

Negative Watching Brief: Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: East Brent, Somerset	National Grid Reference ST 34716 51858	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording of the excavation of footings and groundworks associated with an extension at Sa Goba, East Brent		Photo attached? YES
Planning Application no: 24/16/00001	Recipient museum: Museum of Somerset	
OASIS ID: southwes1-242881	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: SEBS16	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 29 th February 2016	
<p>Description of works. Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of Jenny Panayiotou (The Client), during the excavation of footings and groundworks associated with an extension at Sa Goba, East Brent, Somerset (Figure 1). This work was undertaken by J. Bampton on 29th February 2016 in accordance with best practice as outlined in the Somerset County Council Heritage Service Archaeological Handbook (2011) and in consultation with Stephen Membery, Senior Historic Environment Officer of the South West Heritage Trust (supported by Somerset County Council).</p> <p>Sa Goba is located on the south-eastern side of the historic settlement of East Brent, c.300m east of the parish church in a landscape of high archaeological potential. The field immediately to the east of the house and garden contains earthworks likely to be Iron Age and/or Romano-British in date [SHER: 11152]. Fieldwork to the east of the parish church has consistently produced Iron Age and Romano-British material, indicating the presence of a settlement [SHER: 10090]; a Romano-British rubbish pit was exposed during the construction of houses just to the north of Sa Goba, at Stoneleigh or Shearwater House, in 1962 [SHER: 12975]. The site lies at a height of c.6m AOD and the soils of the area are the deep, stoneless, mainly calcerous clayey soils of the Newchurch 2 Association which overlie the Charmouth Mudstone Formation.</p> <p>A footing trench, 0.60m wide, c.40m in length and 0.95m-1m in depth was excavated around the perimeter of an area c.18m×10m that defines the footprint of a new extension at the south end of the house, <i>Sa Goba</i>. An existing conservatory, c.6.5m×4.5m was also to be demolished within the footprint of the proposed extension. The majority of the footprint contained a paved area set on concrete and made-ground, from which the finished floor level of the extension would be made-up by c.0.40+m.</p> <p>The footing trench (see Figures 1-7) revealed: Topsoil (100), a dark brown-grey, soft-friable clay-silt and c.0.13m thick. Topsoil (100) overlaid Subsoil (101), a light orange-blue grey, compact clay, possibly indicative of a plough-soil. Subsoil (101) overlaid Natural (102), a light blue-brown with occasional orange veins and a light grey-blue, compact clay. At the time of the monitoring the water-table was at c.0.90m below ground level. Ditch [106] cut Subsoil (101). It was a linear ditch aligned north-west by south-east with a gentle concave profile, c.2m wide and 0.25m deep. It contained Fill (107), a dark blue-grey, soft clay-silt that was very sterile, clean. Fill (107) was overlain by Made-ground (103), a dirty, redeposited natural and made-ground, predominantly a dark blue-grey with brown veins, a firm silt-clay, c.0.16m thick. Made-ground (103) was overlain by Concrete layer (104), a bedding and levelling layer of various concrete mixes, c.0.10m thick and lined with a subsurface brick wall. Concrete layer (104) was overlaid by either rectangular or octagonal paving slabs (105), c.0.05m thick.</p> <p>Ditch [106] was part of a partially visible earthwork ditch that ran across the site, parallel to three other visible earthwork ditches in the garden of Sa Goba, each c.0.25m deep, c.2-3m wide and c.8-10m apart. These drainage features can be seen on satellite and LiDAR imagery and are part of a wider extant post-medieval field-system. Where the house has been built the ground has been levelled slightly and the ditch partially in-filled.</p> <p>All finds were recovered during the monitoring and recording and subsequently discarded. The finds were: from Topsoil (100), ×2 fragments (12g) of anthracite, ×3 sherds (23g) of White Refined Earthenware (×1 with Blue Transfer Print Decoration), ×1 clear glass bottle screw-top (26g), ×1 Fe object (82g) (square nut); from Subsoil (101), ×1 animal bone fragment (21g); from Made-ground (103), ×1 fragment (<1g) of CBM, ×2 sherds (1g) of White Refined Earthenware, ×1 sherd (5g) of probable 18th century yellow slip ware.</p> <p>No significant archaeological deposits or features were revealed during the monitoring and recording.</p>		
Recorder: J. Bampton	Date sent to HER: 04/03/2016	

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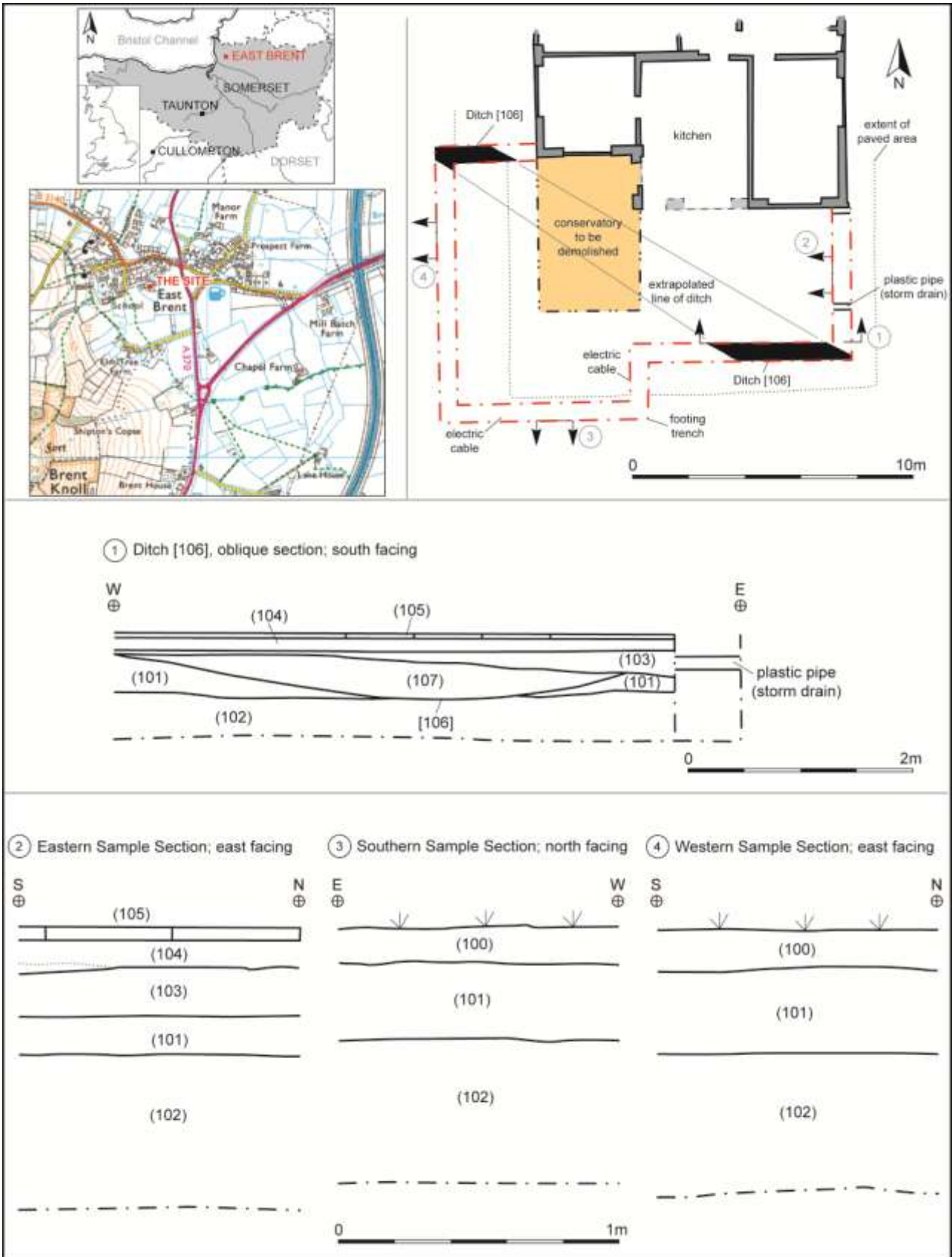


Figure 1: Site location, plan at south end of Sa Goba and section drawings; including through Ditch [106].



(Left) Figure 2: Eastern footing, aligned north-south; viewed from the south (2m scale).

(Right) Figure 3: Ditch [106] in the south-east of the footing trench; viewed from the south-east (1m scale).



(Left) Figure 4: Southern sample section (Section Drawing No.3); viewed from the north (1m scale).

(Right) Figure 5: Site shot, post-excitation; viewed from the south-east (no scale).



(Left) Figure 6: Western footing, aligned north-south; viewed from the south (2m scale).

(Right) Figure 7: Ditch [106] in the north-west of the footing trench; viewed from the south-east (1m scale).