## Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Bovey Tracey, Teignbridge	National Grid Reference SX 81160 77224		Number:	
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording at 16 Pottery Road, Bovey Tracey, Photo attached? YES   Devon during groundwork associated with the construction a dwelling and a garage Photo attached? YES				
Planning Application no: 16/01615/FUL		Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum		
OASIS ID: southwes1-224574		Museum Accession no: RAMM: 19/33		
Contractor's reference number/code: BVP19		Dates fieldwork undertaken: 5 <sup>th</sup> August 2019		

## Description of works.

Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of a private client during groundwork associated with the start of works for the construction of a dwelling and garage in the garden at 16 Pottery Road, Bovey Tracey, Devon (Figure 1). This work was undertaken on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2019 in accordance with a WSI drawn up in consultation with the Devon County Historic Environment Team.

The site lies to the north of Pottery Road, off of the disused 'Granite Railway' (MDV19593; and part of 'Templer Way') that operated between the 1820's and 1850's, on the south side of Bovey Tracey and just beyond the south-west bank of 'Pottery Pond'. The site had recently been used as a garden and was mostly a lawn with undulations and patches of scrub. The site is at a height of c.48m AOD. The soils of the area are the slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy or fine silty over clayey soils of the Wickham 2 Association (SSEW 1983) that overlay the clay and lignite of the Southacre Clay and Lignite Member, within the sand, silt and clay of the Bovey Formation (BGS 2019). The proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential with regard to the former pottery and lignite industries that operated here: potteries to the east (MDV8963) that operated between c.1750 and 1958; and late 19<sup>th</sup> century lignite works to the south-west (MDV103872). In addition, the Historic Environment Record shows there to be findspots of prehistoric tools in this area (MDV8943, MDV8944), although their true provenance is unsubstantiated. Historic mapping shows the site as within open heathland in 1839, next to the 'Granite Railway' tram but with no pond to its north-east. In 1888 the site is still heathland and adjacent to lignite works and a newly formed pond. By 1905 the houses on Pottery Road, including no.16, have been built and a structure is shown near the entrance of the site. This structure is still present on mapping in the 1990's. Satellite imagery from 1999-2002 shows that the historical structure on the site is absent or misplaced, as a small structure is visible in the south-west corner of the site; furthermore the site appears partially landscaped as a possible allotment at this time. By 2006 the structure in the corner of the site has gone and the site appears more like a garden.

A trench  $0.92m\times10m$  was excavated where practical across the footprint of the proposed dwelling (Figures 1 and 2) by a tracked mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket to the depth of weathered natural. The ground had clearly been disturbed in the  $20^{th}$  century with soils cut away at the south-east end of the trench to the depth of the natural and  $20^{th}$  century debris spread and buried over with topsoil. In the middle of the trench subsoil survived between two stony land drains that contained  $19^{th}$  and  $20^{th}$  century debris. Trenches totalling 16.10m in length and between 0.92m and 1.50m wide were excavated along the footing lines of the proposed garage (Figures 1 and 3). In this part of the site, subsoil only survived in the north-west part of the area with topsoil directly overlying the natural across the rest of the area. A brick structure, a single course thick, orientated north-east by south-west and comprised of 'BOVEY' stamped bricks (dimensions  $22.5\times11\times6.5cm$ ), partially survived in the north part of this area. Bovey Pottery works produced bricks from *c*.1851. Topsoil (100) was a dark brown-grey, friable sandy-silt (0.15m-0.24m in depth). Topsoil (100) overlaid Subsoil (101), a mid yellow-grey, friable sandy-silt (0.09m-0.14m thick). Natural (102) was a light whiteish-yellow indurate sandy-gritty stone (weathered/sugar granite-esque).

The site contained no significant archaeological features or deposits.

Topsoil finds from the lesser disturbed end of the trench included ×3 sherds (12g) of White Refined Earthenware (WRE); from over the garage footings it included ×7 sherds (53g) of WRE; ×3 fragments of clear glass (bottle and panel); ×2 fragments (9g) of lignite (coal); ×1 sherd (92g) of a stoneware pot; ×2 fragments (6g) of a tri-pronged ceramic kiln spacer; and ×1 fragment (33g) of a ceramic disc kiln spacer(?). The debris at the south-east end of the trench included ×2 fragments (629g) of machine made brick; ×8 sherds (904g) of WRE (sample only taken); ×4 fragments (194g) of bottle glass (green and clear); and ×1 small elliptical 'medicine' bottle (c.40g). The north-west land-drain contained ×1 fragment (163g) of bottle glass; ×4 sherds (224g) of WRE including a large dish base (180g); and ×1 fragment (7g) of a tri-pronged kiln spacer. The south-east drain contained ×2 sherds (9g) of WRE. Most of the WRE equates to the hard 'chalky' appearing pottery produced at the Bovey Pottery works. The finds assemblage has been offered to the RAMM.

Recorder: J. Bampton

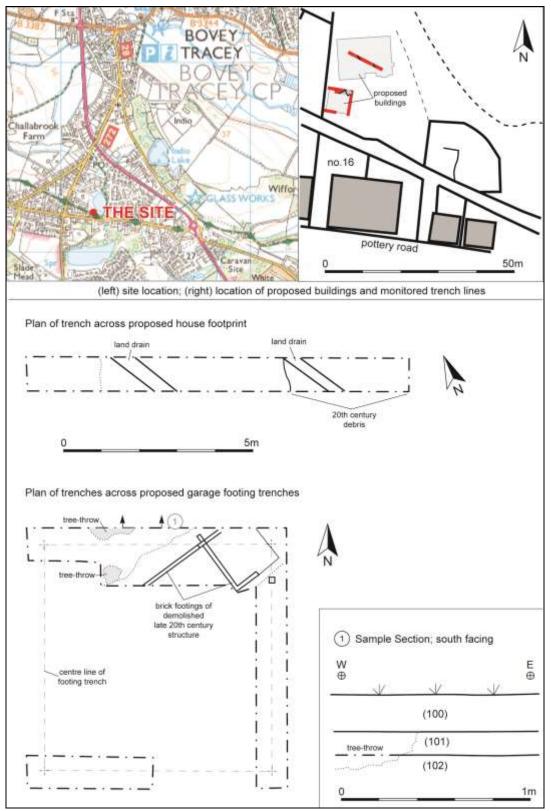


FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION, PLANS AND SECTION DRAWING.



FIGURE 2: TRENCH SHOT, POST-EXCAVATION; VIEWED FROM THE EAST-SOUTH-EAST (1M SCALE).



FIGURE 3: GARAGE FOOTING AREA; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST (NO SCALE).