Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Exmouth & East Devon	National Grid Reference SY 0013 8083		Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)		
Subject: The Famous Ship, High Street, Exmouth, Devon				Photo attached?	Υ
Planning Application no: 13/0733/FUL	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery				
OASIS ID: contexto1-188824		Museum Accession no: RAMM: 14/55			
Contractor's reference number/code:		Dates fieldwork undertaken:			
C1/AMR/14/FHE		28 October 2014 – 8 September 2015			

Description of works.

Context One Archaeological Services (COAS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording relating to the demolition of a ground floor extension to the rear of a public house and construction of four dwellings at The Famous Ship, High Street, Exmouth, Devon (the 'Site'), over eight days between 28 October 2014 and 8 September 2015. The project was commissioned and funded by TFQ Architects on behalf of their client, Nexus Properties Ltd. The monitoring programme was required by the local planning authority (LPA) following consultation advice from Mr Stephen Reed (Archaeologist, Devon County Historic Environment Team (HET)). In a Brief for Archaeological Monitoring and Recording (HET ref. ARCH/DM/ED/21465), Mr Reed stated:

"The proposed development lies within the historic core of Exmouth and in an area of archaeological potential. The mid-19th century Tithe Map shows this area to be developed by this time, but the buildings have a different layout to those shown on later mapping and as such may be considerably older. Groundworks associated with the demolition of the public house's extension and for the construction of the new dwellings may expose archaeological material associated with these earlier buildings and the earlier settlement here."

The first phase of archaeological work was a desk-based appraisal of archaeological and historical data recorded within a 500m radius of the Site. The data was assembled in a digitised pack and included map regression incorporating Tithe and Ordnance Survey maps.

Standard strip foundation trenches (c. 0.90m wide and up to 0.70m deep) were excavated by machine to accept concrete footings for all load bearing walls, including all external walls and selected internal partitions. A machine equipped with a 0.90m toothless bucket was used to excavate these trenches.

No visible features or deposits of archaeological interest were encountered during the monitoring programme although a number of finds were observed and collected from waste deposition layers in the subsoil. The finds comprised some marine shell (cockles, scallops and oyster), mammal bone (cattle and cattle-sized mammal), post-medieval bottle glass, iron nails, clay pipe and pottery. The clay pipes were predominantly undiagnostic stem fragments, however there was a single bowl identified as an Atkinson and Oswald Type 33 bowl of late 19th century type with a heel and moulded geometric design around the entire surface of the bowl, consisting of parallel vertical lines terminating in dots. The pottery included late medieval pale yellow and green glazed earthenware. The majority of the material was post-medieval earthenware jars including brown/yellow slipware; a few sherds of blue/white tin glazed and cream glazed earthenware (including tableware), and a single sherd of imported stoneware.

Development excavations were approximately 0.70m – 1.0m deep and demonstrated a similar deposit sequence across the Site (**Plates 1 & 2**). This comprised a layer of concrete/hard-standing over a layer of modern made ground overlying the subsoil and sandstone/gravel natural (**Plates 3 & 4**). The stratigraphic sequence consisted of:

0 – 0.15m hard-standing/brick

0.15m - 0.40m Modern made ground

0.40 – 0.70m Patchy disturbed subsoil (possibly an earlier make up layer)

0.70m Sandstone natural

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: Orlando Prestidge	Date sent to HER:
Context One Archaeological Services Ltd.	07/10/2015

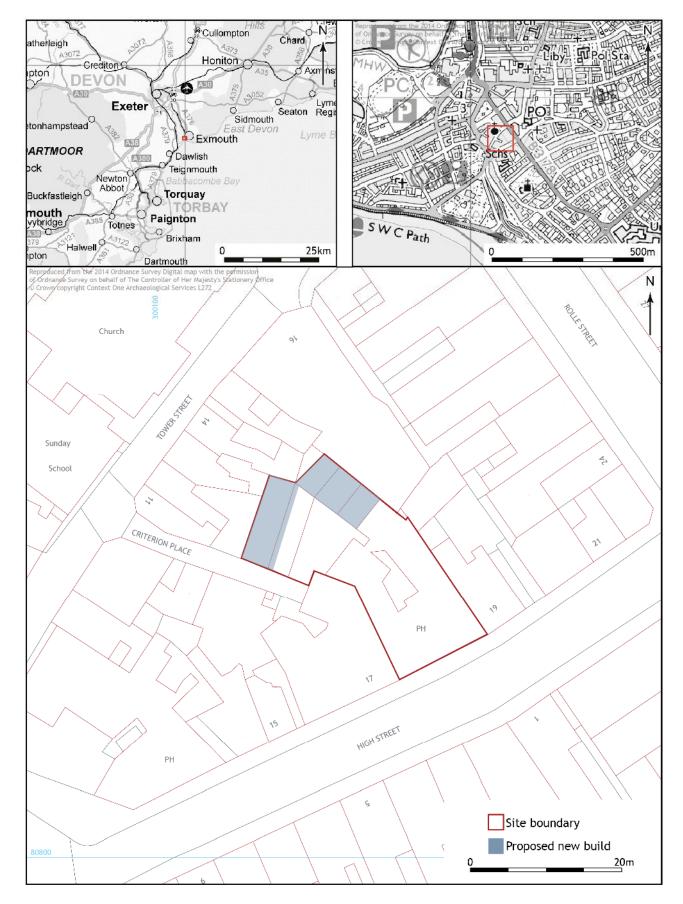


Figure 1: Site location and setting showing proposed development area.



Plate 1. Site location (Looking N)



Plate 2. Foundation trenching (Looking NE; 0.5m scale)



Plate 3. Profile of foundation trench (Looking E; 1m & 0.5m scales)



Plate 4. Profile of foundation trench (Looking NW; 0.5m scale)

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