NO. 3 JOHNSLANDS, BOW, DEVON

(NGR SS 72325 01712)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

Prepared by: Dr Paul Rainbird

On behalf of: South West Water

Document No: ACD1166/1/0

Date: August 2015



Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Bow, Mid Devon	National Grid Reference SS 72325 01712		Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)	
Subject: No. 3 Johnslands, Bow, Devon: Results of an archaeological watching brief Photo attached? Yes				
Planning Application no: N/A		Recipient museum: N/A		
OASIS ID: 219174		Museum Accession no: N/A		
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1166		Dates fieldwork undertaken: 28 June 2015		

Description of works.

Introduction

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the laying of a new water service pipe to dwelling No. 3 Johnsland, Bow (Fig. 1). The site is located within the historic core of Bow which was established by 1259 when a grant was obtained to hold a weekly market and a three day fair by Henry de Tracey of Nymet Tracey (Devon HER no. MDV13863).

The principle interest of the goundworks concerns the raised pathway which is located along the south side of the A3072 road and is Grade II listed (NHLE no. 1325624; MDV92887). The pitched cobble pathway dates from the 18th century with later 19th-century alterations, including late 19th-century inserted grey brick paths and one concrete path. The pathway is approximately 2m high above the road and consists of a local mudstone front revetment with mudstone and granite coping.

Results (Fig. 2; Plates 1-2)

The monitored groundworks comprised the removal of the existing cobbled pathway surface by hand. The cobbles were numbered as they were lifted and correlated to the plan although their replacement was not exact as the new drain cover was larger than the previous one. The hand excavated trench measured approximately 2.10m long, 0.35m wide and 0.30m deep. The north side of the raised pathway was not excavated due to a metal drain which runs parallel along the north edge of the path; there the pipe was inserted under the surface. The cobbled surface was up to 0.15m thick. The bedding material for the cobbles comprised light brownish-grey sandy cement. Below this was a backfill deposit consisting of brown clayish sandy-silt with rare, small to medium sub-rounded stones, rare, medium to large, tarmac fragments and, small to medium, brick fragments.

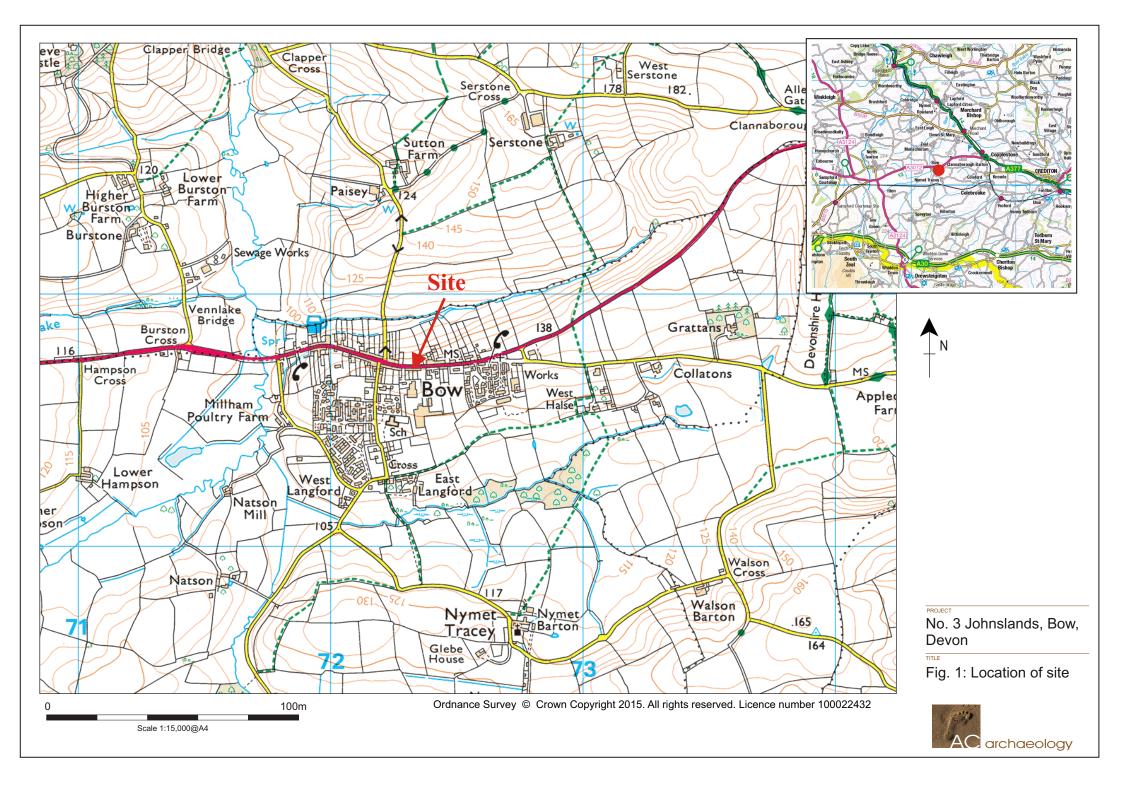
Summary

No archaeological features or deposits were encountered. The cobbles had been previously lifted, with listed building consent, and reinstated when the water pipes to cottages No. 2 and No. 3 were replaced. The recorded cobbles therefore do not represent the original pathway surface. No archaeological deposits were exposed below the surface.

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:	Date sent to HER:
Abigail Brown, AC archaeology	10th August 2015



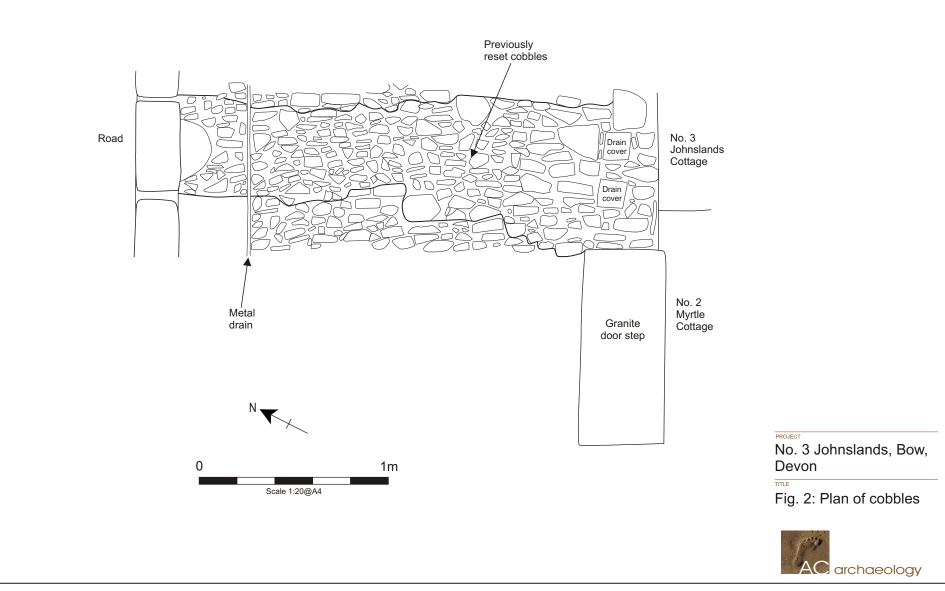




Plate 1: Cobbles cleaned prior to lifting, looking west. Scale 1m



Plate 2: The excavated trench, looking northeast



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