

7 CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 This Chapter reports on the predicted effects of the Scheme on cultural heritage and archaeology.

7.1.2 The assessment of impacts and effects upon cultural heritage and archaeology has been undertaken in accordance with methodologies set out in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2 (Cultural Heritage) and in Transport Analysis Guidance (TAG) (DfT 2004). Further details regarding the methodology are provided in Chapter 7 of Volume 2 of this Environmental Statement.

Assessment Methodology

7.1.3 The methodology for assessing the potential effects of road schemes on archaeological remains and historic buildings is set out in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Parts 2 and 3 (HA 1994). The information collected for the purposes of an Environmental Statement using the approach set out in DMRB for a Stage 3 Assessment is considered adequate for the purposes of scheme appraisal following Transport Analysis Guidance (TAG) (DfT 2004).

The assessment has been prepared following the framework set out in DMRB Volume 11, *Stages of Archaeological Assessment*, for a Stage 3 archaeological assessment. The objectives of the assessment are as follows:

- Identify and locate known archaeological sites, listed buildings and conservation areas within the Study Area;
- Assess the potential for unrecorded archaeological remains;
- Assess the direct and indirect effects of the Scheme upon the historic environment;
- Propose any appropriate mitigation and enhancement measures which could be taken to avoid, reduce or remedy any adverse effects identified; and
- Assess the significance of the effects taking into account the proposed mitigation and enhancement measures.

7.2 Baseline Conditions

7.2.1 There is generally a low level of archaeological information regarding the Scheme. However, this paucity of data reflects a lack of previous fieldwork within a landscape dominated by permanent pasture, rather than any absence of archaeological evidence.

7.2.2 The following sections provide a summary of the historical background of the area (refer to Figures 7.0a & 7.0b).

Earlier Prehistoric (500,000– 2,400 BC)

7.2.3 There is very little evidence of earlier prehistoric activity within the Study Area, although a fluviially redeposited Palaeolithic flint flake has been found in the river gravels of the Aller Valley north of Aller Cross (1). No sites or finds of Mesolithic or Neolithic date are recorded.

Bronze Age (2,400 – 700 BC)

7.2.4 Prehistoric findspots within the Study Area comprise principally struck flint flakes and tools consistent with a later prehistoric or Bronze Age date (2, 3, 5). A boundary ditch of prehistoric date was identified during trial trenching south of Elmcroft Nursery (4). The prehistoric field system and settlement (6) on Kerswell Down, a Scheduled Monument, extends into the Study Area south of Foredown Kennels and attests to

the presence of a substantial population that is likely to have utilised the land and resources of the Aller Valley during later prehistoric times.

Iron Age (700 BC – AD 43)

- 7.2.5 Evidence of significant Middle Iron Age settlement activity, comprising pottery sherds within a subsoil layer and found residually within Roman features, has been identified in soils underlying Roman deposits at Aller Cross (9). Occupation of Late Iron Age date is attested locally by the construction of a multi-vallate hillfort at Milber Down.

Roman (AD 43 – 410)

- 7.2.6 Roman settlement evidence of the 1st- 4th centuries AD was identified at Aller Cross (9) in 1992. The majority of archaeological deposits within the site remain *in situ*, and there is a high potential for evidence of the site layout and function to survive. Other local discoveries of Roman date attest to more widespread occupation, including a hoard of over 2000 coins found on Kerswell Down (11).

Anglo-Saxon (AD 410 – 1,066)

- 7.2.7 Both Kingskerswell and Edginswell (13) are recorded in the Domesday book as part of the royal demesne, i.e. land formerly owned by the Saxon kings and retained by the Norman monarchs subsequent to the invasion of 1066. At Kingskerswell, the location of the later Church (18) and Manor House (15) within an ovoid enclosure at the heart of the village is typical of early settlement foundations in Devon.

Medieval (AD 1,066 – 1,499)

- 7.2.8 The medieval period saw increased pastoral enclosure of open fields on the valley bottom and sides as part of an informal, piecemeal process; relict strip fields are preserved within the enclosed landscape at several locations (17, 27, 32). The Aller floodplain would have served as seasonal pasture, and Kerswell Down as rough grazing.
- 7.2.9 There is strong placename and documentary evidence for medieval occupation at several locations. The extant remains of the medieval Manor House of Kingskerswell (15) survive adjacent to St Mary's Church and are protected as a Scheduled Monument; archaeological evaluation has shown that the remains of the complex extend beyond those visible on the surface. Two lynchets (earthwork banks) and a ditch at Edginswell (14) were investigated and are likely to be of medieval or earlier date.

Post-medieval and Modern (AD 1,500 – present)

- 7.2.10 The post-medieval and modern periods saw the completion of the pastoral enclosure process on the steeper ground and the establishment of extensive cider orchards around Kingskerswell and Edginswell. Although the latter have since disappeared, the present landscape of small pasture fields enclosed by sinuous hedgebanks is little changed from that of the post-medieval period and contains several areas of remnant medieval elements. The Scheme crosses a series of sunken lanes (28 – 31) and parish boundaries (24 – 26), one of which was formerly marked with a boundary stone on Old Newton Road (25) and another by a low bank (26).
- 7.2.11 A number of buildings and structures are of historic interest. The remains of a stone built linney (an agricultural building) are recorded at the extreme northern end of the Study Area (45). Beyond the Study Area at Penn Inn, Forde House (38) is Listed Grade I and lies within 200m of the Scheme. Within the Study Area, St Luke's Church in Milber (64) and the Barn Owl Inn at Aller (65) are Listed Grade II. The Kingskerswell Conservation Area lies to the east of and partly within the Study Area and contains 10 Listed buildings or structures. St Mary's Church (18) is Listed Grade

II*; four headstones in the churchyard are Listed Grade II (19-22). The nearby ruins of the medieval Manor House (15) are also Listed Grade II. Four further buildings are Listed Grade II; of these, Foredown Farmhouse (39) and Rock House, Maddacombe Road (55) lie within 50m of the Scheme. A further four Grade II Listed structures are located within a proposed extension to the Conservation Area (59-61, 66) with a fifth, Daccabridge (68) just beyond this.

7.2.12 The A380 from Newton Abbot to Torquay was formerly a turnpike road. A former Toll House (40) is recorded on the Devon Sites and Monuments Record (DSMR) at Penn Inn Roundabout, but does not survive. A series of milestones along the road is mapped on the Ordnance Survey 6" series and recorded on the DSMR; a fourth milestone formerly existed south of the Study Area (41-3, 51).

7.2.13 The Torquay branch of the South Devon Railway, later part of the Great Western Railway network, was opened in 1848. Two roadbridges over the line at Kingskerswell, east of the Study Area, are Listed Grade II (57, 59). At Aller Vale, Aller Cottages is a terrace of 6 dwellings built to house railway workers (62) and visible on the 1888-90 1st Series Ordnance Survey Maps.

7.3 Mitigation and Detailed Development of the Scheme

7.3.1 During the development of the Scheme design, consideration has been given to the need to modify the design in order to mitigate potential effects on the historic environment in the following ways:

- Avoidance of effects on nationally important archaeological remains
- Appropriate landscape proposals to minimise visual and noise intrusion effects on the character of the Kingskerswell Conservation Area and its proposed extension, and the settings of Listed buildings within the Conservation Area and beyond

7.4 Mitigation Measures to be Included During Scheme Construction

Aims and Objectives

7.4.1 The archaeological aims of the proposed mitigation are to:

- Minimise the physical effect of the Scheme on the visible and buried cultural heritage resource as far as is reasonably practicable.
- Maximise the positive research benefits to be gained from a structured programme of archaeological investigation.

Archaeological Strategy

7.4.2 The proposed strategy for the mitigation of construction effects on the known archaeological resource is summarised below and in Table 7.0.

7.4.3 Archaeological excavation is proposed at one site, the Iron Age/Romano-British site at Aller Cross (9). Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) is proposed at two sites, the area of the prehistoric field boundary south of Elmscroft Nursery (27) and the medieval building at Edginswell Lane North (23). SMS is a flexible fieldwork approach of particular value where the presence of archaeological remains is known but the extent of areas requiring archaeological excavation is unclear. Topsoil in these areas would be stripped under archaeological control in order to carefully expose archaeological remains, which would then be sample excavated by hand and recorded. Sufficient time would be allowed for archaeological recording before construction commences. Other sections of the route would be subject to an archaeological watching brief during topsoil strip in order to allow the identification and recording of archaeological features of limited significance.

7.4.4 A permanent record would be made of historic landscape features including sunken lanes, parish boundaries and historic hedgerows prior to the commencement of construction. A permanent record would also be made of numbers 1-6 Aller Cottages, 53 Daccabridge Road and The Cott, Yon Street, prior to demolition. A stone marking the former parish boundary between Kingskerswell and Abbotskerswell would be relocated beyond the Scheme.

Table 7.0 Proposed Mitigation

Area	Proposed Further Investigation
Detailed Excavation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aller Cross: Iron Age/Romano-British settlement site 	Detailed excavation over full width of Scheme trace as Advanced Works, following demolition and clearance under archaeological supervision of Hazel Bank, to extend north beyond the known boundaries of the site.
Strip, Map and Sample	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South of Elmscroft Nursery (chainage 3250-3350): Prehistoric field boundary; traces of medieval strip fields Edginswell Lane North (chainage 4550-4650): Medieval building 	Strip, Map and Sample excavation prior to construction (full width of Scheme trace i.e. construction easement plus landscaping areas)
Earthwork Survey	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parish boundary with Haccombe Old Newton Road (sunken lane) Yannon Lane (sunken lane) Gourders Lane (sunken lane) Selected enclosure hedgerows 	Measured survey and photographic record, plus excavation and recording of a single section of each, prior to construction.
Standing Building Recording	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aller Cottages The Cott, Yon Street 53 Daccabridge Road 	Photographic (external) and descriptive record to be made prior to demolition.
Relocation of Boundary Stone	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Former parish boundary between Kingskerswell and Abbotskerswell 	If located, boundary stone to be photographed <i>in situ</i> , removed to temporary storage and subsequently replaced beyond the Scheme trace, if possible on the line of the parish boundary.
General Watching Brief	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All sections: medieval strip fields/enclosures; sunken lanes, parish boundaries, enclosure hedgerows 	Archaeological monitoring of topsoil stripping and other construction works to record isolated features, remnant field systems and enclosure hedgerows not otherwise dealt with above.

7.5 Environmental Effects

Effects of Construction

7.5.1 The effects of construction of the Scheme on the cultural heritage resource comprise direct effects on buried archaeological remains and indirect effects on the settings of

upstanding remains and Listed buildings. These effects include the temporary effects of construction activity, as well as the permanent effects of construction.

Scheme Construction Effects (North to South) (refer to Figures 1.0, 7.0a -7.0b)

Penn Inn to Aller

- 7.5.2 The Grade II Listed St Luke's Church in Milber (64) would experience a temporary adverse impact on its setting due to the proximity of construction activity. This would be a **Slight adverse** effect.
- 7.5.3 Construction of the Scheme would require the demolition of Aller Cottages (62), which are of local interest as examples of vernacular architecture associated with construction of the railway. This would be a **Slight adverse** effect.
- 7.5.4 The parish boundary between Kerswells and Newton Abbot (26) is marked by a hedge and insubstantial earthwork bank. Construction of the Scheme would result in the loss of a section of the earthwork feature, leading to a **Slight adverse** effect.

Aller Vale to Yannon Lane

- 7.5.5 Construction of the proposed new junction, slip roads and embankment across the Aller floodplain and the Torquay railway would have an adverse impact on the setting of the Grade II Listed Barn Owl Inn (65). This would be a **Large adverse** effect.
- 7.5.6 The site of Middle Iron Age and Romano-British occupation at Aller Cross (9) would be affected by construction of the grade-separated junction with its associated cuttings and embankments here. This would be a **Large adverse** effect.
- 7.5.7 South of Elmcroft, the remnants of pre-enclosure strip fields (27) and a possible prehistoric boundary ditch located during trial trenching (4) would be directly affected by construction of the main carriageway in cutting and the side road at grade. There would be a **Slight adverse** effect.
- 7.5.8 Construction of the Scheme would result in the loss of a significant proportion, and severance of, the sunken lane near High View (31). This would be a **Slight adverse** effect.

Yannon Lane to Edginswell Lane

- 7.5.9 Construction of the Scheme would result in the loss of a significant proportion, and severance of, the sunken lane known as Yannon Lane (30). This would be a **Slight adverse** effect.
- 7.5.10 The Scheme passes within 50m of the Kingskerswell Conservation Area. Although the proposed landscape mitigation would screen views of the bypass, there would be an adverse impact on the setting of a number of Listed buildings due to the visibility of the new Maddacombe Road overbridge and the asymmetrical cutting west of the old village, and the proximity of construction activity. There would be a **Large adverse** effect on the settings of the Scheduled and Grade II Listed manor house ruins (15), the Grade II* Listed church (18) and four Grade II Listed headstones (19-22), and the Grade II listed Foredown Farm (39), Rock House (55), Tor Hill Cottage (46) and the United Reformed Church (47). There would be a **Slight adverse** effect on the settings the Grade II Listed Dobbin Arch and Rose Hill railway bridges (57, 59) and Daccabridge (68).
- 7.5.11 Construction of the Scheme would require the demolition of The Cott, 8 Yon Street, Kingskerswell (63) and 53 Daccabridge Road (67), which are of minor local interest. This would be a **Slight adverse** effect.

- 7.5.12 The Scheme would pass immediately adjacent to the Scheduled area of the field system and settlement on Kerswell Down (6). Although there would be no direct impact, and views of the Scheme would be restricted due to the woodland, construction of the cutting, the Maddacombe Road overbridge and the relocated Kerswell Down car park would adversely affect the setting of the Scheduled Monument due to increased noise intrusion. There would be a **Slight adverse** effect.

Edginswell Lane to Torbay Ring Road

- 7.5.13 There would be a direct impact on a medieval building located by trial trenching off Edginswell Lane (23) due to the construction of the cutting here. This would be a **Slight adverse** effect.
- 7.5.14 Construction of the Scheme would result in the loss of a significant proportion, and severance of, the sunken lane known as Gourders Lane (29), a **Slight adverse** effect.
- 7.5.15 A post-medieval boundary ditch located during trial trenching Off Edginswell Lane (56) would be lost due to construction of the main carriageway on embankment. This would be a **Slight adverse** effect.

Effects of Operation

- 7.5.16 Operational effects on the cultural heritage resource are limited to the effects of traffic, noise and light intrusion on the settings of Listed Buildings within the Kingskerswell Conservation Area; there would be no additional Operational Effects on other Listed Buildings along the Scheme.

Penn Inn to Aller

- 7.5.17 There would be no adverse effects due to operation in this section of the Scheme.

Aller to Yannon Lane

- 7.5.18 There would be an **Adverse** effect on the setting of one site in this section of the Scheme, the Grade II Listed Barn Owl Inn at Aller (65). It is not considered that this would be significantly reduced by mitigation and the overall significance of effect would be **Moderate adverse**.

Yannon Lane to Edginswell Lane

- 7.5.19 There would be an **Adverse** effect on 13 sites in this section of the Scheme.
- 7.5.20 There would be a **Slight adverse** effect on the setting of the Scheduled field system and settlement on Kerswell Down (6) due to noise intrusion during operation of the Scheme.
- 7.5.21 Although the proposed landscape mitigation would screen views of the bypass, the full benefits of this would not be apparent until screen planting has matured in Year 15 of operation of the Scheme. Taking this into account, there would be a **Moderate adverse** effect on the setting of the Grade II Listed United Reformed Church (47) and Rock House (55), and a **Slight adverse** effect on the settings of the Scheduled and Grade II Listed manor house ruins (15), the Grade II* Listed St Mary's Church (18), four Grade II Listed headstones (19-22), Foredown Farm (39) and Tor Hill Cottage (46). There would be a **Neutral** overall effect on the setting of the Grade II Listed Dobbin Arch and Rose Hill railway bridges (57, 59). There would be no adverse effect on the Grade II Listed Daccabridge (68) as a result of operation of the Scheme:-

Edginswell Lane to Torbay Ring Road

7.5.22 There would be no adverse effects due to operation in this section of the Scheme.

7.6 Significance of Effects

7.6.1 The assessment has taken into account the significance of sites and the likely effect upon them to arrive at a judgement of the significance of the effect of the Scheme:

- The importance of cultural heritage features has been assessed using the Secretary of State's non-statutory criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments, as modified by English Heritage. The assessment determines whether the features are:
 - Very Important;
 - Important;
 - Moderately Important;
 - Minor Importance; or
 - Not Important.
- Assessment of effect is the identification of the degree of the effect of the Scheme. The magnitude of impact (summation of direct and indirect) on the cultural heritage resource has been assigned one of the following descriptors:
 - Large
 - Moderate
 - Slight
 - Negligible/none.
- Significance is a product of the importance of the resource and the degree of the effect upon it. Effects will be classified on a scale of neutral to large both adverse and beneficial.

7.6.2 The combined Construction Effects and Operational Effects of the Scheme would have the following permanent effects on Cultural Heritage.

Large Adverse Effects

7.6.3 The Scheme would have a Large adverse effect on one site within the Study Area, the Important Middle Iron Age and Romano-British site at Aller Cross (9). Although it is proposed to record archaeological remains at Aller Cross prior to their destruction, this mitigation would reduce the significance of effect on this regionally important site.

Moderate Adverse Effects

7.6.4 There would be a **Large adverse** indirect effect on the settings of eight Listed structures in the Kingskerswell Conservation Area during the Construction phase of the Scheme. However, in each case the residual **Adverse** effect would be significantly reduced during the Operation phase, following the completion of construction activities and the full establishment of landscape mitigation planting. There would be a **Moderate adverse** residual effect on the settings of the **Important** Grade II Listed Foredown Farm (39), Rock House (55), Tor Hill Cottage (46) and United Reformed Church (47). It is not considered that the adverse effects on any of these Listed buildings could be adequately mitigated through landscape design or other means such that the residual significance of effect would be reduced.

Slight Adverse Effects

7.6.5 There would be a **Slight adverse** effect on the setting of the **Very Important** Scheduled Monument on Kerswell Down during Construction and Operation of the Scheme. It is not considered that the adverse effects could be adequately mitigated through landscape design or other means such that the residual significance of effect

would be reduced. However, only a very small part of the extensive Scheduled Monument would be affected and the magnitude of effect would decrease with distance from the Scheme.

7.6.6 Although there would be a **Large adverse** indirect effect on the settings of the Scheduled Manor ruins and a number of Listed Buildings in Kingskerswell, the residual **Adverse** effect would be significantly reduced following the completion of construction and the full establishment of landscape mitigation planting. There would be a **Slight adverse** residual effect on the **Very Important** Scheduled and Grade II Listed Manor ruins, the Grade II* Listed Church of St Mary (18) and four headstones in the churchyard (19-22), and the **Important** Grade II Listed Barn Owl Inn (65).

7.6.7 The Scheme would have a **Slight adverse** effect on a further eleven sites, all of Minor importance:

- Aller Cottages (62);
- the parish boundary between Kerswells and Newton Abbot (26);
- remnants of strip fields (27) and a prehistoric boundary ditch at Elmcroft (4);
- sunken lanes at High View (31), Yannon Lane (30) and Gourders Lane (29);
- The Cott, Yon Street (63);
- 53 Daccabridge Road, Kingskerswell (67);
- the medieval building off Edginswell Lane (23); and
- a post-medieval boundary ditch off Edginswell Lane (56).

7.6.8 The proposed recording of all these sites of local importance is considered adequate mitigation and this is reflected in the **Slight adverse** significance of effect, as assessed.

7.6.9 Although there would be a **Slight adverse** effect on the settings of the Important St Luke's Church in Milber (64), Dobbin Arch and Rose Hill Railway Bridges (57, 59) and Daccabridge (68) in Kingskerswell due to construction activities, these effects would be temporary and there would be no change compared to existing conditions following completion of construction works. The residual effect on these features would be **Neutral**.

7.7 Conclusion

7.7.1 The entire length of the Scheme has been assessed in accordance with the requirements of a DMRB Stage 3 Assessment. After mitigation, adverse effects on twenty four archaeological and cultural heritage resources have been identified:

- A **Slight adverse** effect on the setting of two Scheduled Monuments of national importance (the Kingskerswell Manor ruins and the prehistoric field systems and settlement on Kerswell Down).
- A **Slight adverse** effect on the setting of one Grade II* Listed building of national importance (St Mary's Church, Kingskerswell).
- A **Large adverse** direct effect on one site of regional or county importance at Aller Cross.
- **Moderate adverse** effects on the settings of four Grade II Listed buildings of regional or county importance (Foredown Farmhouse, the United Reformed Church, Rock House, Tor Hill Cottage, all in Kingskerswell).
- **Slight adverse** effects on the settings of five Grade II Listed structures of regional or county importance (four headstones in the churchyard at Kingskerswell, and Barn Owl Inn).
- **Slight adverse** effects on eleven sites of local importance (1-4 Aller Cottages; the parish boundary between Kerswells and Newton Abbot; former strip fields and a prehistoric boundary ditch near Elmcroft; sunken lanes at High View, Yannon Lane and Gourders Lane; The Cott, Yon Street; 53 Daccabridge Road;

the medieval building off Edginswell Lane; and a post-medieval boundary ditch off Edginswell Lane).

- 7.7.2 No nationally important archaeological remains have been identified within the Study Area. There would be some residual **Adverse** effects on the settings of two Scheduled Monuments due to operation of the Scheme. Although there would be some **Adverse** effect on the setting of a further Scheduled Monument during construction of the Scheme, this would be temporary and there would be a **Neutral** residual effect. Two known archaeological sites would be directly affected; the Iron Age/ Romano-British site at Aller Cross is considered to be of county or regional importance, whilst the medieval building off Edginswell Lane south of Kingskerswell is of local importance. The loss of these sites would be mitigated through archaeological recording prior to construction by means of detailed excavation or Strip, Map and Sample. Other known features affected by the Scheme include buried remains of prehistoric and post-medieval date, parish boundaries, and sunken lanes; these are considered to be of minor, local importance. Archaeological surveys indicate that there is a low potential for other remains of minor importance to be discovered during construction. Earthwork features such as parish boundaries and sunken lanes would be surveyed prior to site clearance. The loss of remains of minor importance, whether known or discovered, would be mitigated by archaeological recording by means of a watching brief during construction.
- 7.7.3 No Listed Buildings would be directly affected by the Scheme. However, the construction of the Scheme west of Kingskerswell would adversely affect the setting of the Conservation Area as a whole and of individual buildings within it. These **Adverse** effects would be mitigated by using false cuttings and landscape planting to screen the sight and sound of the road, preserve the rural character of the old village area and protect the settings of the Listed Buildings to the greatest possible extent. The buildings that would be demolished are not Listed and are of no particular architectural or historic significance. However, Aller Cottages, The Cott and 53 Daccabridge Road are of some local interest and would be the subject of building recording prior to demolition.
- 7.7.4 In summary, the Scheme would **Adverse** residual effects on the regionally important site at Aller Cross and the settings of the Scheduled Monuments of Kingskerswell Manor ruins and Kerswell Down, the Kingskerswell Conservation Area and individual Listed buildings. A series of historic landscape features including lanes, hedgerows and parish boundaries would also be severed. Taking these effects into account the overall effect of the Scheme on Cultural Heritage is considered to be **Moderate adverse**.