

Beehive Community Centre, Dowell Street, Honiton,
Devon

(NGR ST 1583 0078)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

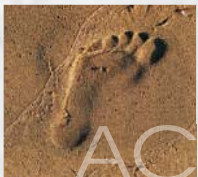
East Devon District Council planning reference: 11/2778/FUL

Prepared by:
Andrew Passmore BSc MIfA

On behalf of:
The Bailey Partnership

Document No: ACD334/2/0

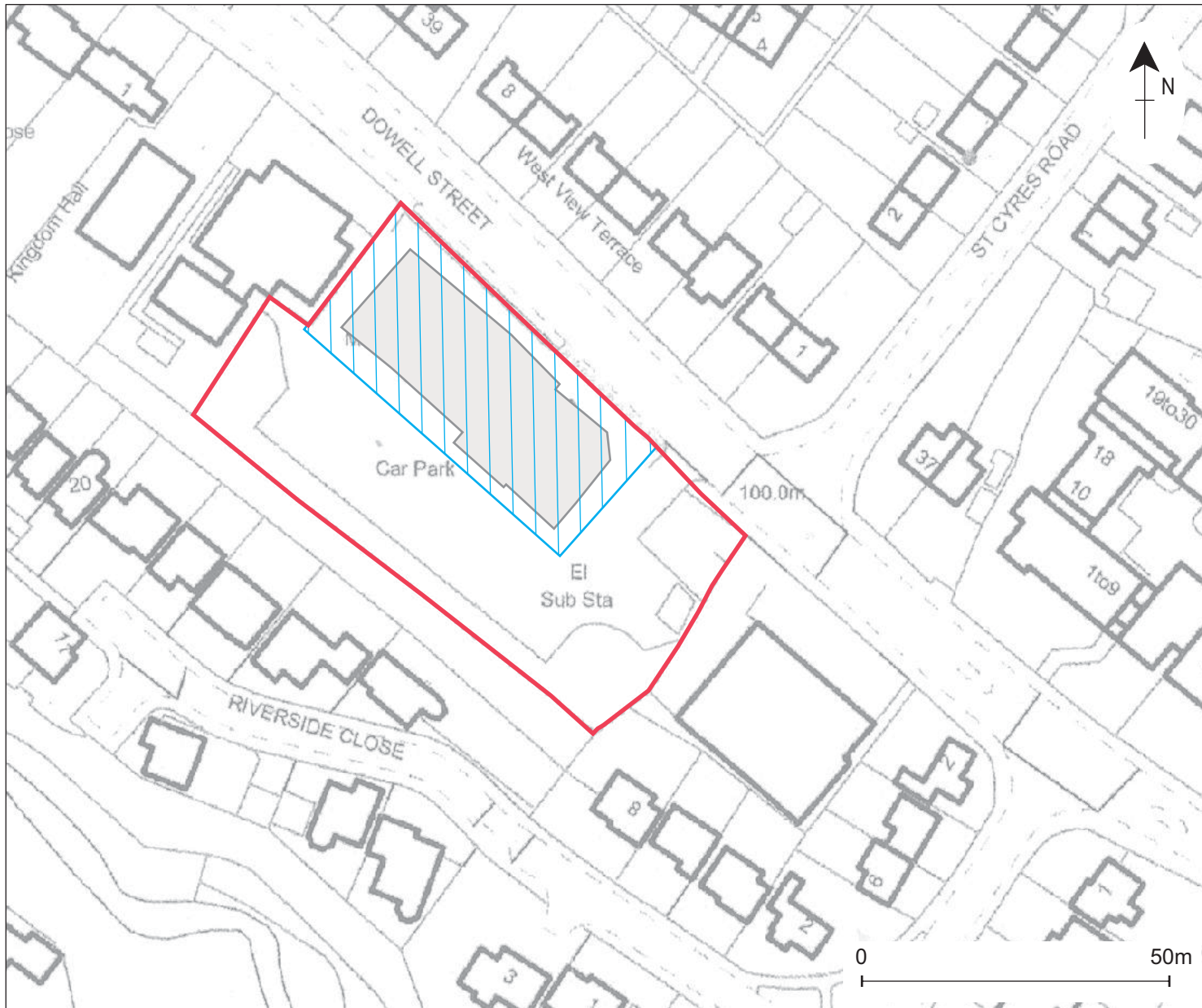
Date: July 2013



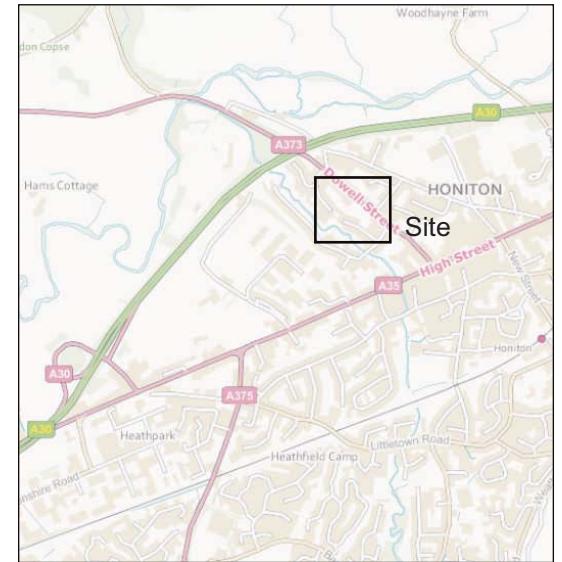
archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record




Civil Parish & District: Honiton, East Devon	National Grid Reference ST 1583 0078	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Beehive Community Centre, Dowell Street, Honiton: Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached? N
Planning Application no: 11/2778/FUL	Recipient museum: RAMM	
OASIS ID: 155122	Museum Accession no: ref. no. 11/26	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD334	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 18 and 19 March 2013	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>A watching brief was undertaken during ground reduction in advance of the construction of a new community centre. The site lies within a car park (Fig. 1), and is depicted on 19th-century maps as farmland. The archaeological interest in the site stems from the discovery within nearby development sites of prehistoric flint tools as well as ironworking slag that may be related to medieval industrial activity. A former leat forms the southwest boundary of the car park.</p> <p>An area measuring 53m by 21m was reduced by up to 1m, well below the top of natural deposits. The following deposit sequence was observed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 – 0.15m thick layer of tarmac representing the current par park surface; • 101 – 0.25m thick layer of firm dark grey-brown silty-clay containing abundant brick and concrete, as well as five sherds of industrial sanitation ceramics, an iron nail and an iron strap. This deposit is interpreted as a 20th-century levelling layer associated with the construction of the car park. The finds from this layer have been discarded; • 104 – 0.3m thick layer of firm mid grey-brown silty clay with occasional stone, and rare brick inclusions, interpreted as a levelling layer for the car park; • 102 – natural loose mid yellow-brown sandy gravel; and • 103 – natural firm mid bluish-grey silty-clay with occasional rounded gravel. <p>In conclusion, no archaeological features or deposits were exposed during the groundworks. All the exposed layers above the natural were associated with the car park, and it is clear that any historic soils had been removed when the car park was constructed in the mid 20th century. The first depiction of the car park (on the 1958 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map) appears to indicate that the whole of the site was landscaped to form a level area above the leat. No historic finds were recovered.</p>		
<p>A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.</p>		
Recorder: Gareth Holes, AC archaeology	Date sent to HER: 18 July 2013	



Plan supplied by the client



Key

-  Site boundary
-  Stripped area
-  Proposed building

PROJECT

Beehive Community Centre, Honiton

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site



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