

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Tavistock, West Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> 248108.743535	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Replacement works to low pressure gas pipe		<b>Photo attached?</b> Yes
<b>Planning Application no:</b> NA	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Plymouth City Museum	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> southwes1-95099	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> AR.2011.4	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> TDR11	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 21.02.11 & 23.02.11	
<p><b>Description of works.</b></p> <p>Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. at the request of Mr Tony Ham of Wales and West Utilities (the Client) prior to the replacement of gas pipes on Kilworthy Hill and Drakes Road, Tavistock (Figure 1c). The work was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) approved by DCHES and the work was undertaken by S. Walls.</p> <p>Two small areas of c. 12m<sup>2</sup> and 10m<sup>2</sup> corresponding to the intersections of the existing pipes were opened up to 0.8m below the ground surface (Figure 1a). The two trenches were excavated by a mechanical excavator using a 0.9m wide toothed bucket and the trenches subsequently viewed and recorded by S. Walls.</p> <p>Trench 1 (c. 1.5m x 5.3m), opened to the north-east at the junction of the upper part of Kilworthy Hill and Drake Road, contained a relatively simple stratified sequence of deposits, with an upper layer (001) of tarmac (0.15m thick) overlying a thick deposit (0.4m) of a very mixed grey sandy-silt (002) containing fragments of slate and brick. Below this was a clean homogenous buff silt-clay deposit (003). The only feature (other than service trenches) was 1m in from the western corner of the northern section, this shallow cut feature [004] was simply filled by (005) three rectangular granite bricks (0.15m x 0.06m) and had cut into (002), and in turn been cut by a service trench to the east and then covered by tarmac (001). This feature may be part of an earlier 20<sup>th</sup> century road surface or pavement.</p> <p>Trench 2 (c. 3.3m x 5.5m), opened across the junction between Pym Street and Drake Road (Figure 1b), had a slightly more complicated stratigraphic sequence. This was primarily caused by the large number of services which bisected the area and also by a brick inspection pit which was exposed in the eastern section. The upper tarmac layer (001) overlay a thin (0.05m) clean deposit of yellow-brown silt-clay (006) which in turn overlay (007) a thick band (0.4m) of mixed grey sandy silt containing frequent fragments of brick and slate. This deposit of rubble (007) was almost identical in composition to that recorded for (002) in Trench 1. Below (007) was a clean homogenous buff silt-clay deposit (008), which again was similar to a deposit (003) seen in Trench 1.</p> <p>All of the contexts and features which were exposed appear to have been 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> century in date, with the possible exception of the lowest deposit in each of the two trenches (008) and (003).</p> <p>No finds were recovered from either trench.</p>		
<p><b>A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.</b></p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> S. Walls		<b>Date sent to HER:</b> 03.03.11

Please email completed form to: [archaeol@devon.gov.uk](mailto:archaeol@devon.gov.uk) or post to County Archaeology Service, Environment Directorate, Matford Lane Offices, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QW. Information recorded on this form will be added to the Historic Environment Record, and made available to all researchers.

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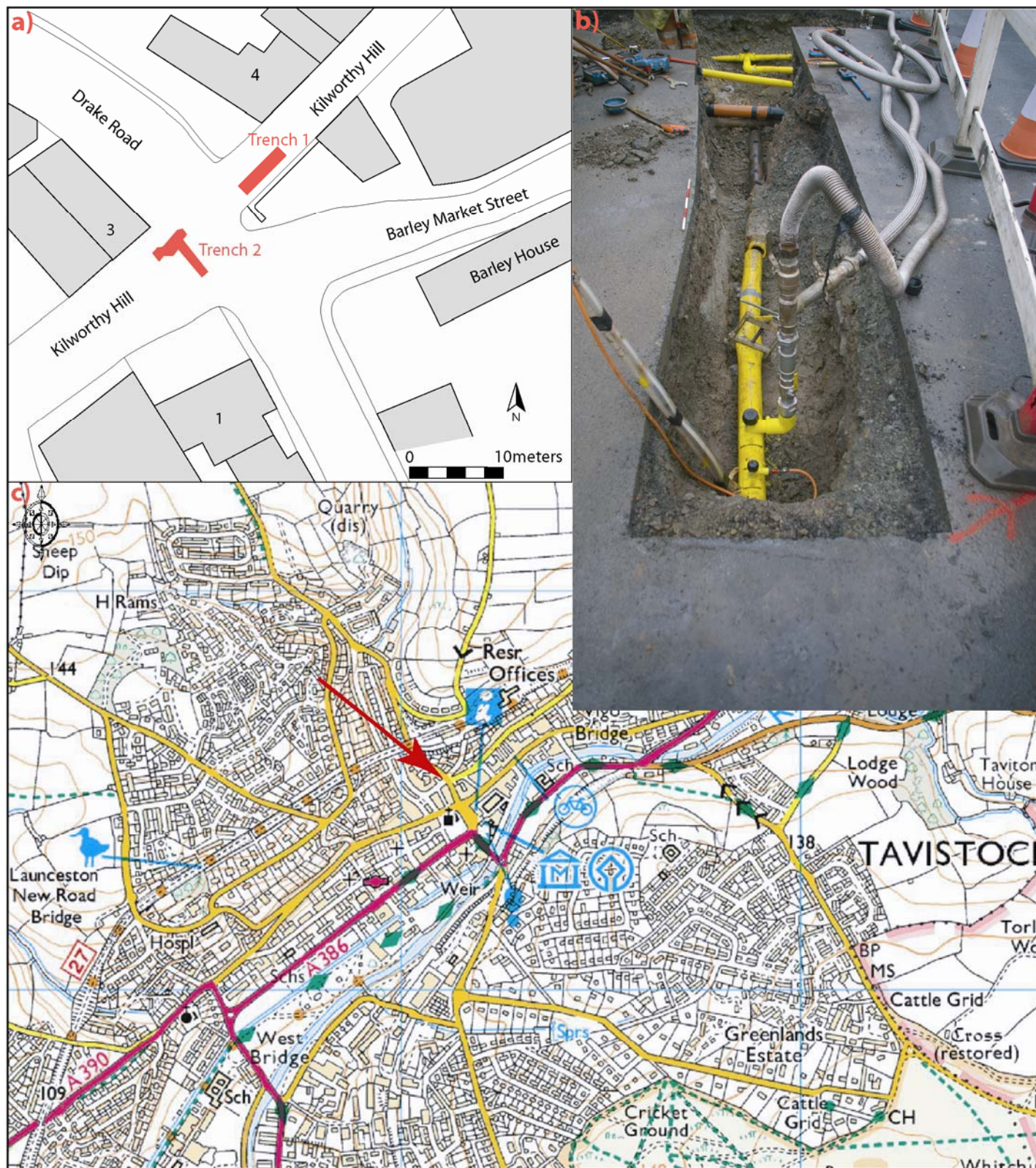


Figure 1: (a) Location of the two service trenches.  
 (b) Shot of Trench 2 from the south-east (0.5m scale).  
 (c) Location map, the location of the site is indicated by the arrow.