LAND TO THE REAR OF 30 GOLD STREET, TIVERTON, DEVON

(centred on NGR SS 95695 12618)

Results of an archaeological trench evaluation

Planning reference: Mid Devon District Council 12/01134/FULL (condition 5)

Prepared by: Stella De-Villiers

On behalf of: Mettam Ware Chartered Surveyors

Document No: ACD857/2/0

Date: July 2014



Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Tiverton, Mid Devon	National Grid Reference SS 95695 12618		Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)	
Subject: Land to the rear of 30 Gold Street, Tiverton: Results of an archaeological trench evaluation Photo attached? Y				
Planning Application no: 12/01134/FULL		Recipient museum: N/A		
OASIS ID: 181041		Museum Accession no: N/A		
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD857		Dates fieldwork undertaken: 6/06/2014		

Description of works.

Introduction

An archaeological trench evaluation was undertaken to the rear of 30 Gold Street, Tiverton (Fig. 1). It complied with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AC archaeology for archaeological work required by Mid Devon District Council as a condition (5) of planning permission for the construction of 2 dwellings and other works as advised by the Devon County Council Historic Environment Team.

The site is located on the north side of Gold St. within a burgage plot in the medieval core of Tiverton. The property is depicted on the 1889 1:500 OS map as the Cross Keys public house. The building was situated in the west of the property, with an opening through to two rear yards. A long range ran along the rear western boundary, and returning along the north boundary. Buildings to the rear of the pub probably housed stables and possibly coach accommodation. Later mapping shows that this arrangement of buildings continued until the demolition of the rear buildings for this development (Plate 1).

Results

The trench evaluation comprised the machine excavation of six 2m by 1m test pits, dug to a maximum depth of 1m (Fig. 2). Trenches 1, 2 and 3 were dug through a modern concrete surface. Trenches 1 and 3 came down directly on sterile river gravels, whilst Trench 2 revealed modern demolition material, measuring 0.38m thick, above a tarmac layer. Below this was a 0.06m thick layer of sterile dark brown soil above sterile river gravels (Plates 2 and 3). Trenches 4, 5 and 6 were located within the former yard and were dug through tarmac which lay directly on to sterile river gravels. Service trenches cut the river gravels in Trenches 1 and 5.

Comments

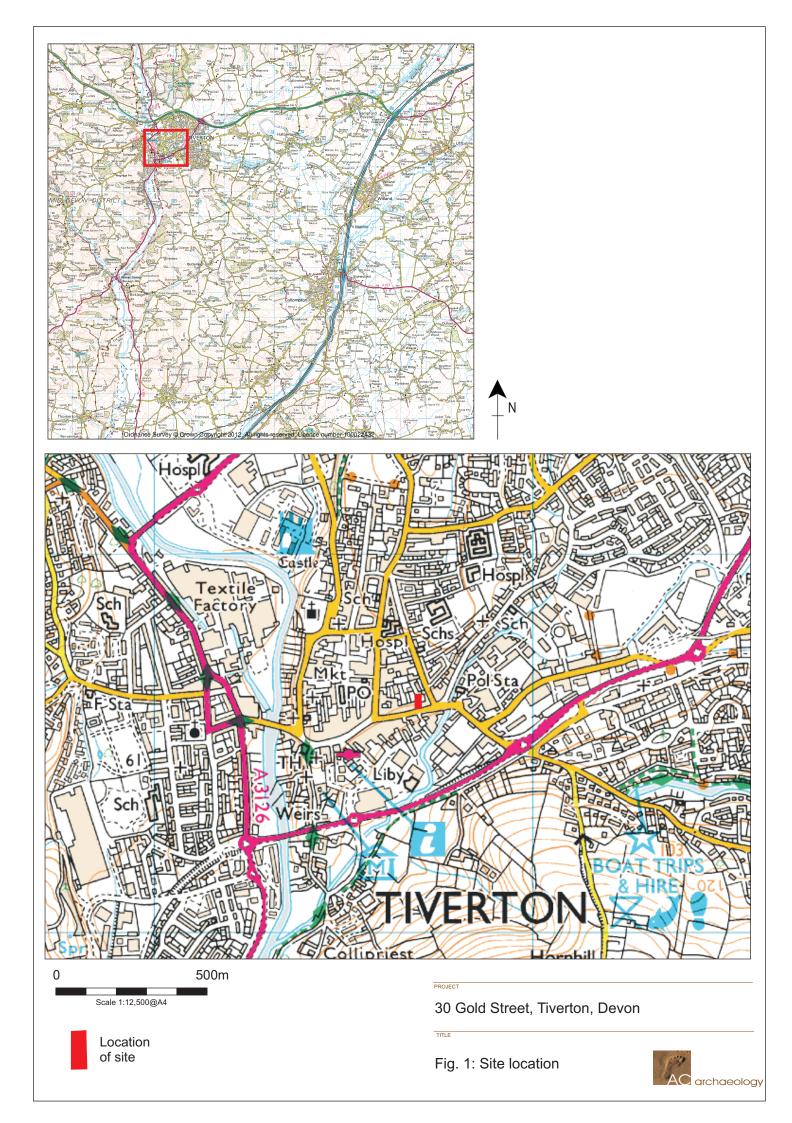
No archaeological features or deposits were encountered in the trench evaluation and there were no finds. The absence of archaeological features or finds, along with the tarmac present at 0.38m below ground surface in Trench 2, indicates that the area has been landscaped in modern times. This landscaping has truncated and removing evidence for the historic use of the rear of the burgage plot and any evidence of activity that may have occurred prior to that revealed by historic mapping.

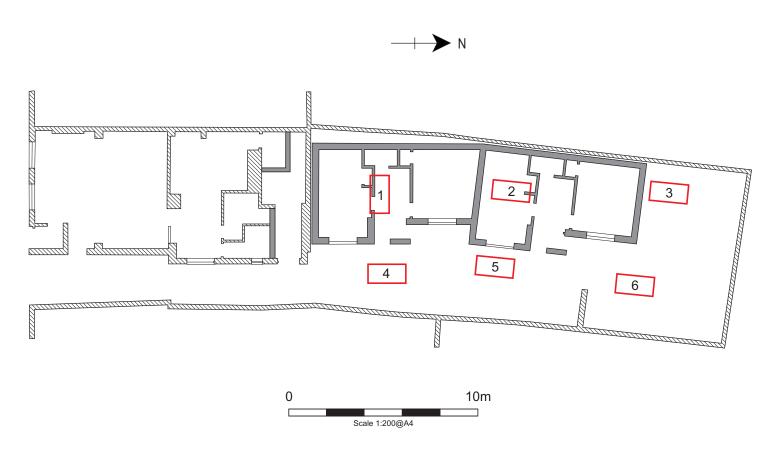
A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
Stella De-Villiers, AC archaeology	15 July 2014

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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Existing walls

Proposed dwellings

Test pits

30 Gold Steet, Tiverton, Devon

Fig. 2: Location of trenches





Plate 1: The site, looking north



Plate 2: Trench 2, east-facing section (scale 1m)



Plate 3: Trench 3, east-facing section (scale 1m)



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