	1100	Brick frag.	Late C17 & C18
					1	8	Bowl frag. (unusually long) Late C17				
(107)		1	1	×1 WRE							C19-C20
(113)		2	17	×1 WRE, inc. Blue transfer print; ×1 North Devon yellow slip, post-medieval ware	1	3	Stem frag.	2	22	×1 glass vessel C18-19; ×1 window late C19-C20	Post 1770
								1	16	Mortar frag. with coal	
(115)		1	2	×1 North Devon medieval coarse ware							Med.
(117)					2	4	Stem frags.	2	3	Animal bone (×1 tooth)	C19
								1	9	Fe object	
								3	121	Mortar frags. with coal	
(123)		1	4	×1 North Devon medieval coarse ware							Med.
(125)		7	75	×3 North Devon gravel-tempered ware; ×4 North Devon gravel-free ware				1	1	Window glass (crown glass)	Late C17 – Early C18
(127)		15	148	×8 WRE (×1 inc blue transfer print); × North Devon gravel-tempered ware; ×3 North Devon gravel-free ware	7	23	Stem frags.	1	201	Roof slate, whole	After 1770
								4	611	Mortar frags.	
								3	80	Decayed wood frags.	
								4	7	Window glass C17-C18	
								2	80	Burnt rock	
								1	5	Cockle shell	
(129)		5	567	×5 North Devon gravel-tempered ware (×2				3	18	Animal bone	C19
								2	400	Glass (×1 bottle base)	

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				C19);*1 North Devon gravel-free ware; *1 WRE				1	161	Mortar frag. with charcoal		
								1	183	Roof tile		
(201)		1	4	North Devon gravel-tempered ware				1	26	Pantile frag.	C19+	
(202)		2	59	North Devon gravel-free ware	1	5	Stem frag.	1	27	Oyster shell	C17	
								1	16	Mortar frag. with charcoal		
(203)		11	382	*4 North Devon gravel-tempered type 3 bowl;* North Devon gravel-free ware;*1 North Devon ware yellow slip plain bowl;*1 North Devon medieval coarse-ware;*1 South Somerset ware?;*1 Staffordshire/Bristol yellow slip (cupor posset pot)	1	18	Stem frags.	1	209	Brick frag.	Late C17 – Early C18	
									1	6		Glass frag.
					1	2	Bowl frag.	1	28	Animal Bone frag.		
(204)		1	3	Stoneware (Raeran tankard?)	1	4	Stem frag.				Late C17	
					1	14	Bowl late C17 1660-80					
(206)		8	101	*5 North Devon gravel-tempered post-medieval ware;*1 North Devon yellow slip ware;*1 North Devon sandy ware;*1 North Devon gravel-tempered ware C16?	1	2	Stem frag.	1	173	Over-fired brick frag.	C17	
								1	1	Glass vessel (beaker?) C16-C17		
								1	4	Clinker?		
(209)		2	7	*1 North Devon gravel-tempered wear;*1 North Devon sandy ware, both post-medieval	1	4	Stem frag.	1	71	Brick frag.	Post-Med.	
		79	1695		22	96						

Appendix 6

List of jpegs contained on CD Rom at the rear of this report

<i>Photo</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>Scale</i>
SMQ13(1)	Gully Terminus [124]	N	1m
SMQ13(2)	Modern Pit [126]	S	1m
SMQ13(3)	Modern Pit [126], from above	S	1m
SMQ13(4)	Modern Ditch [128]	S	2m
SMQ13(5)	Trench 1, West end, post-excavation	W	1+2m
SMQ13(6)	Modern wall half way along Trench 1, showing cut	S	1m
SMQ13(7)	Modern wall half way along Trench 1, showing face	W	1m
SMQ13(8)	Ditch [122]	NW	1m
SMQ13(9)	Ditch [120]	SE	1m
SMQ13(10)	Ditches [120] & [122]	SE	1m
SMQ13(11)	Posthole [118]	E	1m
SMQ13(12)	Posthole [118], from above	E	1m
SMQ13(13)	Posthole [116]	N	1m
SMQ13(14)	Postholes [116] & [118], from above	N	1m
SMQ13(15)	Modern Pit/Trench [112], unexcavated	S	1m
SMQ13(16)	Posthole [114]	N	1m
SMQ13(17)	Posthole [114], from above	N	1m
SMQ13(18)	Posthole [110]	E	1m
SMQ13(19)	Posthole [110], from above	E	1m
SMQ13(20)	Posthole [106]	E	1m
SMQ13(21)	Posthole [106], from above	E	1m
SMQ13(22)	Row of postholes [108] [110] [114] [116]. [108] in foreground	E	2m
SMQ13(23)	Trench 1, East end, post-excavation. Including postholes etc.	W	1+2m
SMQ13(24)	Section at East end of Trench 1 (not cleaned)	S	-
SMQ13(25)	Sample section at South end of Trench 2	W	2m
SMQ13(26)	Cobbled path [208], pre-excavation	N	1m
SMQ13(27)	Cobbled path [208], pre-excavation	E	1m
SMQ13(28)	Trench 2 pre-excavation	N	1m
SMQ13(29)	Cobbled path [208]	N	2m
SMQ13(30)	Cobbled path [208]	E	2m
SMQ13(31)	Cobbled path [208], includes section at North end of Trench 2	W	2m
SMQ13(32)	Trench 2, post excavation	N	2m
SMQ13(33)	Site shot. East end	NW	2m
SMQ13(34)	Site shot. Looking South-West	NE	-
SMQ13(35)	Site shot. West end. Post back-filling	E	-
SMQ13(36)	Site shot. Pre-excavation, East end	N	-
SMQ13(37)	Site shot. As above	NE	-
SMQ13(38)	Site shot. Trench 1 mid-excavation	SW	-

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