

# COBBLESTONES, CHURCH LANE, MODBURY, DEVON

(NGR SX 6551 5151)

Results of an Archaeological Trench Evaluation

South Hams District Council Planning Reference:  
1377/18/VAR (condition 11)

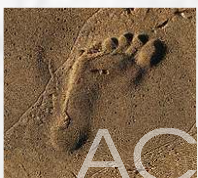
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Prepared by:

Simon Hughes

Report No: ACD1754/2/0

Date: October 2018



archaeology

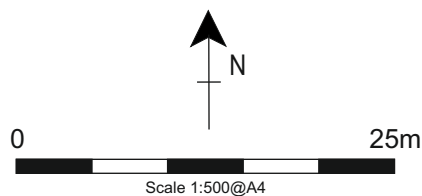
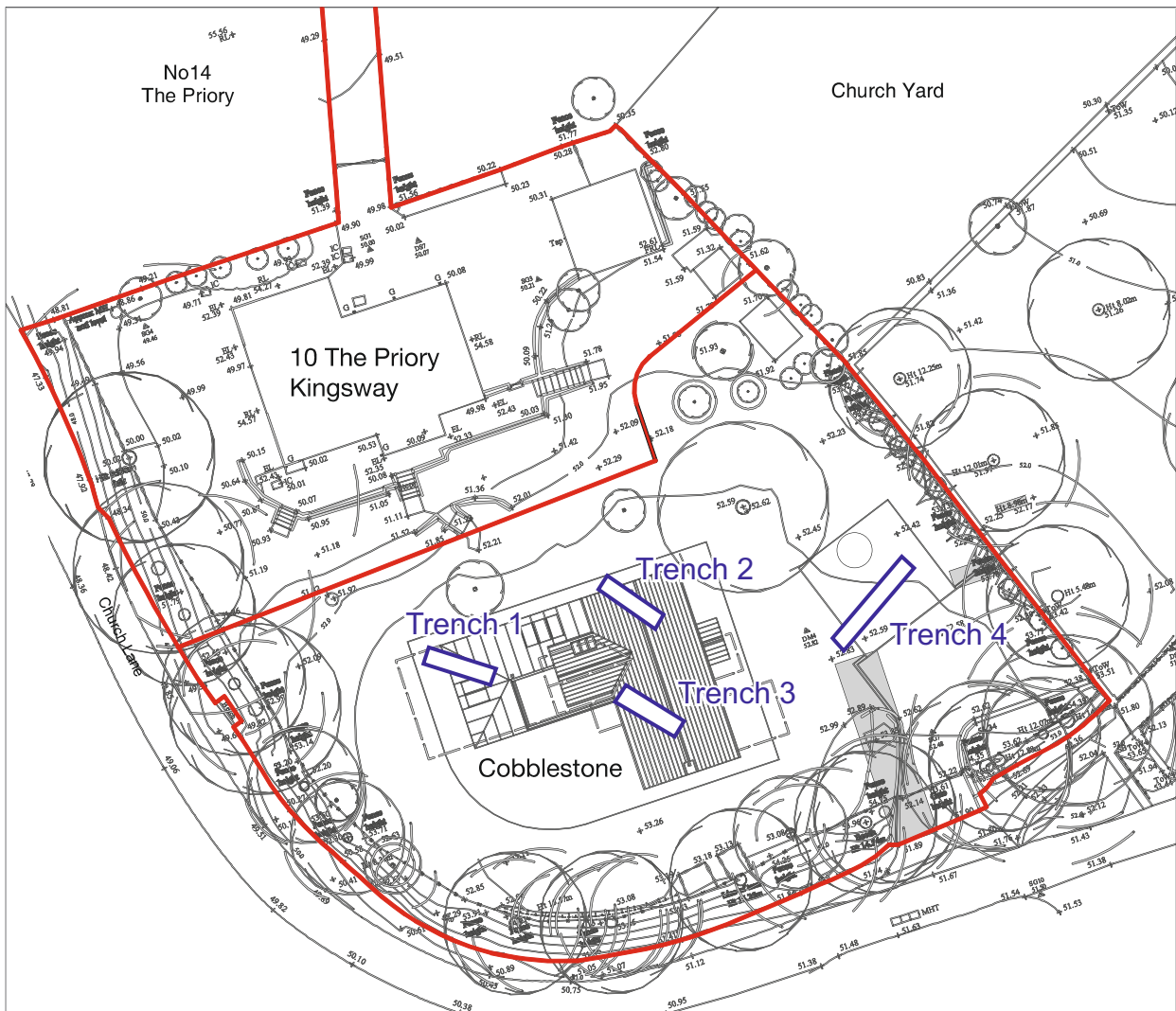
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# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Modbury, South Hams	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SX 6551 5151	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Cobblestones, Church Lane, Modbury, Devon: Results of an archaeological trench evaluation		<b>Photo attached?</b> Plates 1-3
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 1377/18/VAR	<b>Recipient museum:</b> N/A	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 332151	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> N/A	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> ACD1754	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 9 October 2018	
<p><b>Introduction</b></p> <p>An archaeological evaluation was carried out by AC archaeology in advance of a residential development on land at Cobblestones, Church Lane, Modbury, Devon (SX 6551 5151). The work comprised the excavation of four trenches totalling 22m, with each trench 1.2m wide (Fig. 1). The site lies at the southwest extent of Modbury on land bounded by Church Lane to the south and west. To the east lies St George's Church, with which the site shares a boundary. The position of the proposed new house comprised part of the garden to 10 The Priory, a bungalow dwelling, which lies to the north (Plate 1).</p> <p>The area investigated lies close to the historic core of Modbury, with nearby sites including St George's Church, the sites of the Priory of St Gregory and high-status former medieval buildings named the Court House and Champernowne Manor House. In addition, the arrangement of the lanes around this part of Modbury is thought to represent a former enclosure of possible early medieval origin.</p> <p><b>Results</b> (Fig. 1, Plates 2-3)</p> <p>Each of the trenches were excavated in the lawn area of the flat former garden area. The underlying natural subsoil consisted of weathered slate bedrock in a light brownish-yellow silty-clay matrix. This was exposed in Trenches 1-3 at a depth of between 0.35m to 0.51m below existing levels. It was overlain by a light brown silty-loam subsoil and a mid brown silty-loam garden soil. No archaeological features or deposits were exposed in Trenches 1-3.</p> <p>In Trench 4, the underlying natural subsoil was exposed as sloping moderately-steeply down from 0.23m in the southwest to 0.82m below existing levels to the to the northwest. It was overlain by an approximately 0.4m thick dumped light brown silty-loam layer with abundant slate bedrock fragments inclusions (402). This was then sealed by a 0.12m thick dark brown silty-loam buried topsoil (402) and the current topsoil (400). Five fragments from the same post-medieval glass vessel were recovered from layer 402.</p> <p><b>The finds</b> <i>by Naomi Payne</i></p> <p>A small quantity of post-medieval/modern finds was recovered from three contexts. This material included a body sherd of glazed red earthenware pottery (18g) from the topsoil in Trench 2, a clay tobacco-pipe stem fragment (5g) from the topsoil in Trench 4 and five pieces (223g) of green bottle glass from made ground layer 402. The latter derives from a wine bottle of 18th or early 19th century date.</p> <p><b>Comments</b></p> <p>The results of the trial trenching were largely negative, with no evidence for medieval occupation exposed on the site. In Trench 4, the dumped deposit of slate-rich material partially infilled would have been a moderately-steep natural break of slope extending along the northwest boundary. The dump of material was dated to the 18th to 19th century, a period when the site was part of a wider agricultural field.</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> Simon Hughes, AC Archaeology		<b>Date sent to HER:</b> October 2018



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PROJECT  
Cobblestones, Church Lane, Modbury, Devon

TITLE  
Fig. 1: Location of site and trial trenches







Plate 1: General working view of cable trench works looking west



Plate 2: Excavated cable trench, view to northwest (scale 1m)



Plate 3: Surface 120 at base of trench with overlying made ground layer 119. View to north (scale 1m)



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