

# LAND ADJACENT TO HOLYWELL STORES, ST ANN'S CHAPEL, BIGBURY, DEVON

(NGR SX 66326 47270)

Results of an archaeological evaluation

Planning ref. South Hams District Council 05/2557/13/F  
(condition 5)

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Prepared by: Chris Caine

On behalf of:  
Modbury Developments (2) Ltd

Document No: ACD1072/2/0

Date: March 2015

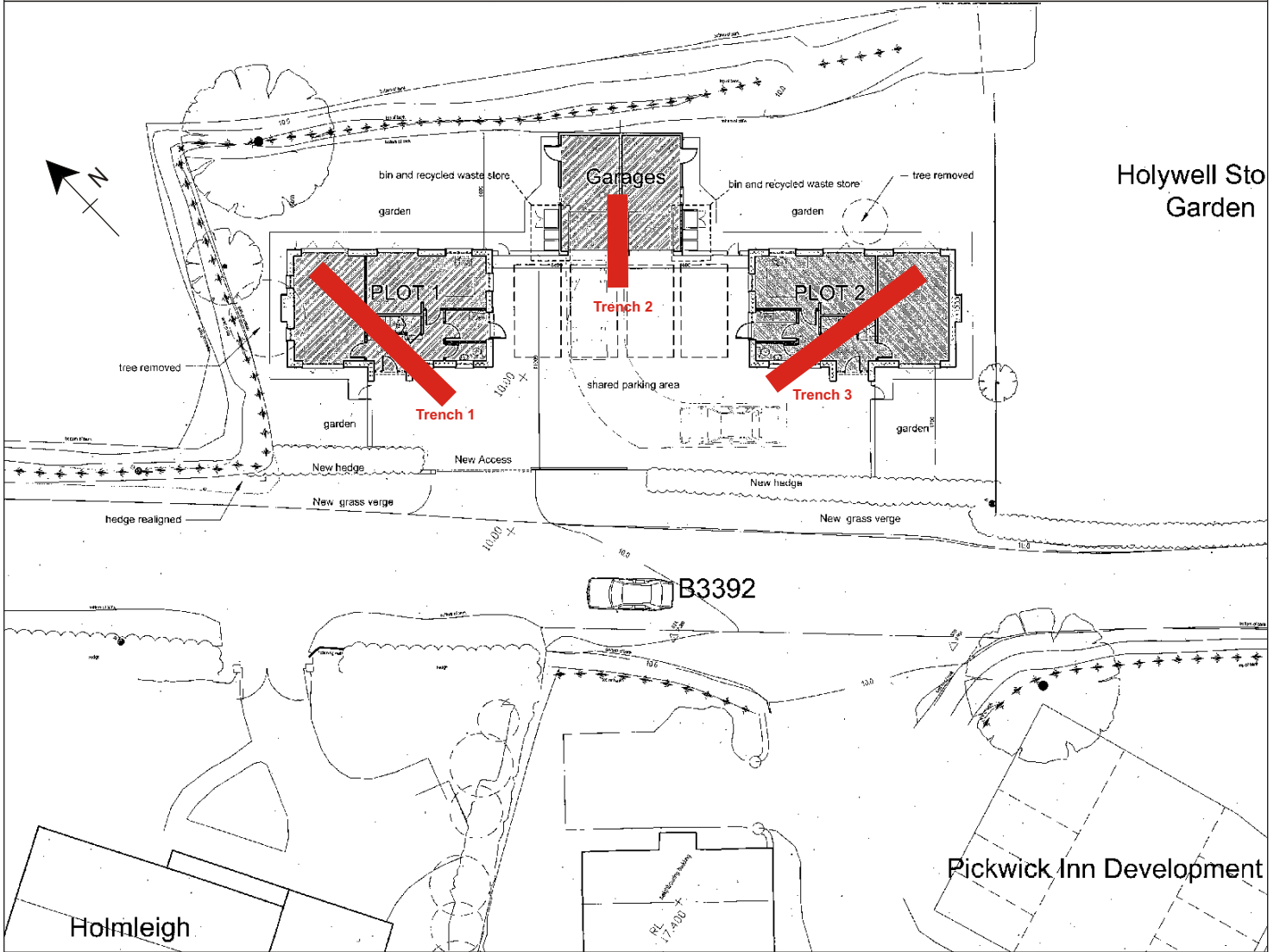
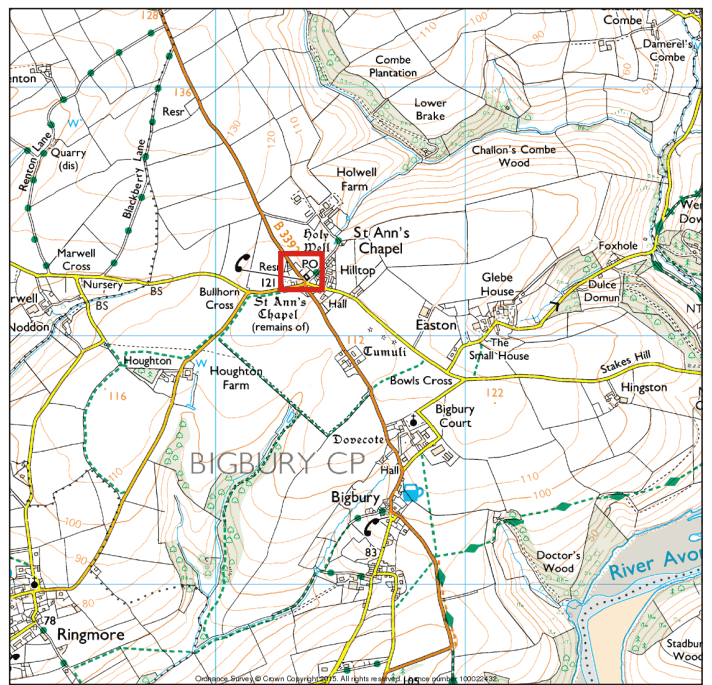


AC archaeology

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# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Bigbury, South Hams	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SX 6632 4727	<b>Number:</b> (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
<b>Subject:</b> Land adjacent to Holywell Stores, St Ann's Chapel, Bigbury, Devon: Results of an archaeological evaluation		<b>Photo attached?</b> Yes
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 05/2557/13/F	<b>Recipient museum:</b> N/A	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 206905	<b>Temporary Museum Accession no:</b> N/A	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> ACD1072	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 17 March 2015	
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>An archaeological trench evaluation was carried out by AC Archaeology during March 2015 as part of a programme of archaeological work associated with the proposed residential development of land adjacent to Holywell Stores, St Ann's Chapel, Bigbury, Devon (SX 6632 4727).</p> <p>The site lies to the northeast of Holywell Stores, St Ann's Chapel on land bounded to the southwest by the B3392 road. It comprised a rectangular plot measuring 630m<sup>2</sup> that was situated on broadly level ground, with the underlying solid geology comprised of slate, siltstone and sandstone of the Dartmouth Group. The application area lies close to the remains of the medieval St Ann's now incorporated into the Pickwick Inn public house opposite Holywell Stores. The Bigbury parish tithe map of 1843 depicts the site as part of a wider plot to the northeast, with this then sub-divided into its current arrangement by the subsequent first-edition 6-inch Ordnance Survey map of 1885.</p> <p><b>Description of works</b></p> <p>The archaeological work comprised the machine-excavation of 3 trenches (Trenches 1 to 3 on Fig. 1) totalling 25m in length, with each trench 1.6m wide. This represented an approximate 5%-10% sample coverage of the application area, with trenches positioned in the locations of the proposed dwellings, garages and parking.</p> <p>No archaeological features were present in any of the trenches and no finds were recovered. Each trench contained a broadly consistent series of layers overlying the natural subsoil, with these consisting of a buried subsoil, a buried topsoil, modern made ground and modern imported topsoil. The natural subsoil across the site consisted of a light yellowish-red sandy-clay with abundant gravels. The layer sequence in each trench is summarised below.</p> <p><u>Trench 1</u>          0-0.15m Topsoil. Dark greyish-brown clayey-loam topsoil.          0.15-0.29m Made ground. Mid greyish-brown silty-loam with abundant small to large stone inclusions.          0.29-0.59m. Buried topsoil. Dark greyish-brown silty loam.          0.59-0.78m. Buried subsoil. Mid reddish-brown clayey-silt loam.          0.78m+. Natural subsoil</p> <p><u>Trench 2</u>          0-0.18m Topsoil. Dark greyish-brown clayey-loam topsoil.          0.18-0.3m. Made ground. Mid greyish-brown silty-loam with abundant small stone inclusions.          0.3-0.46m. Buried topsoil. Dark greyish-brown silty loam.          0.46-0.7m. Buried subsoil. Mid reddish-brown clayey-silt loam.          0.7m+. Natural subsoil</p> <p><u>Trench 3</u>          0-0.2m Topsoil. Dark greyish-brown clayey-loam topsoil.          0.2-0.5m. Made ground. Light yellowish-grey silty-clay with abundant small stone inclusions.          0.5-0.83m. Buried topsoil. Dark greyish-brown silty loam.          0.83-0.92m. Buried subsoil. Mid reddish-brown clayey-silt loam.          0.92m+. Natural subsoil</p> <p><b>Discussion</b></p> <p>No archaeological features or finds were recovered from the trenches. The broadly consistent layer sequence including a modern made-ground layer that seals underlying agricultural soils indicates that the plot has been recently used to deposit mixed soils and re-deposited natural subsoil, with this landscaped and sealed by imported soils.</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> Chris Caine, AC Archaeology		<b>Date sent to HER:</b> 20 March 2014



0 10m  
 Scale 1:350@A4

PROJECT  
 Land at Holywell Stores, St. Ann's Chapel,  
 Bigbury, Devon

TITLE  
 Fig. 1: Site location and position  
 of trenches





Plate 1: View of site looking southeast



Plate 2: Trench 1, representative section. View to northwest (scale 1m)

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