

TEIGNMOUTH BATHING WATERS DIRECTIVE WORKS - TEIGNMOUTH TRAIN STATION SITE

(NGR SX 94247 73071)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

Prepared by:
Stella De-Villiers MA ACIfA

On behalf of:
South West Water

Document No: ACD985/2/0

Date: May 2015



archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Teignmouth, Teignbridge	National Grid Reference NGR SX 94247 73071	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Teignmouth Bathing Waters Directive Works – Teignmouth Train Station Site, Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: N/A	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 207674	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD985	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 16 December 2014 and 17 March 2015	
Description of works. <i>Introduction</i> An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AC archaeology on behalf of South West Water as part of the Teignmouth Bathing Waters Directive. Excavations took place at Teignmouth Train Station, Teignmouth, Devon (SX 94247 73071; Fig. 1). Guidance on the scope of archaeological investigations was set out in a brief provided by the Devon County Historic Environment Team. The site is located within the car park of the Train Station adjacent to the A379 (Plate 1). It is situated at a height of approximately 20 aOD. The underlying geology is Permian breccia of the Alphington and Heavitree Breccia Formations overlain by Quaternary 5th River Terrace Deposits comprising sand and gravel. The monitored works comprised the excavation of a stormwater holding tank that measured 30m east-west by 20m north-south, and a 15m long stretch of drainage trench to the west of the tank. <i>Historical background</i> The site is located away from the historic core of Teignmouth immediately south of the Train Station. The station was on the South Devon Railway and opened in 1846. The site occupies part of the goods yard and 'stores' of the station to the rear of Brook Street East and Myrtle Hill. During the first half of the 20th century this part of the goods yard was redeveloped, forming the rear of properties on Myrtle Hill. Land to the south of the station was relandscaped in 1973-4 when the present A379 through the town was realigned and widened. <i>Results</i> Excavations for the storm drain (Fig. 2) had commenced without archaeological monitoring, and had reached a depth of 1-1.5m below the surface of the car park, exposing the natural breccia. The sides of the excavation had been lined with sheet piling, and the sections were therefore obscured (Plates 2-3). Spoil left within the excavation area included gravel from the overlying quaternary natural, tarmac associated with the car park surface, and a small quantity of dark grey clay. The remains of a long wooden structure had been excavated. This comprised four lengths of sawn timbers bolted together and incorporated the remains of further iron bars attached to one surface. The drainage trench measured 1m wide and was excavated to a depth of 3m below the surface (Plate 4). The deposit sequence comprised 0.12m tarmac representing the car park surface overlying two deposits of modern hardcore (totalling 0.35m thick), overlying natural gravels and then degraded breccia. No archaeological features or deposits were present, or finds collected. <i>Summary</i> It is likely that most of the potentially-present archaeological deposits within the car park were removed when the area was relandscaped in 1973-4. The excavations appear to indicate that generally modern deposits directly overlie the natural. The timbers noted in the stormwater tank excavation probably represent part of a structure associated with the 19th-century goods yard, perhaps a pile foundation for one of the buildings. This report and the associated OASIS entry represent the archive for the project.		
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: Stella De-Villiers. AC archaeology		Date sent to HER: 20 May 2015



0 250m



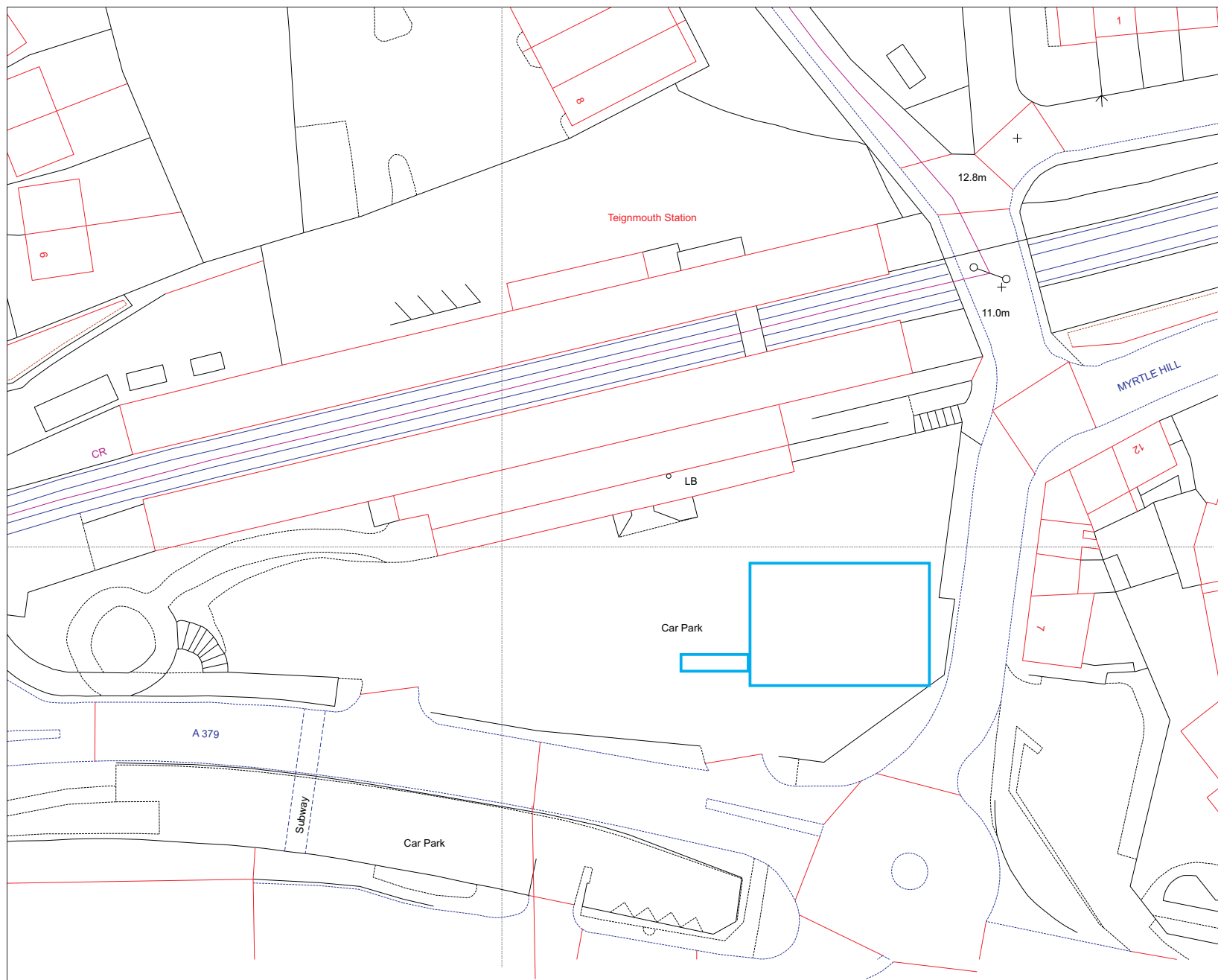
Scale 1:10000@A4

PROJECT

Teignmouth Bathing waters directive works -
Teignmouth Train station site

TITLE

Fig.1: Site location



0 25m
Scale 1:750@A4

Areas monitored

PROJECT
Teignmouth bathing waters
directive works -
Teignmouth Train station site

TITLE
Fig. 2: Areas monitored





Plate 1: General view of site from the south.



Plate 2: Stormwater holding tank, viewed from the North-northeast. 1m scale



Plate 3: Stormwater holding tank excavation, looking northwest



Plate 4: Drainage trench showing deposit sequence, viewed from the southwest

Devon Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Unit 4, Halthaies Workshops
Bradninch
Nr Exeter
Devon
EX5 4LQ

Telephone/Fax: 01392 882410

Wiltshire Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Manor Farm Stables
Chicklade
Hindon
Nr Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP3 5SU

Telephone: 01747 820581
Fax: 01747 820440

www.acarchaeology.co.uk