

Land at Tarrs Avenue/Fore Street, Kingsteignton, Teignbridge

NGR SX 87305 73049

Results of an archaeological watching brief

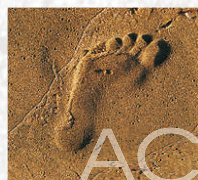
Planning ref. Teignbridge District Council 09/03222/FUL

Prepared by
Kerry Dean

On behalf of
Mr and Mrs G. Smith

Document No: ACD143/2/0

Date: March 2011



archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Kingsteignton, Teignbridge	National Grid Reference: SX8730573049	Number:
Subject: Land at Tarrs Avenue/Fore Street: Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached: Plates 1 and 2
Planning Application no: 09/03222/FUL	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	
OASIS ID: 82481	Museum Accession no: 35/2010	
Contractor's site code: ACD143	Date fieldwork undertaken: 14-16 July 2010	

Introduction

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AC archaeology as a condition of planning permission during groundworks associated with the construction of single detached dwelling. The work was commissioned by the site owners Mr and Mrs G. Smith.

A settlement is recorded at Kingsteignton as early as 1001 AD, when it was called *Tegntun*. During the Saxon period it was the principal administrative centre of a large region focused on the Teign estuary. There is likely to have been a defensive burh in the town, which is still fossilised in the present street pattern (Fore Street, Church Street and Greenhill Road). The present site is situated immediately to the northeast of Fore Street and therefore adjoins the putative site of the Saxon burh on its external side. The site is situated at around 16m OD and the underlying solid geology of the area consisting of Permian clays with sandstone and breccia (Watcombe Clay).

Results (Plan Fig. 1; Plates 1 and 2)

Groundworks comprised the bulk soil reduction on the footprint of the new house and access road (Fig. 1). All work was carried out by a 360° mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket and working under constant archaeological supervision. Natural subsoil was exposed across the whole of the stripped area and there was no evidence revealed for *in situ* archaeological remains, although a small quantity of finds was recovered from overlying layers. The recorded deposit sequence is described in Table 1 below and finds recovered itemised in Table 2.

Table 1. The recorded deposit sequence

Context	Depth below ground level	Description	Interpretation
100	0-250mm	Medium to dark brown sandy clay common medium to large chert nodules and slate	Topsoil
102	250-550mm	Light yellowish-brown sandy clay with common chert fragments and manganese staining	Agricultural subsoil
104	550mm+	Dark brownish-yellow sandy clay with common chert	Natural subsoil
101	0-200mm	Layer of chert and chalk blocks, slate and modern debris situated at entranceway to site	Dumped layer/made ground
103	200-350mm	Layer of brick, clinker, charcoal situated at entranceway to site	Dumped layer/made ground

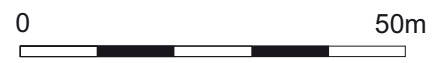
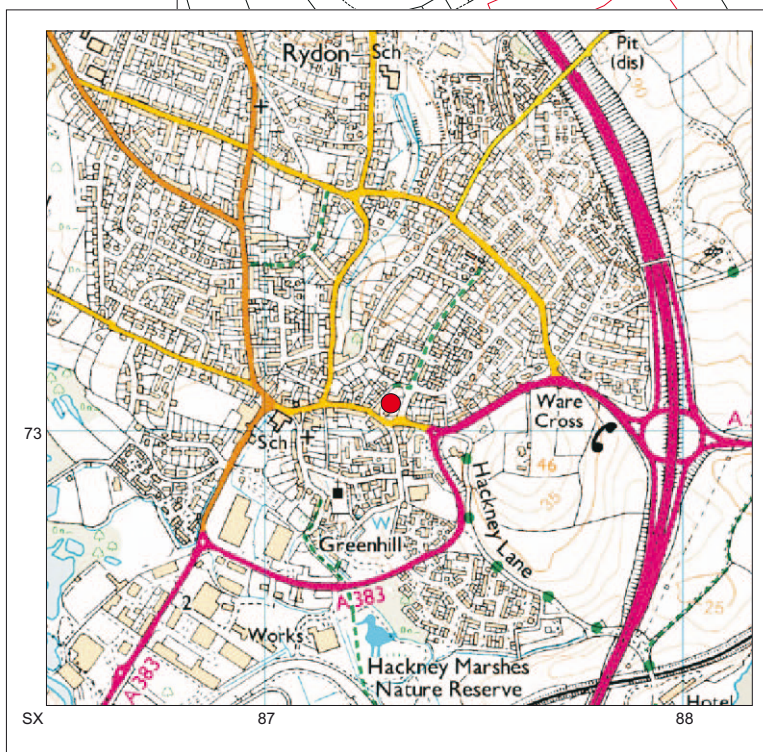
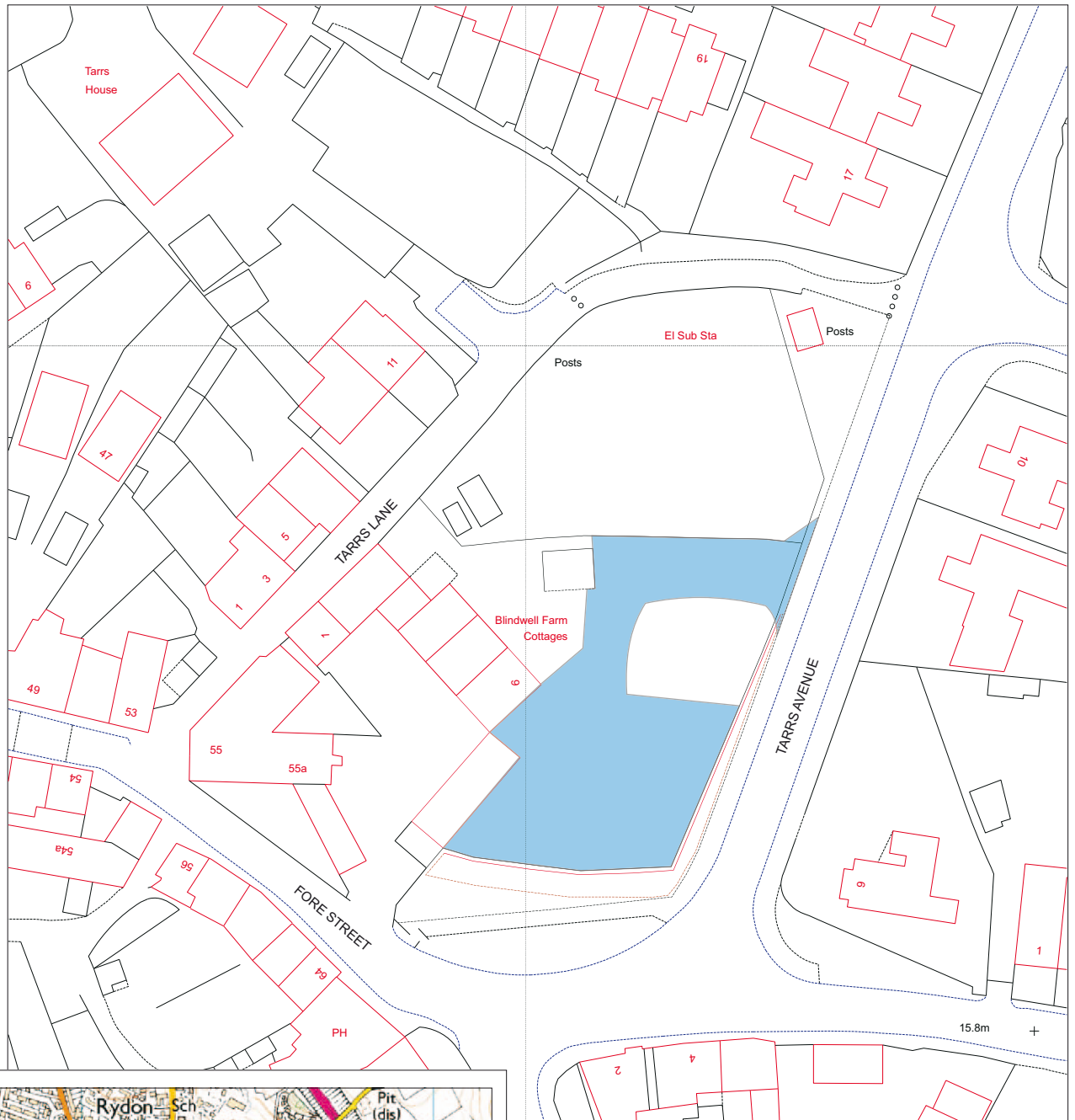
Table 2. Finds quantification (weight is in grams; CBM = Ceramic Building Material)


Context	Pottery		Clay pipe		CBM		Glass		Animal bone		Cu alloy		Clinker	
	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt
100	17	297					4	154	3	137	1	3		
101	10	151												
102	9	71	2	3	1	26			68	278			1	8
Total	36	519	2	3	1	26	4	154	71	415	1	3	1	8

The majority of finds date to between the 18th and 20th centuries. The pottery includes lead-glazed red earthenwares, industrial whitewares, blue and white transfer printed wares and stoneware sherds. There are three abraded scrappy earthenware sherds recovered from layer 102 which are likely to be earlier, probably 16th or 17th century in date. One cu alloy coin was found, a Queen Elizabeth II sixpence dating to 1960.

Other than a few sherds of abraded early post-medieval pottery, no evidence for pre-modern archaeological activity on the site was identified.

Recorder: Kerry Dean, AC archaeology	Date sent to HER: 13 September 2010
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 Area of soil stripping carried out under archaeological supervision

PROJECT

Tarrs Avenue and Fore Street, Kingsteignton

TITLE

Fig 1. Location of site and area of groundworks monitored





Plate 1: General view of site prior to commencement, looking southwest



Plate 2:
General view of site following partial
soil strip, looking southwest (scale 1m)

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