

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Sidford High Street, Sidmouth, Devon	National Grid Reference (between SY 31298 89731 and SY 313754 89953)	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Archaeological monitoring of the excavation of gas main replacement trenches and insertion pits in Sidford		Photo attached? Yes
Planning Application no: Non Applicable	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum	
OASIS ID: cotswold2-125759	Museum Accession no: 11/56	
Contractor's reference number/code: CA project number 3563	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 8 th September 2011 – 26 th March 2012	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>The area affected by trenching and associated groundworks for the gas pipeline replacement covers the route of the pipeline along Sidford High Street (the A3052) through Sidford, extending north along School street up to where it meets Two Bridges Road. Insertion pits associated with the mainline replacement works were also observed around Sid Vale Close in the north of the village, and along Drakes Avenue, Fleming Avenue and Lockyer Avenue to the south of the Sidford Road (the A375) in the village (see attached plans Figs. 1-4).</p> <p>A total of two hundred and thirty one separate interventions were monitored, which generally consisted of insertion pits measuring approximately 1m in length by 1.5m in width by 1m in depth, combined with several larger insertion pits or trenches measuring up to 9m in length by 4m in width and 1.6m in depth. The natural substrate was not observed in any of the interventions along Sidford High Street.</p> <p>Across the area subject to archaeological monitoring along Sidford High Street the general stratigraphy consisted of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0-0.25m Modern tarmac road surface. • 0.25 - c. 1m (western end) and 0.25 – up to c. 1.6 (eastern end) Reddish brown sandy clay and gravel. Compacted redeposited natural backfilling the construction cut of the mainline gas pipeline, which was greater than the width of the insertion pits and trenches, as well as the cuts of the older connecting gas service pipes. Clean pink, grey, orange or yellow sand or sandy gravel backfilled the construction cuts of more recently laid pipe services, which generally re-cut the backfill of the original mainline gas pipe construction trench. <p>Across the area subject to archaeological monitoring along School Street the general stratigraphy consisted of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0-0.25 Modern tarmac road surface. • 0.25-1.3m Reddish brown sandy clay and gravel. Compacted redeposited natural backfilling the construction cut of the mainline gas pipeline, which was greater than the width of the insertion pits and trenches, as well as the cuts of the older connecting gas service pipes. Clean pink, grey, orange or yellow sand or sandy gravel backfilled the construction cuts of more recently laid pipe services, which generally re-cut the backfill of the original mainline gas pipe construction trench. <p>Across the area subject to archaeological monitoring along Sid Vale Close the general stratigraphy consisted of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0-0.1 Modern tarmac road surface/modern footpath • 0.1-0.3m Pinkish-orange sandy gravel hardcore. • 0.25-c.0.7m Reddish brown sandy clay and gravel. Compacted redeposited natural backfilling the construction cut of the mainline gas pipeline, which was greater than the width of the insertion pits and trenches, as well as the cuts of the older connecting gas service pipes. Clean pink, grey, orange or yellow sand or sandy gravel backfilled the construction cuts of more recently laid pipe services, which generally re-cut the backfill of the original mainline gas pipe construction trench. 		

Across the area subject to archaeological monitoring along Drakes Avenue/Fleming Avenue and Lockyer Avenue the general stratigraphy consisted of the following:

- 0-0.1 Modern tarmac road surface/modern footpath
- 0.1-0.3m Pinkish-orange sandy gravel hardcore.
- 0.3-c.0.6m Reddish brown sandy clay and gravel or redeposited blue clay. Compacted redeposited natural backfilling the construction cut of the mainline gas pipeline, which was greater than the width of the insertion pits and trenches, as well as the cuts of the older connecting gas service pipes. Clean pink, grey, orange or yellow sand or sandy gravel backfilled the construction cuts of more recently laid pipe services, which generally re-cut the backfill of the original mainline gas pipe construction trench.
- >0.6m Blue sandy clay. Undisturbed natural substrate.

In addition to the original gas main pipe and its connections, other modern service pipes were exposed within a number of the insertion pits. No earlier archaeological deposits or artefacts were exposed or recovered from these excavations.

A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.

Recorder:

Diarmuid O Seaneachain (Cotswold Archaeology)

Date sent to HER:

28/09/12

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

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PROJECT TITLE

Gas Main Replacement, Sidford, Devon

FIGURE TITLE

Site location plan

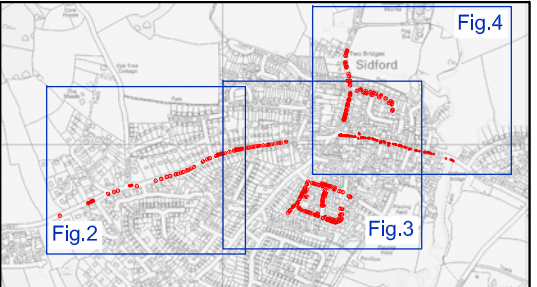
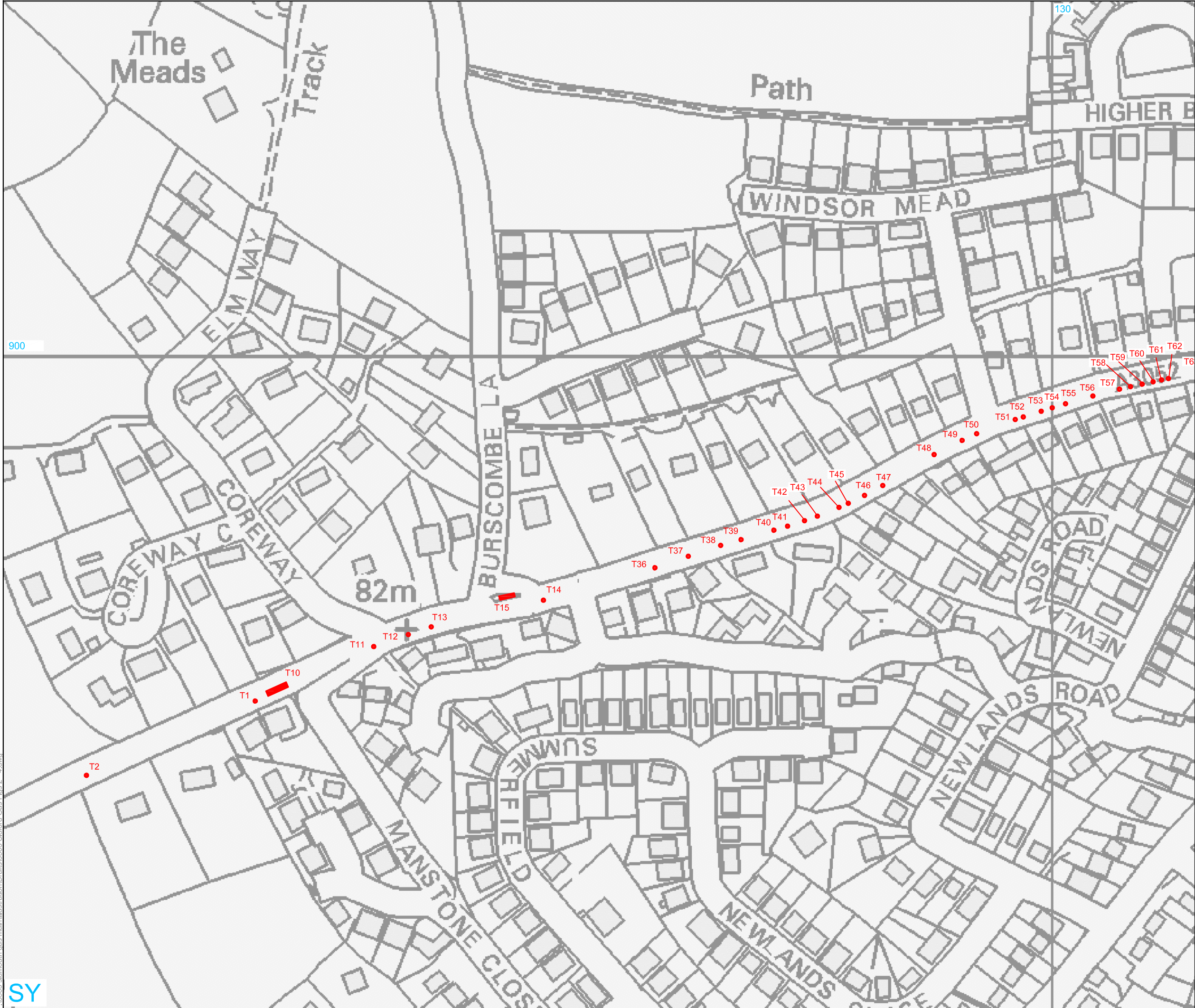
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PROJECT NO. 3563 DATE 24-05-2012
DRAWN BY JB REVISION 00
APPROVED BY PJM SCALE@A4 1:50,000

FIGURE NO.

1



■ observed groundworks

0 100m

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PROJECT TITLE
Gas Main Replacement, Sidford, Devon

FIGURE TITLE
Location of observed groundworks

PROJECT NO.	3563	DATE	24-05-2012	FIGURE NO.
DRAWN BY	JB	REVISION	00	2
APPROVED BY	PJM	SCALE@A3	1:2000	



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6



7

- 5 Insertion pit 104, Church St looking south
- 6 Insertion pit 221, near St. Peter's Church on Sidford High Street, looking west
- 7 Insertion pit 222, outside St. Peter's Church on Sidford High Street, looking east