

63 COWICK STREET, ST THOMAS, EXETER, DEVON

(Centred on NGR SX 9104 9170)

Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

Planning Reference: Exeter City Council 16/1189/FUL

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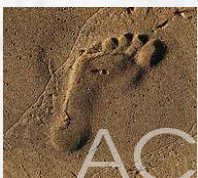
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On behalf of:  
Firmploot Ltd.

Report No: ACD1738/2/2

Date: February 2019



archaeology

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# 63 COWICK STREET, ST THOMAS, EXETER, DEVON

## NGR SX 9104 9170

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The monitoring and recording was commissioned by Charles E. Ware and Son on behalf of Firmpplot Ltd. The site works were carried out by Simon Hughes, Abigail Brown and Alex Farnell. The illustrations for this report were prepared by Leon Cauchois. The advice and collaboration of Andrew Pye, Principal Project Manager (Heritage), Exeter City Council, is duly acknowledged.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of AC archaeology and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

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## Summary

*Archaeological monitoring and recording at 63 Cowick Street, St Thomas, Exeter, Devon (SX 9104 9170) was undertaken by AC archaeology between December 2017 and July 2018. The work comprised the monitoring of footings excavations associated with the construction of a mixed commercial and residential development. The site is located towards the southwest end of Cowick Street at the junction with Old Vicarage Road, and was until recently used as a car wash that occupied a demolished former petrol filling station.*

*The archaeological works recorded some limited evidence for medieval occupation broadly dating from between the 10th and 15th centuries. A small quantity of pottery was recovered from a buried soil and a possible pit. This is likely to reflect peripheral activity on what would have been an area beyond the main settled part of Cowick Street. Development of the site during the post-medieval period was dated from finds to the 18th and 19th centuries. This is consistent with historic mapping, which depicts dispersed properties occupying the southwestern portion of Cowick Street at the beginning of the 19th century and is then shown on the parish tithe map as largely infilled by 1839. While the majority of the street frontage had been removed by pits for petrol fuel tanks, evidence for occupation on the site during this period was demonstrated by rubbish pits, a cess pit, a well and a boundary wall; all features relating to the rear of the former properties. One of the rubbish pits, which based on other finds recovered dated to the 18th century, contained a late 17th century plate decorated with the coat of arms of the Exeter Incorporation of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Archaeological monitoring and recording at 63 Cowick Street, St Thomas, Exeter, Devon (SX 9104 9170; Fig. 1) was undertaken by AC archaeology between December 2017 and July 2018. The work was required as a condition of planning consent reference 16/1189/FUL granted by Exeter City Council following consultation with their Principal Project Manager (Heritage).
- 1.2 The site is located towards the southwest end of Cowick Street at the junction with Old Vicarage Road. It occupies an approximately rectangular plot lying on flat ground at 9m aOD (above Ordnance Datum), which until recently was used for a hand car-wash business. Prior to this, the site was occupied by a petrol filling station. The underlying solid geology comprises sandstone of the Whipton Formation beneath superficial clay, silt, sand and gravel alluvial deposits (British Geological Survey Online Viewer).

## 2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Cowick Street might represent the alignment of a Roman road extending west from the Romano-British town and the end of a presumed bridge over the River Exe. The area containing the site was known as Cowick or Coic by the Saxons and the manor is referred to in the Domesday Book of 1086 as Coic. The place-name is thought to have derived from either the Saxon for cow farm or from the latin Coico meaning 'convergence of routes', likely stemming from the convergence at the crossing of the River Exe of the main routes to the city from the west. In the medieval period the main focus of settlement appears to have been along Cowick Street between the bridge, completed by 1214 and the later parish church, constructed in 1412 and dedicated to St Thomas the Martyr (now the Church of St Thomas the Apostle).

- 2.2** To the west of the site and close to the junction with Cowick Lane/Buddle Lane are a number of historic buildings that front Cowick Street. These comprise a series of 18th century Grade-II listed cottages (National Heritage List for England references 1333349, 1333366, 1103975 and 1380878). To the east lies The Vicarage, which was built between 1800 and 1805 and is also Grade-II listed (NHLE ref 1104019).
- 2.3** The Ordnance Survey surveyor's plan of 1801 and Hayman's Map of Exeter dated 1806 (Jenkins 1806) are the earliest detailed maps that extend this far into the city's suburbs and surrounding estates. On these, much of Cowick Street to the southwest of the church is depicted as having a low-density of buildings, while probable market gardens are shown as extending parallel on either side of the road. The buildings depicted are likely to include the listed 18th century cottages to the west of the current site and possibly, the under construction or newly built Vicarage to the east (annotated 'Parsonage House' on the 1806 map). In addition to these properties either side of the site, a further building is shown approximately in the position of the current site.
- 2.4** The 1839 St Thomas parish tithe map depicts Cowick Street as having been largely infilled by this date with terraced buildings lining the majority of the road frontage (Fig. 2). On this, the site is shown as occupied by four properties, with ranges, outbuildings and garden plots extending to the rear. One of these (plot 155) is listed in the accompanying 1838 apportionment as '*parish property*'. On the Ordnance Survey First-Edition map of 1888, one of the buildings, which is likely to have previously occupied the northeast corner of the current site, is annotated as the *Old Vicarage*, a probable predecessor to the early 19th century Vicarage to the northeast. This building also corresponds with the position of the building listed in the tithe apportionment as '*parish property*' and therefore is likely to have been present at the time of the early 19th century mapping. Development of the site by the 1888 map includes a row of cottages named as 'Churchill Place' to the rear of the street frontage in an area previously occupied by a garden plot.
- 2.5** By 1936, Ordnance Survey mapping shows three buildings fronting Cowick Street, with two of the properties to the west of the site having amalgamated. To the northeast, a property next door to the presumed Old Vicarage is shown as having made way for the construction of Old Vicarage Road linking to terraced streets to the rear. A photograph taken in the approximate early 1960's and prior to the clearance of the site, shows the three properties fronting Cowick Street ([www.heardfamilyhistory.org.uk](http://www.heardfamilyhistory.org.uk)). In this, two c.19th century buildings are shown to the southwest and a petrol station on the corner of Old Vicarage Road, with this located on the site of the presumed Old Vicarage. The site was then cleared for a larger petrol filling station, with associated forecourt and kiosk by the late 1960's.

### **3. AIMS**

- 3.1** The aim of the monitoring and recording was to preserve by record any archaeological features and to recover artefacts present on the site, which would be destroyed or disturbed by the development. This was with particular reference for the potential for medieval and post-medieval remains to be present.

### **4. METHODOLOGY**

- 4.1** The monitoring and recording was undertaken in accordance with a project design prepared by AC archaeology (Hughes 2017) and with reference to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014). It comprised the monitoring of groundworks consisting of the excavation

of footing trenches and stanchion bases for a retail space fronting Cowick Street, with a terrace of five townhouses to the rear (Fig. 3).

- 4.2** All features and deposits revealed were recorded using the standard AC archaeology *pro forma* recording system, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and in accordance with AC archaeology's *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2* (revised August 2012). Detailed sections and plans were produced at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate.

## **5. RESULTS**

### **5.1 Introduction** (Plan Fig. 3 and sections Figs 4a-b & 5b-e; Plates 1-2)

The groundworks exposed variable survival of archaeological features and deposits across the site. In places, extensive disturbance related to its former use as a petrol filling station was evident, with this particularly the case where petrol tanks and a kiosk structure had been situated in the northeast and west portions of the site. In areas that had not been disturbed, the natural subsoil (context 104), which consisted of mid brown loose river gravels, was present at a depth of between 0.85m to the south of the site and 0.5m adjacent to Cowick Street. The natural subsoil was overlain by an intermittent light reddish-brown subsoil (103, 126 and 137), a mixed mid brown to mid red silty-loam to silty-clay possible levelling layer (102) and a dark brown silty-loam topsoil (101). A total of five sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the subsoil layer. In the area adjacent to Cowick Street, the overlying layers consisted of modern levelling (127 and 141), hardcore (128) and tarmac pavement (144). The entire site was then sealed by a recent demolition levelling deposit (100).

The groundworks exposed a total of five pits (F105, F108, F113, F119 and F129), a possible pit (F134), three walls (S112, S131 and S133), a well (S117) and a ditch (F138) with later drain (S143). These are described below.

### **5.2 Pits F105 and F119** (Plan Fig. 3 and sections Figs 4a & c; Plate 3)

Intercutting pits F105 and F119 were exposed in the southwest corner of the footings trenches for the row of townhouses. These cut through the remnant topsoil layer 102. Pit F119 was the earlier of the two features and measured 2.7m across by 1.38m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. It contained a dark greyish-brown silty-loam dumped basal fill (120), which was overlain by a homogeneous backfill of mid brownish-red silty-loam (121). Finds recovered from the pit consisted of 17 sherds of post-medieval pottery, three fragments of 19th century bottle glass, two fragments of clay tobacco pipe and two pieces of animal bone.

Pit F105 measured 2.15m wide and at least 1m deep with steeply-sloping sides. It contained a lowest-exposed dumped fill comprised of mid brown gravel in a silty-sand matrix (106). This was overlain by a further dumped fill of light brown sandy-loam. Both deposits contained structural demolition material comprising moderately-common crushed mortar and slate inclusions. Two sherds of 19th century pottery and four brick fragments were recovered.

### **5.3 Pit F108** (Plan Fig. 3 and section Fig. 4a; Plate 4)

Pit F108 was exposed in the southeast corner of the area covered by the footings for the row of townhouses. It measured approximately 2m across and 0.96m deep with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. The pit contained two dumped silty-loam fills consisting of a gravel-rich mid brown basal fill (109), which was overlain by a mid reddish-brown upper fill (110). The upper fill contained frequent crushed mortar and brick fragments as well as occasional breccia stone rubble, gravels and charcoal. A total of 41 sherds of 17th to 18th century pottery, 15 fragments of vessel glass, 37

pieces of clay tobacco pipe, eight pieces of animal bone and two marine shells were recovered, as well as a retained sample of hand-made brick fragments. The pottery included a near-complete Delftware plate decorated with the coat of arms of the Exeter Incorporation of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen (see section 6.3).

**5.4 Pit F113** (Plan Fig. 3 and section Fig. 4d; Plate 5)

Pit F113 was located to the northwest of pit F108. It measured 0.85m across and 0.48m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a flat base. The pit contained a dumped dark grey silty-loam fill (114) that had abundant charcoal inclusions. Two sherds of 18th century pottery were recovered.

**5.5 Pit F129** (Plan Fig. 3 and section Fig. 5a; Plate 6)

Pit F129 was exposed on the southwest side of the site. It measured 2m across and extended with vertical sides below the 1.1m depth of the footings trench. The pit was lined by un-faced and un-bonded breccia blocks (S122). Its lowest-exposed fill consisted of a dark greyish-green cassy silty-loam (123). This was sealed by a dump of material comprised of crushed lime (124) and an accumulated mid reddish-grey silty-loam fill (125). A total of 34 sherds of 19th century pottery, five fragments of bottle glass, three clay tobacco pipe fragments and two oyster shells were recovered.

**5.6 Possible pit F134** (Plan Fig. 3 and section Fig. 5b)

Possible pit F134 was partially-exposed within a stanchion pit on the northwest side of the site. The possible pit cut through subsoil layer 137 and measured 0.46m deep with moderately-steep sloping sides. It contained light reddish-brown silty-sand tip fill (135) overlain by an accumulation of mid reddish-brown sandy-loam (136). Five sherds of medieval pottery were recovered.

**5.7 Wall footings S112, S131 and S133** (Plan Fig. 3 & sections Figs 4b & 5c; Plates 7-8)

Wall footings S112 and S131 were exposed in the southeast and northwest extents of the monitored area respectively. Both were northwest to southeast aligned. Wall footing S112 was exposed within excavated footings trenches for a length of approximately 5m. It was set within a construction cut (F111) that measured 0.45m wide by 0.41m deep and was constructed from mixed breccia and sandstone blocks and rubble, with occasional volcanic trap stone rubble in a sandy-clay bond.

Wall footing S131 was set within a construction cut (F130) that measured 0.4m wide and 0.2m deep. The remnant footing was constructed from mixed breccia rubble and 19th century brick in a silty-clay bond.

Wall S133 was northeast to southwest aligned and exposed adjacent to the Cowick Street frontage. It consisted of six exposed courses of 19th century brick.

**5.8 Well S117** (Plans Figs 3 and 5d; Plate 9)

Well S117 was located towards the middle of the site within the area covered by the footings for the row of townhouses. It was constructed within a sub-round construction cut (F116) that measured approximately 1.6m in diameter. The well, which had an internal diameter of 1m, was constructed from un-faced and un-bonded breccia blocks. It was backfilled with crushed roof slate in a silty-clay matrix (118). No finds were recovered.

**5.9 Ditch F138 and drain S143** (Plan Fig. 3 and section Fig. 4b; Plate 10)

Ditch F138 was northwest to southeast aligned and was exposed adjacent to Cowick Street. It measured 0.58m wide and 0.33m deep with steeply-sloping sides and a concave base. The ditch contained a light grey water-lain sand fill (139) that had common gravel and grit inclusions. Drain S143 was constructed within the ditch from

19th century bricks. It was backfilled with a mid brown silty-loam (140). The drain was silted with a similar silty-loam deposit (142) from which a sherd of 18th century pottery, an animal bone fragment and oyster shell were recovered.

## 6. THE FINDS *by Naomi Payne and Charlotte Coles*

### 6.1 Introduction

All finds recovered on site during the monitoring and recording have been retained, cleaned and marked where appropriate. They have been quantified according to material type within each context and the assemblage examined to extract information regarding the range, nature and date of artefacts represented. The collection of finds is summarised in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Summary of finds by context (weights in grams)

Context	Context Description	Medieval pottery		Post-medieval pottery		Glass		Clay tobacco-pipe		CBM		Animal bone		Shell	
		No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
106	Fill of pit F105									4	91				
107	Fill of pit F105			2	50										
109	Fill of pit F108			36	1645	14	1519	33	221	3	795	7	59	2	4
110	Fill of pit F108			5	224	1	58	4	32	1	36	1	28		
114	Fill of pit F113			2	94										
120	Fill of pit F119			17	3262	3	747	2	7			2	17		
123	Fill of pit F121			4	107			2	19						
125	Fill of pit F121			30	1697	5	9	1	9					2	30
126	Subsoil layer	3	8												
136	Fill of possible pit or ditch F134	5	4												
137	Subsoil layer	2	9												
142	Fill of drain S143			1	5							1	8	2	11
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>7498</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>2333</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>45</b>

### 6.2 Medieval pottery *by Naomi Payne* (Plates 11-12)

Ten sherds (21g) of medieval pottery were recovered from three contexts. There are three body sherds from Upper Greensand Derived jars from subsoil layers 126 and 137. UGSD was in production between c. 950-1350 and plain body sherds are difficult to date more precisely than this. Context 136, fill of possible ditch F134, produced five small joining body sherds from a medieval jug in a micaceous fabric. One further jug fragment, a base sherd, was recovered from subsoil layer 126. This is a plain base in a sandy fabric. The jug sherds date from c. 1250-1450.

### 6.3 Post-medieval pottery *by Naomi Payne*

123 sherds (7489g) of post-medieval pottery were recovered from eight contexts. The post-medieval pottery is summarised in Table 2.



Table 2. Summary of post-medieval pottery by context

Context	Porcelain	Tin glaze	South Somerset (SS)	English stoneware	Creamware	Staffs white ware	Shell edge	Transfer print	Flower pot	Forms (South Somerset references from Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988)
107				1	1					1 x base sherd from creamware bowl or plate
109		9	22	4		1				8 joining sherds from a tin-glazed earthenware plate with coat of arms in centre, 2 joining sherds from Staffordshire brown stoneware mug or tankard with rouletted decoration, SS includes 6 sherds (3 joining) from 1+ early C18 dish with trailed and feathered decoration (cf. 8/134), 10 joining sherds from a mid-C18 slipware chamber pot (cf. 27/19 but with slightly different decoration), early C18 bowl rim (cf. 8/148), 2 joining sherds from a C18 porringer with horizontal handle (cf. 7/83)
110			3	2						1 x rim from stoneware flower pot with streaked brown glaze
114					2					2 x base sherds from creamware bowls or plates, one with indistinct stamped mark on base, possibly NEALE & CO (James Neale & Co, date c. 1778-84+)
120			8		7				2	3-6 sherds (none joining) from a single early C19 SS pancheon with horizontal handles and internal white slip bands below the rim (cf. 12/63 but with four bands), rim from an earthenware bowl or dish with mottled cream and brown glaze, creamware includes 2 scalloped and 1 plain rim from plates/bowls, 2 joining base sherds from a large bowl or dish and the base from a sugar shaker
123			4							4 joining sherds from C19 SS porringer (cf. 7/97)
125	5		2	6		3	1	38	1	Sherds from numerous transfer print vessels including plates, cups, bowls, a sugar shaker and a child's reward mug ("[PRESEN]T [FOR A G]OOD GIRL"), 1 near complete flower pot, rim from early C19 SS pancheon (cf. 12/65), rim from early C19 jar (cf. 14/56), English brown stoneware including 2 sherds from (probably a single) jug and a spout sherd from a teapot
142	1									Rim sherd from Chinese porcelain teacup
Total	6	9	39	13	10	4	1	38	3	

The largest sub-group comprises glazed earthenwares of South Somerset type. South Somerset vessel forms include slip ware dish, slipware chamber pot, bowl, porringer with horizontal handle, porringer with vertical handle, pancheon with horizontal handles and jar. Imported vessels are represented by a rim sherd from a hand-painted Chinese porcelain teacup of probable 18th century date and eight joining sherds from a Delftware plate with a hand-painted coat of arms in the centre. The coat of arms, which features a weaver's shuttle, burling irons, a teasel frame and a pair of shears, belonged

to the Exeter Incorporation of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen. The plate dates from c. 1660-1700 (pers. comm. John Allan). The remainder of the pottery comprises mid-18th to 19th century industrially-made products including creamware, English stoneware, Staffordshire white wares, shell edge, transfer print and flower pot.

#### **6.4 Clay tobacco pipe by Charlotte Coles**

A total of 42 pieces (288g) of clay tobacco pipe were recovered from five contexts. They include a nearly complete bowl and stem from context 109. Ten of the pieces are bowls, nine of which are mid- to late-18th century. All of these were from pit F108. A bowl dating from 1800-1900 was recovered from context 123 and a single mouthpiece was recovered from context 109. The remaining fragments were pieces of undecorated stem.

#### **6.5 Glass by Charlotte Coles**

23 pieces of glass (2333g) were recovered from four contexts. 19 fragments are from green wine bottles. Those from context 109 are onion type bottles of 18th century date and the bottle bases from contexts 120 and 125 are straight-sided cylindrical green wine or beer bottles dating from the 19th century. A nearly complete cylindrical phial dated to the second half of the 17th or 18th century was recovered from context 110. This is green-tinted and was probably used for medicinal purposes. The three remaining three shards from context 125 are a piece of window glass and two bottle necks. One of the pieces is from a very fine green-tinted cylindrical bottle with a long neck. It has no lip or stringrim and would have been sealed with a cork. This is probably a medicine phial dating from the 17th or 18th century. The other neck is from a square bottle of 19th century date.

#### **6.6 Ceramic building material by Naomi Payne**

Eight fragments (922g) of ceramic building material were recovered from three contexts. All of the fragments are from hand-made bricks of post-medieval date.

#### **6.7 Shell by Charlotte Coles**

Six pieces of shell (45g) were recovered from three contexts. All are oyster shells apart from a cockle shell from context 109. The oyster shells include two left valves and two right valves.

#### **6.8 Animal bone by Charlotte Coles**

A total of 11 pieces of animal bone (112g) were recovered from four contexts. Only six of the bones could be identified. The identifiable bones included a small mammal rib and a sheep/goat radius from context 109, a sheep/goat radius with chop and knife marks to the shaft from context 110, a sheep/goat humerus with a chop through the distal end, a domestic fowl tarsometatarsal from context 120 and a sheep/goat radius from context 142. These are all from adult individuals.

### **7. DISCUSSION**

**7.1** Despite the presence of extensive disturbance principally related to the site's previous use as a series of petrol filling stations, the archaeological monitoring recorded archaeological features and deposits dating from the medieval and post-medieval periods.

**7.2** Features and deposits dating to the medieval period consisted of the intermittent subsoil layer (103, 126 and 137) and possible pit F134. Based on the pottery recovered, a broad date range of between the 10th and 15th centuries is provided. Possible pit F134 was only partially exposed and therefore the function could not be confirmed. Although no evidence for structural remains were present within

undisturbed portions adjacent to the northwest extent of the site, it is likely that the limited medieval activity exposed reflects nearby occupation alongside the historic route followed by Cowick Street.

- 7.3** Although buildings are shown as having previously fronted Cowick Street on the 19th century and later historic mapping, as well as the photograph taken in the early 1960's prior to the site's clearance ([www.heardfamilyhistory.org.uk](http://www.heardfamilyhistory.org.uk)), there was almost no survival of these structures. Remnant wall footings S131 and S133 were the only surviving structural remains, with these likely to have been parts of early and mid-19th century buildings respectively. No survival of building remains were evident in the northeast corner of the site, an area that, based on the historic mapping and tithe apportionment (see above) is considered to have been occupied by the Old Vicarage. Here, deep modern intrusions were encountered. These were likely to have corresponded with the position of fuel tanks of the petrol filling station shown on the 1960's photograph.
- 7.4** Evidence for activity contemporary with the property present on the 1801 Ordnance Survey surveyor's map and Hayman's Map of Exeter dated 1806 mapping, which potentially comprised the Old Vicarage, was perhaps reflected by 18th century pits F108 and F113. These pits, which were located to the southwest of this building, were used for the deposition of a range of domestic rubbish. Most interesting within the assemblage of slightly later finds recovered, was the 17th century Delftware plate decorated with the coat of arms of the Exeter Incorporation of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen (Plates 11-12); a guild of trades whose headquarters was housed in Tuckers Hall located on Fore Street, Exeter. This plate, which is likely to have been commissioned by the guild represents the only known example of its type (pers. comm. John Allan).
- 7.5** The remaining pits (F108, F119 and F129) have been dated to the 19th century and are likely to relate to the properties that infilled Cowick Street during the early to mid-19th century as shown on the 1839 parish tithe map (Fig. 2). Pits F108 and F119 were also likely to have been used for the deposition of rubbish, while the structural composition and cassy lower fill of pit F129 suggests that it functioned as a toilet. Despite their position as close to, or continuing beneath, the current southwest boundary of the site, the parish tithe map shows their location as corresponds with what would have been a former garden plot (No. 151).
- 7.6** Wall S112 corresponds with the position of a property boundary as shown on the 1839 parish tithe map, suggesting an early 19th century date for this feature. Although well S117 was undated, its position on the east side of the site suggests that it was associated with the adjacent probable early 19th century property.

## **8. CONCLUSIONS**

- 8.1** The archaeological works have recorded some limited evidence for medieval occupation broadly dating from between the 10th and 15th centuries. A small quantity of pottery was recovered from a buried soil and a possible pit, which is likely to reflect peripheral activity on what would have been an area beyond the main settled part of Cowick Street.
- 8.2** Development of the site during the post-medieval period has been dated to the 18th and 19th centuries. This is consistent with historic mapping, which depicts dispersed properties occupying the western portion of Cowick Street at the start of the 19th century but is then shown on the parish tithe map as largely infilled by 1839. The historic mapping suggests that one of these earlier properties occupied part of the

current site. Listed as 'parish property' in the 1838 parish tithe apportionment and annotated on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1888 as 'Old Vicarage', this building was presumably the precursor to the current Vicarage to the east which dates to the early 19th century.

- 8.3** While the majority of the street frontage and position of the former Old Vicarage had been removed by pits for petrol fuel tanks, evidence for occupation of the site during the post-medieval period was demonstrated by domestic rubbish pits, a cess pit and a well; all features relating to the rear of the former properties. One of the rubbish pits, which dated to the 18th century, contained a plate decorated with the coat of arms of the Exeter Incorporation of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen. The high status plate, of which no other examples are known, dates from a period when the site formed part of the earlier vicarage.

## **9. ARCHIVE AND OASIS**

- 9.1** The finds have been retained by the landowner. The paper archive will be digitised and along with the born-digital archive will be deposited with the ADS.
- 9.2** An online OASIS entry has been completed, using the unique identifier **343795**, which includes a digital copy of this report.

## **10. REFERENCES**

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Old Maps ([www.old-maps.co.uk](http://www.old-maps.co.uk))

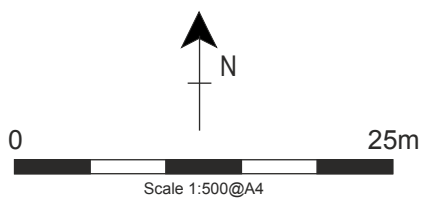
Ordnance Survey Surveyor's Drawing: Exeter 5 1801



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Based on drawing prepared by Stride Treglown Tektus

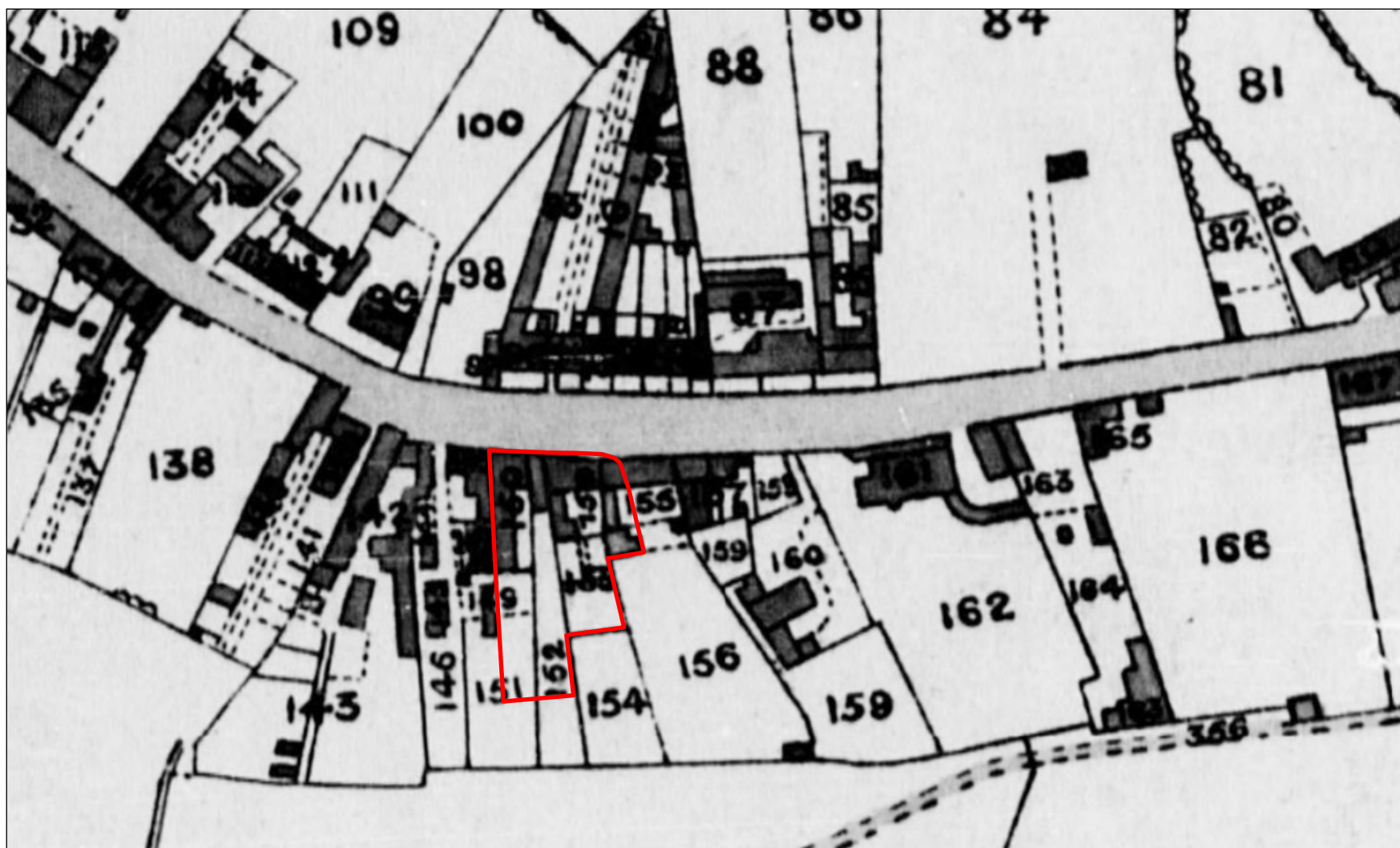


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Fig. 1: Site location





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Fig. 2: Extract of St Thomas Parish  
tithe map 1839



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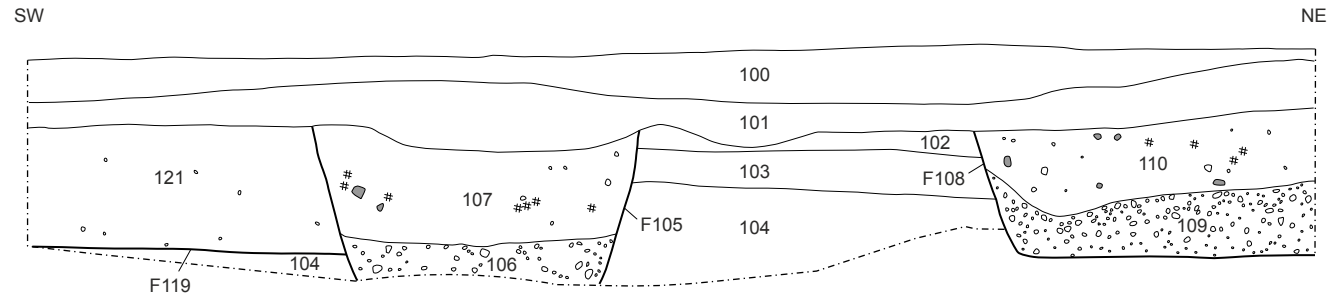
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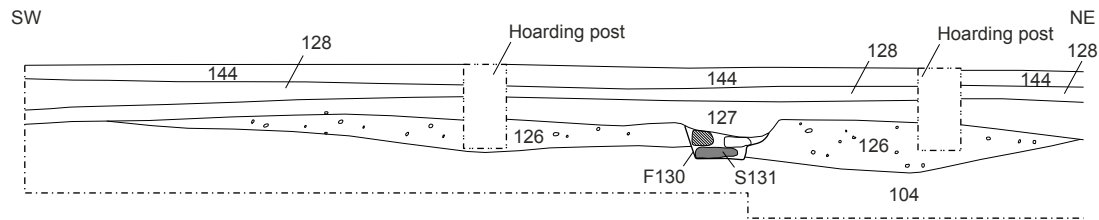
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Fig. 3: Site plan showing location of monitored excavations and archaeological features

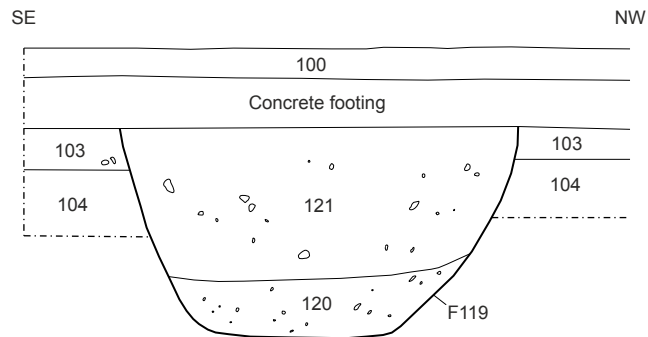
a) Section of pits F105, F108, and F119



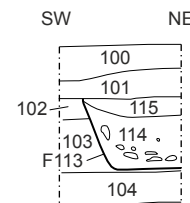
b) Cowick Street frontage layer sequence and wall S131



c) Section of pit F119



d) Section of pit F113



Key	
	Stones
	Stone structure
	Pottery
	Brick
	Charcoal



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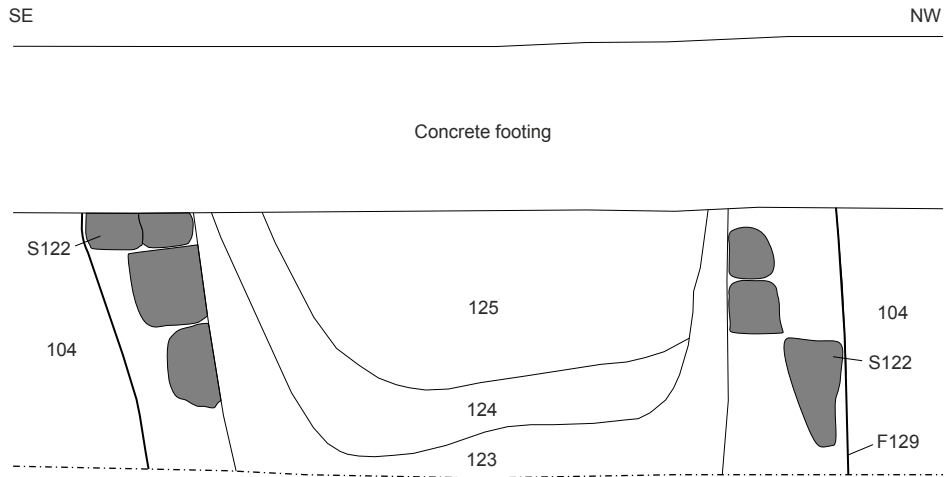
Fig. 4: Sections



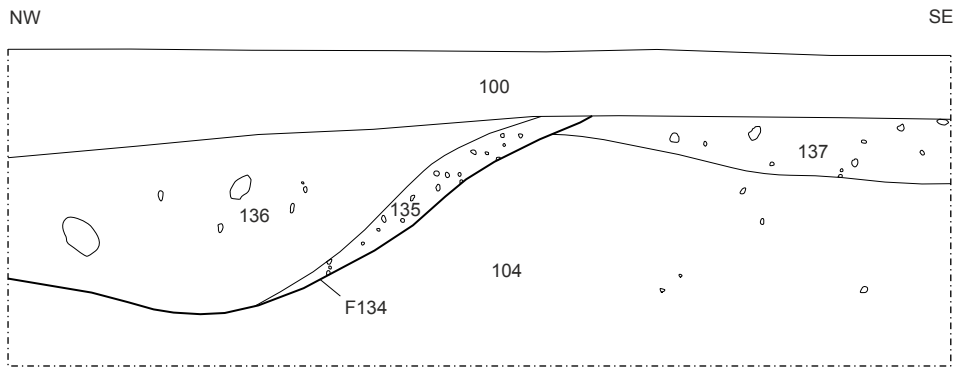
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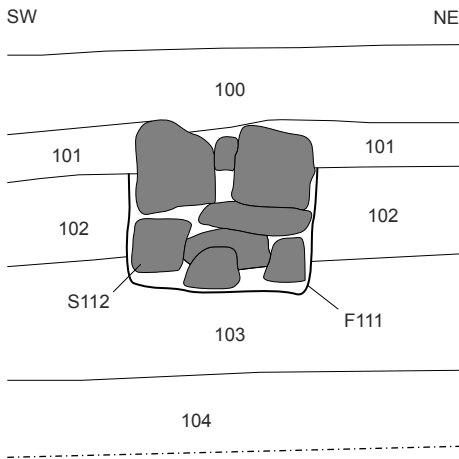
a) Section of cesspit S122



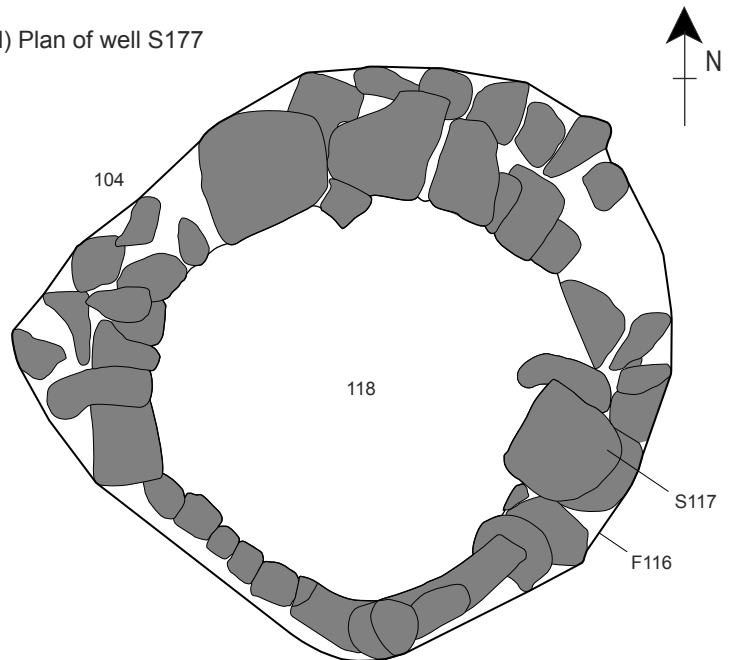
b) Section of possible pit F134



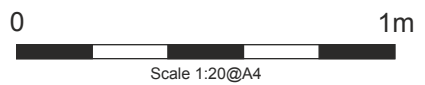
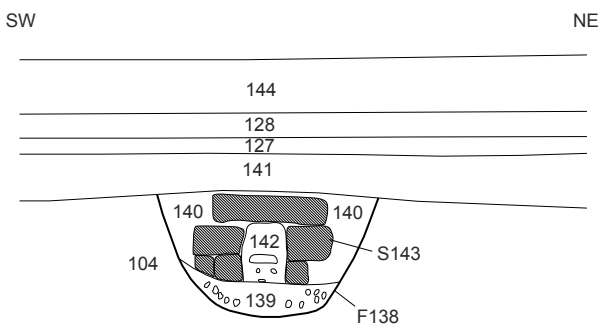
c) Section of wall S112



d) Plan of well S177



e) Section of ditch F138 and culvert S143



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Fig. 5: Sections and plan of well S177



Plate 1: View of site during footings excavation. Looking northwest towards Cowick Street



Plate 2: View of site looking southeast



Plate 3: Pit F119, view to southwest (scale 1m)



Plate 4: Pit F108, view to west (scale 1m)



Plate 5: Pit F113, view to northwest (scale 0.4m)



Plate 6: Pit F129, view to southwest (scale 1m)



Plate 7: Wall S112, view to northwest (scale 0.4m)



Plate 8: Wall S133, view to south (scale 1m)



Plate 9: Well S117, view to southwest (scale 1m)



Plate 10: Drain S143 and ditch F138, view to northwest (scale 0.4m)



Plate 11: Delftware plate from pit F108



Plate 12: Detail of delftware plate from pit F108 with coat of arms of the Exeter Incorporation of Weavers, Fullers and Shearmen

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