

THE OLD CATTLE MARKET, ASHBURTON

(NGR SX 75769 69769)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

Prepared by:
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On behalf of:
Dartmoor Homes

Document No: ACD536/2/0

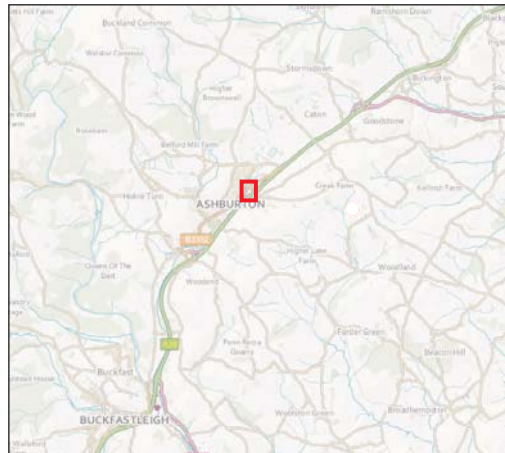
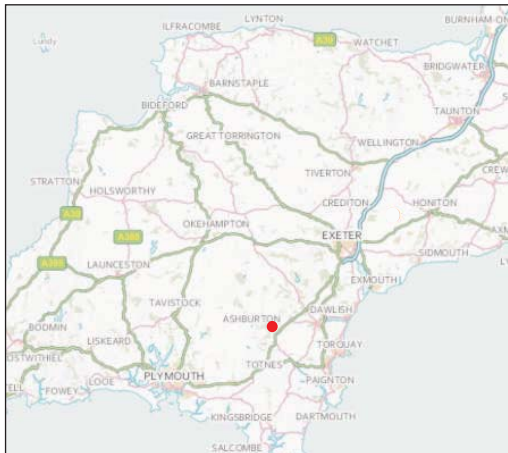
Date: August 2013



archaeology

Dartmoor National Park Authority Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Ashburton	National Grid Reference SX 75769 69769	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: The Old Cattle Market, Ashburton: Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached? N
Planning Application no: 0138/12	Recipient museum: Royal Albert memorial Museum, Exeter	
OASIS ID: 157083	Museum Accession no: 12/61	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD536	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 25 June 2013 and 1 July 2013	
<p>Description of works</p> <p>A watching brief was carried out by AC archaeology during the construction of a residential development comprising 18 flats with associated off-street private parking spaces and 20 public car parking spaces on the site of the Old Cattle Market, Ashburton, Devon (Fig. 1). The site lies immediately outside the historic core of the town, adjacent to a block of former burgage plots that are depicted on historic maps. A previous planning application (0061/08) for the development had been approved, and development proceeded in 2011. Construction work included the excavation of foundation trenches for both blocks of flats, as well as the laying of the foundations and the construction of one of the blocks of flats to roof level. As part of the current development programme the excavation of two service trenches was monitored (Fig. 2).</p> <p>The trench for the electricity cable supplying the west block of flats was excavated from the eastern corner of the development site for a distance of 29m towards the southeast side of the flats. The trench measured 0.60m wide by up to 1m deep. The following deposit sequence was observed across the length of the trench:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 0.10m thick concrete and tarmac surfaces of the cattle market and associated make-up; 2. 0.28-0.42m thick moderately compact dark brown silty clay with rare large sub-angular stone inclusions, interpreted as an historic ploughsoil; 3. Moderately compact mid brown silty clay with very rare gravel inclusions, interpreted as the natural subsoil. <p>The trench for the sewer pipe was excavated along the north side of the west block of flats. It measured 27m long by 0.70m wide by up to 0.80m deep. In the eastern half of the trench, the same deposit sequence as described above was recorded. In the remainder of the trench, under layer 1 a compact dark brown silty clay (4) containing slate, coal and charcoal inclusions was exposed. It continued below the depth of the trench and below the depth of the natural subsoil exposed to the east.</p> <p>In summary, no archaeological features were observed and no finds recovered. The exposed deposits represent historic soils and more layers and surfaces associated with the former cattle market.</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: Abigail Brown, AC archaeology	Date sent to HER: 22 August 2013	



 Site Location

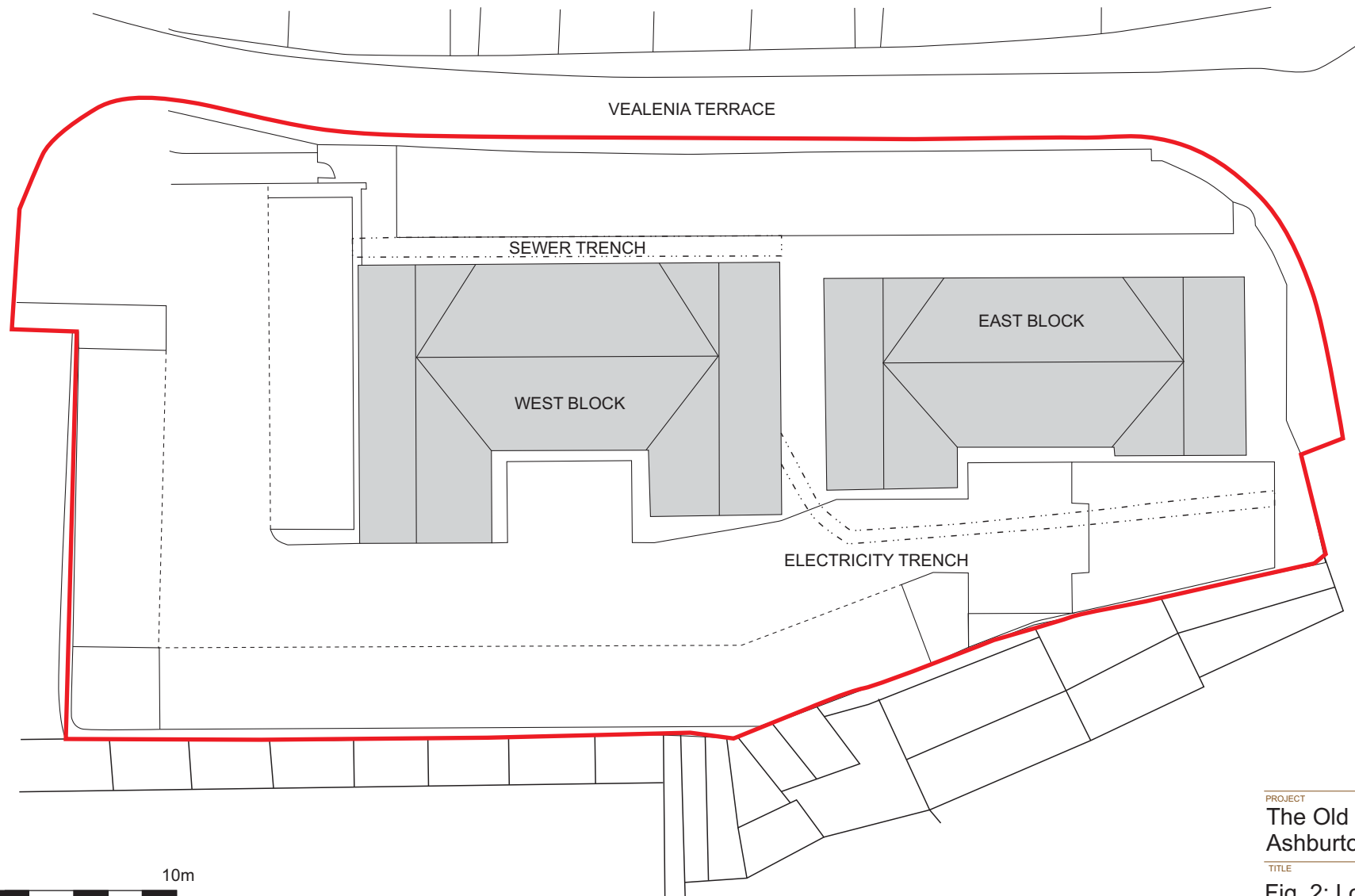
PROJECT

The Old Cattle Market, Ashburton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site





0 10m
Scale 1:350@A4

 Site outline  Service trenches

PROJECT
The Old Cattle Market,
Ashburton, Devon

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Fig. 2: Location of
Observations



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