

# Torbay Sites and Monuments Record

<b>Parish:</b> Paignton	<b>NGR:</b> SX 88945861	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Harvest Moon Public House field evaluation		
<p><b>Description:</b>          The evaluation was required in connection with an application for planning consent for the construction of a number of residential units (Ref. 2004/0026 RM).</p> <p>Five trenches totalling 42.5m in length were excavated at the northern end of the public house car park as indicated on the attached plan. This was the only part of the site where it was considered (based on a previous assessment report) that deposits may have survived. This was supplemented with a further 9m trench (trench 6) opened by the client to alleviate localised flooding. Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 5 were archaeologically sterile, all deposits having been removed either by historic terracing or more recent levelling for the public house car park.</p> <p>Within trench 1 a limestone wall footing (513) was exposed cutting through natural ground to a depth of 0.25m. It was aligned broadly north-south and measured only 0.10m thick suggesting an insubstantial building or internal room division. It had been truncated and sealed over by a cobbled surface (503), of which only a small area survived. A drain (521) was exposed to the west of the wall. The drain, and that part of the trench to the west of it, had been truncated to below the level of natural ground. This had clearly occurred within recent times (probably during the formation of the car park) as the levelling deposits that overlay natural ground contained electrical cables and other modern debris. No dating evidence was recovered from the trench.</p> <p>Within trench 6 the remains of a limestone wall (526) were exposed at the east end of the trench. It had been truncated to the level of natural ground (12.94m AOD) and sealed over by modern deposits. Although significantly wider than wall 513 it may be associated with it.</p> <p>In summary, no evidence, (stratified or residual pottery, structural remains or cut features), have been found for pre-19th century occupation of the site. The presence of modern deposits directly on top of natural ground in the majority of the trenches and the unweathered nature of natural ground demonstrates that the formation of the car park entailed deep extensive truncation of level over the majority of the site, removing any evidence that may have existed for early occupation/use of the site.</p>	<p><b>Ref:</b>          EA Project No.          5151</p>	<p><b>Dates:</b>          12-13th          July          2004</p>
<b>Client:</b> Gilstone Partnership Ltd.		<b>Recorder:</b> T Whiteaway

