

Land adjacent to Fore Street, Uffculme, Devon

Centred on NGR ST0682912736

Results of archaeological trench evaluation

Prepared by:
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On behalf of:
Takle Building Ltd

Document No: ACD102/2/0

Date: December 2009

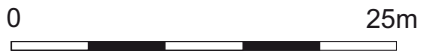
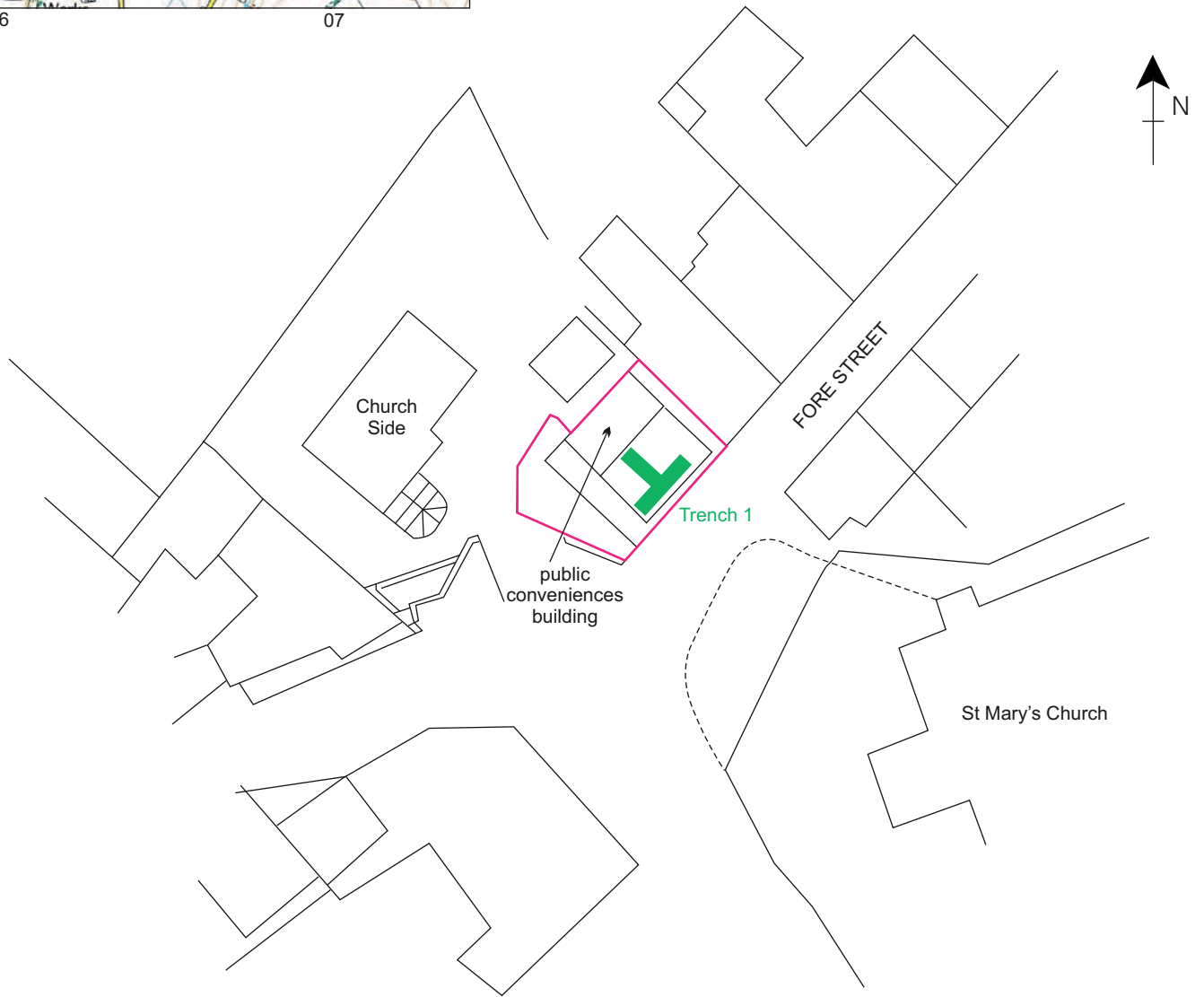
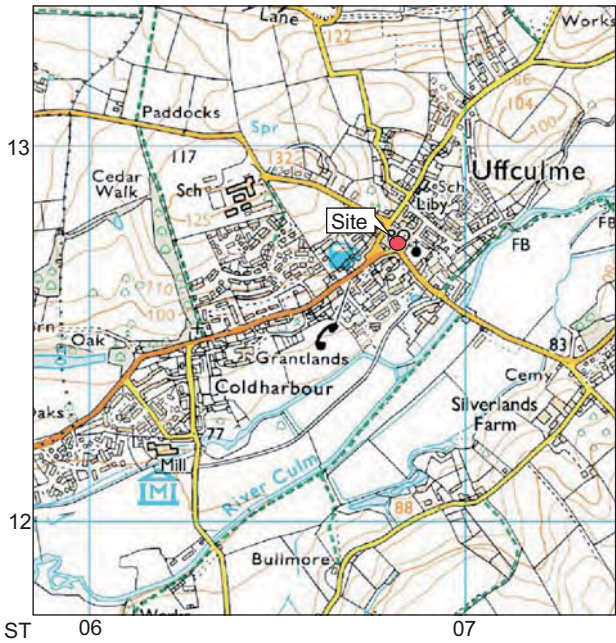


archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District Uffculme, Mid Devon	National Grid Reference ST0682912736	Number
Subject; Land adjacent to Fore Street, Uffculme, Devon: Archaeological trench evaluation		Photo attached Plates 1 and 2
Planning Application no: 05/00679/FULL	Recipient museum: RAMM, Exeter	
OASIS ID: 68737	Museum Accession no: 365/2009	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD102	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 24th November 2009	
<p>Description of works</p> <p>An archaeological trench evaluation was undertaken by AC archaeology on land adjacent to Fore Street, Uffculme, Devon, as a condition of planning permission for the demolition of redundant public conveniences and erection of a dwelling. The work was commissioned by Takle Building Ltd.</p> <p>The site is located within the historic core of the town, opposite the 14th century parish church of St Mary (Fig.1). It lies at around 89m OD on a flat terrace stepped up from Fore Street.</p> <p>The Uffculme parish tithe map of 1841 shows the site as being occupied by a single building, with the accompanying apportionment of 1841 describing it as a house and shop owned and occupied by Hannah Howe. By 1888, the first-edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch map confirms that the shop and house have been removed and the site is part of what appears to be formal gardens.</p> <p>Results (Fig. 2a and b, Plates 1 and 2)</p> <p>Trench 1 was a total of 7.5m long and 0.9m wide and was excavated onto natural subsoil (106), which comprised mid red sand and gravels present at a depth of 0.75m below ground level. The natural subsoil was overlain towards the northeast end of the trench by a mid yellowish-grey silty sand buried subsoil (103). The trench contained a 0.17m deep steep sided and stepped cut (F105) which was present towards the northeast end, which was probably a terrace cut for a former building and contained a dark greyish-brown sandy silt fill (104). The fill was overlain by a silty sand layer containing structural demolition material (102). This was 0.42m thick and contained abundant mortar pieces, stone rubble, brick and slate fragments. Two sherds of 18th century lead-glazed earthenware, one sherd of 19th century blue and white transfer print pottery and a George III halfpenny dating to 1775 were recovered from this. Layer 102 was overlain by a thick mid brownish-red silty sand make up or levelling layer (101), that was in turn sealed by dark greyish-brown topsoil (100). Cutting the topsoil at the southwest end of the trench was a pit dug for a telegraph pole hitching post, while at the northwest end was a modern sewer pipe cut (101).</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>The deep overlying layer sequence is the reason for the elevated position of the plot. The terrace cut (F105) was probably dug as ground preparation for the post-medieval building as depicted on the parish tithe map, while the layer of demolition material is likely to be the remains of this former structure. The demolition material present in the layer suggests that the structure was constructed from brick, with perhaps breccia footings and a slate roof, while the finds recovered suggest the mid 18th century as the earliest date of occupation, which is consistent with the buildings adjacent to the site. The overlying makeup or levelling layer probably relates to landscaping of the site during its conversion into gardens during the late 19th century.</p>		
Recorder Simon Hughes, AC archaeology	Date sent to HER 2 December 2009	

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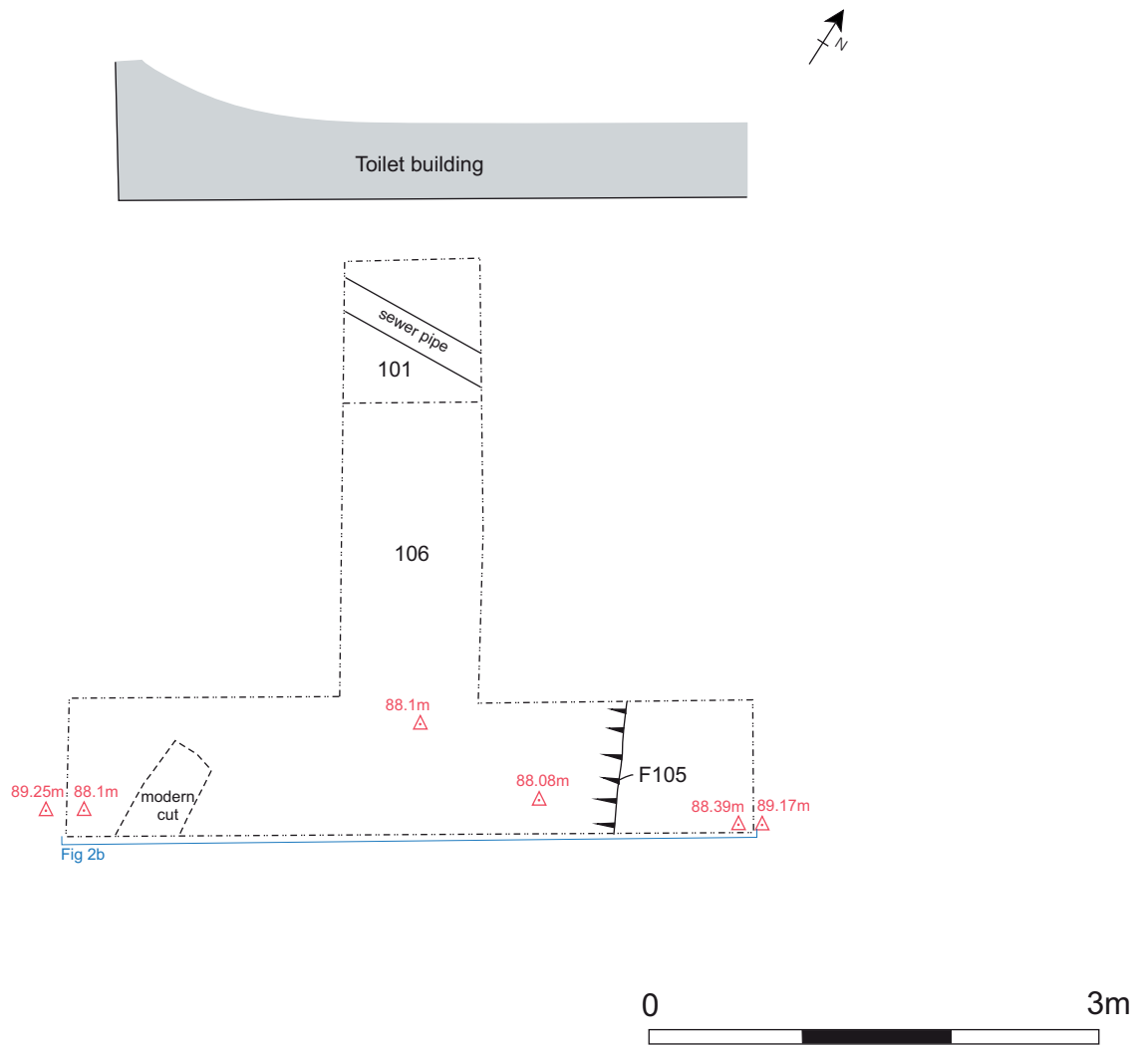
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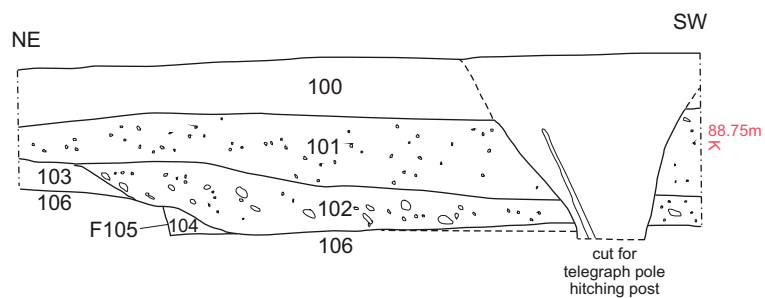
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Fig. 1:
Trench location plan

a) Plan



b) Section



PROJECT



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TITLE

Fig. 2:
Plan and section of trench



Plate 1: View of Trench 1. Looking east (scale 1m)



Plate 2: Trench 1, northwest facing section (scale 1m)

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