

# FIELD 0507, AVONWICK, NORTH HUIISH, SOUTH HAMS, DEVON

(NGR SX 71037 58064)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

South Hams District Council planning reference 38/0793/11/F

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Prepared by:  
Kerry Tyler

On behalf of:  
Linden Homes

Document No: ACD391/1/0

Date: June 2013



AC archaeology

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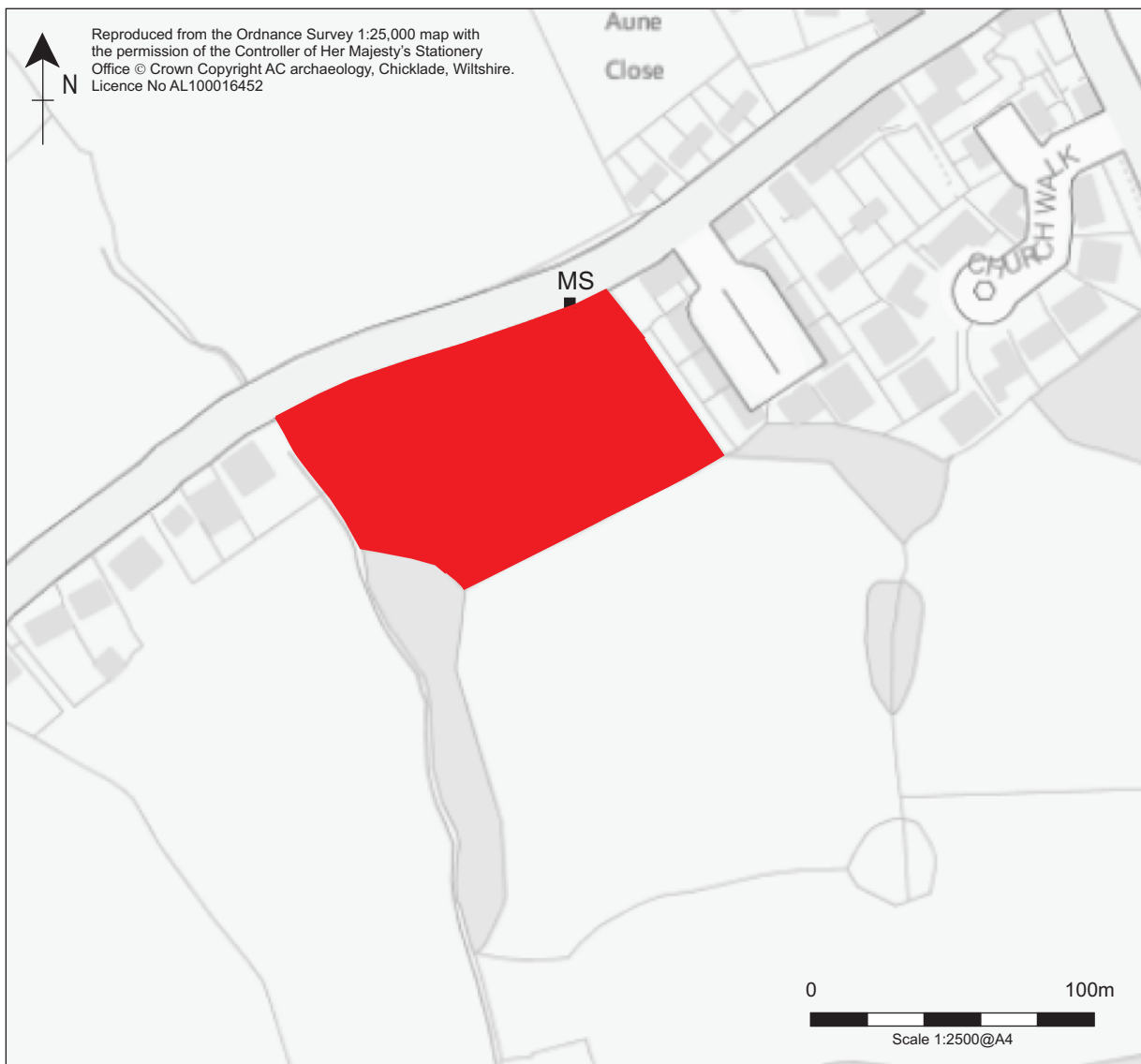
# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> North Huish, South Hams	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SX7103758064	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Field 0507, Avonwick, North Huish, South Hams: Results of an archaeological watching brief		<b>Photo attached?</b> Y
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 38/0793/11/F	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Plymouth City Museum	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 153065	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> 38/0793/11/F	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b>  ACD391	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b>  26/10/2011 – 14/11/2011	
<p><b>Introduction (Fig. 1)</b> An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AC archaeology during construction of a housing development in Field 0507, Avonwick, North Huish, South Hams (Fig 1). Archaeological work was required by South Hams District Council as a condition of planning permission and was commissioned by Linden Homes. The fieldwork was carried out in accordance with a project design prepared by Exeter Archaeology.</p> <p>The site is situated southwest of the village of Avonwick and lies on a gentle northeast-facing slope. Information held by the Devon County Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the field boundaries forming the north and west sides of the site are boundaries between the historic North Huish and Ugborough parishes, and are also the Hundred boundaries between Stanborough and Ermington and may therefore date to the Saxon period. A granite milestone erected by the Totnes and Berry Pomeroy Turnpike Trust remains <i>in-situ</i> within the northern boundary and dates to <i>circa</i> 1765.</p> <p><b>Results (Fig. 1; Plates 1 and 2)</b> The milestone was recorded prior to and also during removal to safe storage. It is inscribed "To Plym<sup>th</sup> 17 Miles" and "To Totnes 6 Miles". The milestone has been restored on the grass verge west of the entrance to the new development, which is close to its original position.</p> <p>The monitored groundworks comprised the removal of topsoil and where present subsoil down to the level of natural subsoil within a 10m wide corridor running the length of the north and western boundaries where they form the historic parish boundaries. This was carried out using a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket, working under archaeological supervision. The topsoil comprised dark brown silty clay measuring between 0.15m and 0.20m thick. In the eastern part of the stripped area, where the field began to slope downhill, the topsoil overlaid mid brown clay silt subsoil measuring 0.15m thick. The natural subsoil was present at an average depth of 0.30m below the surface and comprised light brown-grey clay shillet. No archaeological features or deposits present, the only subsurface features being a field drain cutting through the subsoil and disturbances associated with overhead cable poles.</p> <p><b>Comments</b> No archaeological features were exposed during groundworks and no finds recovered. The milestone was recorded, protected during the development, and reset adjacent to the road.</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b>  Kerry Tyler, AC archaeology	<b>Date sent to HER:</b>  20 June 2013	



SX

71



- Site area
- Area monitored
- MS** Milestone

PROJECT

Field 507, Avonwick, South Hams, Devon

TITLE

Fig.1: Location of site and area monitored







Plate 1: The milestone *in situ*, viewed from the north



Plate 2: View of topsoil stripping along the north boundary, showing partially removed subsoil, viewed from the east

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