

Archaeological evaluation within the graveyard at St Andrew's Church, Ashburton, Devon



on behalf of the client

Report No. 21-06

Project No. 1748

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Archaeological Groundworks and Historic Buildings

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Summary

An archaeological evaluation was carried out by Oakford Archaeology in February 2021 within the graveyard at St Andrew's Church, Ashburton, Devon (SX 8601 5085). The work comprised the hand-excavation of 3 trenches totalling 3m in length, with each trench 1m wide. These provided a spatial sample of the site.

The evaluation demonstrated the absence of an earlier cobbled path surface underneath the later tarmac, while the presence of charnel soil suggests that the area had formerly been part of the graveyard. The work retrieved a small assemblage of medieval and post-medieval finds, the presence of a single 19th century sherd suggesting that the path was laid out sometime in the early-mid 19th century.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared for Brian Lewis (Lewis Designs Ltd) on behalf of the St Andrew's PCC and sets out the results of an archaeological trench evaluation undertaken by Oakford Archaeology (OA) in February 2021 within the garveyard at St Andrew's, Ashburton, Devon (SX 7552 6976). The work was commissioned on the advice of the Diocese Advisory Committee (DAC), advised by the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor, to provide information in support of a forthcoming Faculty for removing the path and creating additional space within the graveyard for inhumations.

1.1 The site

The site (Fig. 1) lies on level ground a short distance to the southeast of the Grade I Listed church of St Andrews and at a height of c. 74m AOD. The underlying solid geology belongs to the Foxley Tuff Formation, igneous bedrock formed approximately 385 to 392 million years ago in the Devonian Period and gives rise to shallow fine loamy- and silty soils. ¹

1.2 Historical and archaeological background

Ashburton is an ancient settlement and prior to the modern period, the main route from Exeter passed through the town. Little is known of the history and development of this area in the immediate prehistoric, Roman and early Saxon period but the manor of *Essebretone* had become part of the vast estate of the bishops of Exeter some time before the Norman Conquest. ² It remained episcopal property following the Norman reorganisation of the land holdings following the Conquest and until the time of James I, when it was alienated to the Crown, and subsequently sold to lay-men.

The town derives its name from the stream on which it stands, the Ashburn, now called the Yeo. The place-name probably derives from the Old English *Æscburnan lande* meaning 'farm by the Ashburn stream'. ³ It is mentioned for the first time in the early 11th century in the will of Ælfwold, Bishop of Crediton and dated 1008-1012. In addition, the circular nature of the graveyard suggests the presence of an early Christian site, c.f. Gulval, Kingsteignton, Woodbury and Lustleigh, 4 and it is probable that the original settlement grew up around the site of the parish church of St Andrew. Variously known as Essebretona, Aisbernatonam, Eispreton and Aysshpertone, 5 the town owed much to the bishops of Exeter, as well as to its natural location in the midst of rich farmland and at the margin of the mineral wealth of Dartmoor. ⁶ The first documented parish Church of St Andrew's dates back to at least the late 12th century, when John the Chanter, Bishop of Exeter (1186-91) gave it to the Chapter of Exeter Cathedral. Ashburton had its own market by 1155, and a borough had been created by Bishop Brewer in 1238. In 1310, Bishop Stapledon obtained a charter to hold a three-day fair in addition to the market, the town becoming a centre for the cloth, tin, corn and cattle trade until. ⁷ The roads still converge today on the triangular site of the market place. Further mention of the church is made in the visitation reports of bishops Bitten and Stapeldon in 1301 and 1314 respectively.

¹ www.bgs.co.uk.

² Thorn and Thorn 1985, 16.114.

³ Gover et al. 1932, 462.

⁴ Pevsner 1952, 545.

⁵ Gover et al. 1932, 462.

⁶ DNPA Conservation Area Character Appraisals - Ashburton.

⁷ ibid.

The town's prosperity throughout the medieval period was based on the tin mining of Dartmoor. By the middle of the 12th century the quickly developing tin trade across Dartmoor brought prosperity to the town and Ashburton became the natural collecting centre for the south-eastern side of the Moor, subsequently becoming a Stannary town with Tavistock and Chagford in 1305. There is no further documentary evidence for St Andrew's church until the early 15th century when it is mentioned in a document dated 15th May 1405. The document is preoccupied with the defects and repairs needed in the chancel, houses and closes of the vicarage of the parish church of *Aysberton*. A subsequent report to the bishop mentions the cost of repairing the chancel roof which was to be debited to the estate of the deceased vicar. The present church is largely a single phase and was built between 1405-1449.

The tin trade entered a period of gradual decline from the 16th century and by the early 1700s the trade had all but died out. ¹¹ Many changes took place inside the church in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries but these were largely swept away in the late Victorian era when a restoration programme, carried out by the architect G. E. Street, gave the church it's present character.

There is uncertainty over when exactly the path to the southeast of the church was established. It is not shown on the Ashburton tithe map of 1842 (Fig. 2), although neither is the main path from the north porch of the church, and it is therefore possible that the path was already established by this period. The area was mapped by the Ordnance Survey in 1886 when the graveyard was shown in the greatest detail thus far (Fig. 3). The path is clearly illustrated, as are the path around the church and the two paths exiting onto Church Path to the north. The paths have remained unaltered throughout the 20th century, as is evidenced by the 1904 and 1937 Ordnance Survey maps (Figs. 4-5).

2. AIMS

The principal aim of the evaluation was to establish the presence or absence, character, extent, depth, date and condition/state of survival of any archaeological features and deposits within the footprint of the proposed development. The results of the evaluation will inform the planning process - particularly whether there are any remains present of sufficient significance and state of preservation to affect the principle or layout of the proposed development and may also be used to formulate a programme of further archaeological work either prior to and/or during groundworks to mitigate the impact of the development on any remains present.

3. METHODOLOGY

The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a project design prepared by Oakford Archaeology (2020), submitted to and approved by DCHET prior to commencement on site. This document is included as Appendix 1.

The work comprised the hand-excavation of 3 trenches totalling 3m in length, with each trench 1m wide. They were positioned to target anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and to provide a spatial sample of those areas of the site where no anomalies were identified.

⁸ ibid.

⁹ Cornelius 1959.

¹⁰ Cornelius 1959, 46.

¹¹ ibid.

Trench positions were agreed with the DAC prior to commencement on site. The positions of trenches as excavated are shown on Fig.6.

The standard OA recording system was employed. Stratigraphic information was recorded on *pro-forma* context record sheets and individual trench recording forms, plans and sections for each trench were drawn at a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 as appropriate and a detailed digital photographic record was made. Registers were maintained for photographs, drawings and context sheets on *pro forma* sheets.

4. RESULTS

Relevant detailed plans and sections are included as Figs 7-9 and context descriptions for the trenches are set out in Appendix 2.

A generally uniform overlying layer sequence of successive tarmacadamed paths onto charnel soil was encountered in all areas. The depth of the overlying path deposits ranged from 0.07-0.17m.

4.1 The trenches

Trench 1 (Fig. 7)

This trench measured 1m x 1m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.03m. No archaeological features were present although the work exposed charnel soil at a depth of 0.09m. The recorded layer sequence is set out in Table 1, Appendix 2.

Trench 2 (Fig. 8)

This trench measured 1m x 1m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.09m. No archaeological features were present although the work exposed charnel soil at a depth of 0.17m. The recorded layer sequence is set out in Table 2, Appendix 2.

Trench 3 (Fig. 9)

This trench measured 1m x 1m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.05m. No archaeological features were present although the work exposed charnel soil at a depth of 0.07m. The recorded layer sequence is set out in Table 3, Appendix 2.

5. THE FINDS

by John Allan

This is a relatively small finds assemblage composed entirely of medieval and post-medieval materials and described briefly below.

The medieval assemblage totals 12 sherds recovered from the charnel soil in trenches 1, 2 and 3. This consisted of two sherds of Exeter fabric 40 (1250-1550) and a single fragment of inlaid floor-tile with circle and dots decoration dating to the 14th century). In addition, two sherds of Totnes-type coarseware dating to the 15th-16th century and six fragments of Totnes-type ridgetile with a similar date were recovered in trenches 2 and 3. Finally, a single sherd of Frechen stoneware, a German import from the Rhineland dating to the late 16th or early 17th century, was recovered in Trench 1 (102).

A single coin was recovered from context 206 (charnel soil) and dating to the mid-late 16th century. This was an Elizabeth I hammered silver penny, 14mm diam. and weighing 0.97g. This had slight blackish patination and was fairly worn, suggesting it might have been in circulation for a long time. This coin was possibly part of the fourth issue (1578-82).

Two 18th century clay pipe stems and a single sherd of industrial redware dating to the 19th century were recovered from the charnel soil (309) in Trench 3. The small number of later finds suggests that the path was probably laid out sometime in the early-mid 19th century.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The trench evaluation constitutes a thorough examination of the site, with trenches positioned to provide a spatial sample. No evidence for an earlier cobbled path has been identified underneath successive later tarmacadamed path surfaces (up to 0.17m deep). The total removal of these deposits within each trench has revealed extensive charnel soils and indicated that the current path has been built over areas of previous inhumations.

7. PROJECT ARCHIVE

Due to the limited nature of the findings a project archive will not be produced. A detailed summary of the evaluation, including a pdf copy of the final report will be submitted to the online archaeological database OASIS (oakforda1-399369). The finds have been deposited with the St Andrew's PCC.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This evaluation was commissioned by Brian Lewis Designs on behalf of the Parochial Church Council of St Andrew Ashburton. The project was managed for Oakford Archaeology by Marc Steinmetzer and the fieldwork carried out by Jonathan Martin; the illustrations for the report were prepared by Marc Steinmetzer.

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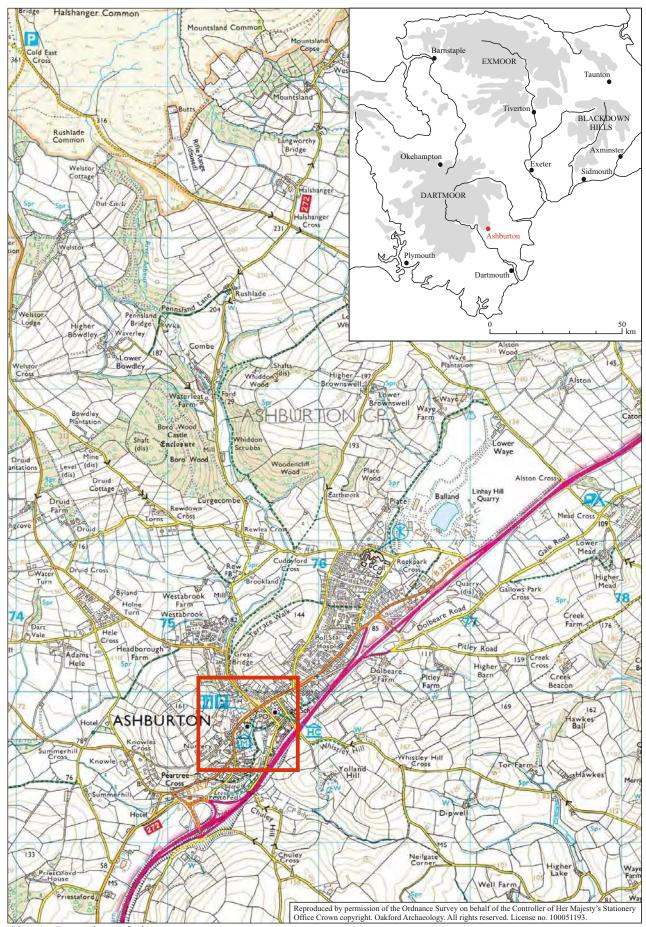


Fig. 1 Location of site.



Fig. 2 Detail from the 1842 Ashburton Tithe map.



Fig. 3 Detail from the 1st edition 1886 Ordnance Survey Map Devonshire Sheet CXIV.3.



Fig. 4 Detail from the 2nd edition 1904 Ordnance Survey Map Devonshire Sheet CXIV.3.



Fig. 5 Detail from the 1937 Ordnance Survey Map.



Fig. 6 Plan showing location of trenches.

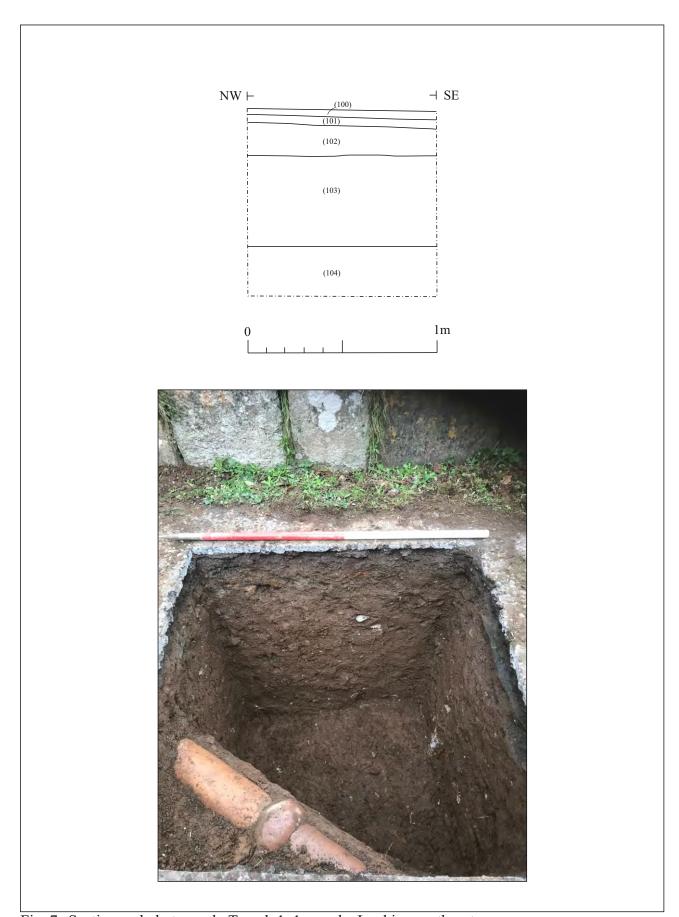
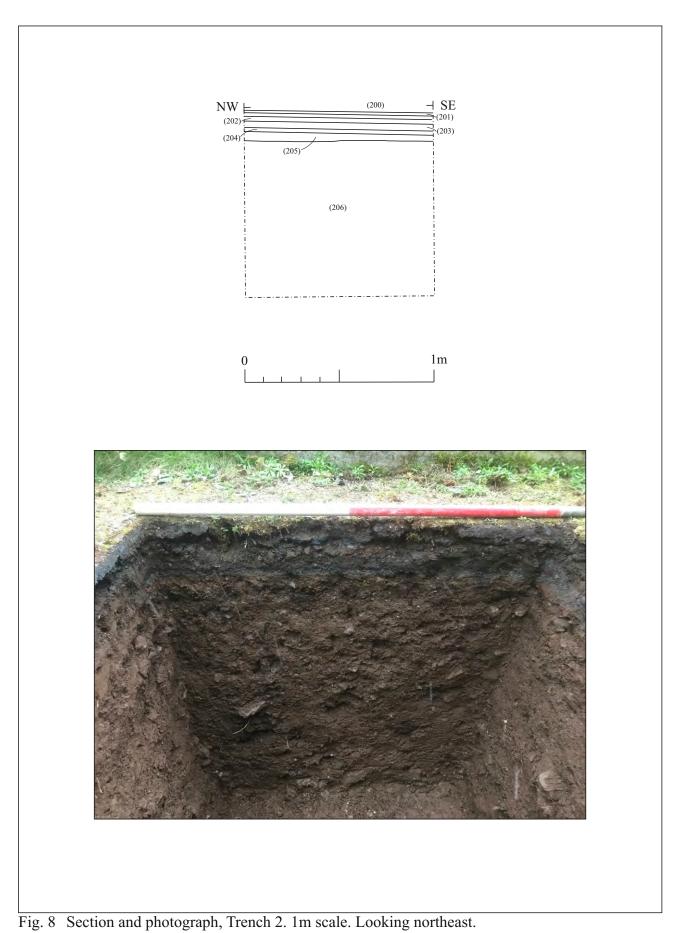
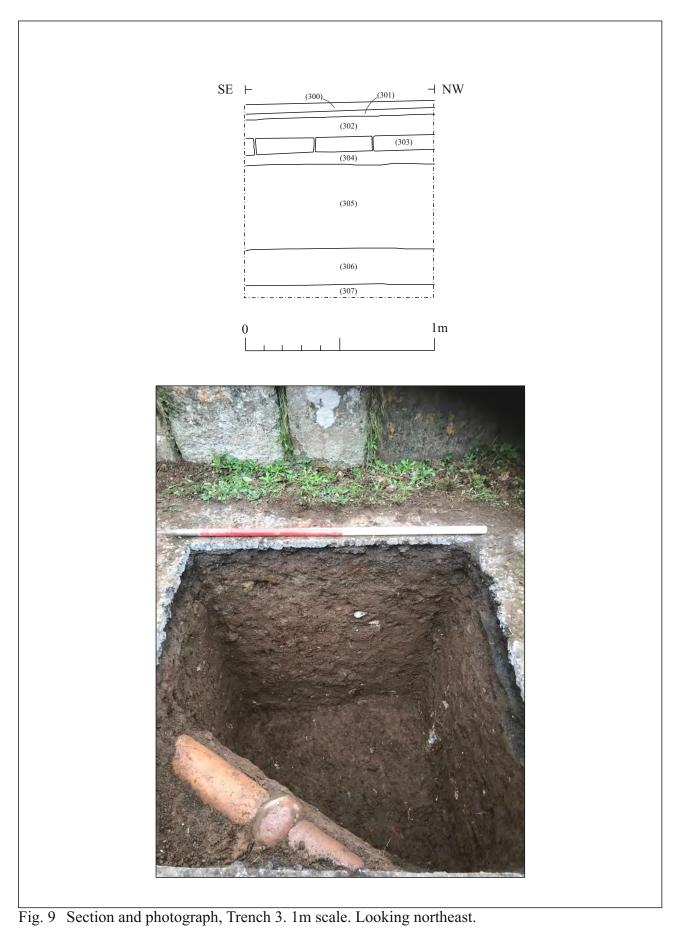


Fig. 7 Section and photograph, Trench 1. 1m scale. Looking northeast.





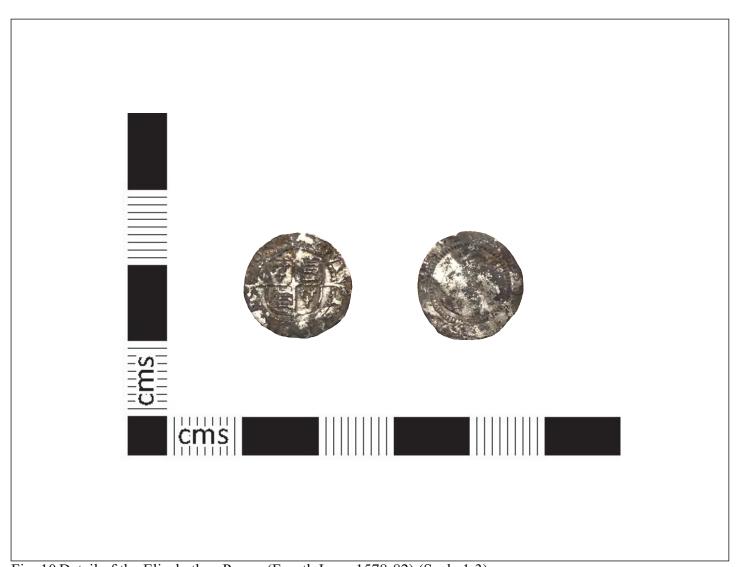


Fig. 10 Detail of the Elizabethan Penny (Fourth Issue 1578-82) (Scale 1:3).

Appendix 1:

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological works

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document has been prepared by Oakford Archaeology (OA) for Brian Lewis (Lewis Designs Ltd) on behalf of the St Andrew's PCC and sets out the methodology to be employed during a staged programme of archaeological work at St Andrew's, Ashburton, Devon (SX 7552 6976). This document represents the 'Written Scheme of Investigation' for archaeological work required under the grant of an interim DAC Faculty for the investigation of a church path with a view to creating a limited number of new burial plots. The work is required by the Diocese Advisory Committee (DAC), advised by the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor.
- 1.2 The proposed development lies in an area of high archaeological potential within the graveyard and immediately to the west of the tower. The church is a grade I listed building with 12th century origins. It was rebuilt in the 14th century, with parts of the chancel and chancel chapel arches dating to this period. In the late 15th century the nave, chancel and chancel chapel were remodelled, and the west tower built. Evidence of an earlier tower was uncovered on the north side during the 1871 restoration. The south aisle and south porch were built in the post-Reformation period by William Harris of Hayne who had purchased the manor in 1555. Documentation of 1836 refers to work on a "transept". The 1871 work comprised the rebuilding of the chancel and chancel chapel arches, the lowering of the nave floor and a reseating.
- 1.3 Although the path is not shown on the 1842 Ashburton Tithe Map neither is the main path to the north porch of the church and as such it is possible that the path was already established by this period. The proposed works therefore have the potential to expose and destroy archaeological and artefactual deposits associated with the historic path, as well as medieval and postmedieval activity in the area.

2. AIMS

2.1 The aim of the evaluation is to identify, excavate and record any *in situ* archaeological remains affected by the development, by excavating trial trenches and, if necessary, excavate the archaeological remains prior to the start of construction, and to report on the results of the project, as appropriate. The results of the evaluation will be used to inform the planning decision and also the extent and nature of any subsequent programme of archaeological mitigation required by the Local Planning Authority as a condition of a planning consent.

3. METHOD

The DAC has required that an evaluation be undertaken in order to investigate the feasibility of the proposals.

3.1 The first phase will comprise the excavation of 3 trenches totalling 3m in length, with each trench 1 m wide (see attached plan). Localised site constraints (eg. buried services, tree canopies etc.) may result in minor modifications to the trench layout.

Phase 1 - trial trenching, to identify whether any remains are present on the site, and if so where.

This will inform the level of mitigation needed before proceeding with the development:

Option 1 - monitoring and recording/limited excavation during construction groundworks, if necessary. Sufficient time will need to be allowed for the completion of any archaeological recording and limited excavation necessary within the construction groundworks. At times this may require a pause in the construction works, but the need for this will be kept to a minimum where possible. Where more substantial delays are envisaged, then a site meeting will be convened as necessary with the DCHET and the client to agree the way forward.

Option 2 - full archaeological excavation of certain areas prior to construction starting, if necessary

The need for, and extent of options 1 & 2 will be reviewed and agreed at a site meeting with the DCHET once the trial trenches have been dug and the results are clear. If required, option 3 will then be carried out and completed before the commencement of construction works, and option 2 during the latter. Should significant archaeological deposits or remains be present in the phase 1 trial trenches, then these will be left in situ and excavated as part of a larger area excavation under option 3.

In addition, there will be a further phase of off-site analysis and reporting work.

The method outlined below applies primarily to the phase 1 trenching work. Should options 2 or 3 be required, then the generic methods and provisions set out in sections 3.3 - 3.10 and 4 - 5 below will apply, and a plan showing proposed areas of excavation and/or monitoring will be submitted to the DAC for approval prior to such works starting.

3.2 Trenches will be CAT scanned prior to excavation. Trenches will be hand-excavated. Excavation will continue until either the top of significant archaeological levels or natural subsoil is reached (whichever is higher). Where archaeological deposits are present the trench will be cleaned and deposits investigated, excavated and recorded.

General project methods

3.3 The area subject to option 1 or 2 will be agreed with the DCHET in advance of fieldwork and shown on a plan. Topsoil or overburden across the area(s) to be

investigated will be removed using a tracked or wheeled machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket under the direct control of the site archaeologist to the depth of formation, the surface of in situ subsoil/weathered natural, archaeological or significant palaeoenvironmental deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence, at which point machining will cease and investigation will continue by hand to clean the exposed surface.

All archaeological deposits and features will be stratigraphically excavated by hand down to natural subsoil in the following manner, unless agreed otherwise with the DAC:

- all significant deposits will be excavated and recorded by hand,
- some less significant and more bulky deposits may be carefully removed by machine with a toothless grading bucket, under direct archaeological supervision and with prior agreement of the DAC,
- fills of cut features will be excavated by hand as follows: -pits (50 and then 100%), postholes (50 and then 100%), stakeholes (100%), linears (20%, targeted on intersections, terminals or overlaps, etc). Surfaces will be completely excavated within the confines of the trenches or area excavation,
- Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of environmental samples and the recovery of artefacts,
- Variations to these may be required, for example to fully recover important finds and material, or to obtain firmer dating evidence, and these will be agreed with the DAC and then carried out,
- Spoil will also be examined and scanned with a metal detector for the recovery of artefacts.
- 3.4 Environmental deposits will be assessed on site by a suitably qualified archaeologist, with advice as necessary from Allen Environmental Archaeology or the Historic England Regional Science Advisor, to determine the possible yield (if any) of environmental or microfaunal evidence, and its potential for radiocarbon dating. If deposits potential survives, these would be processed by Allen Environmental Archaeology (AEA) using the HE Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology (HE CfA Guidelines 2002/1) and Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (Historic England, second edition, August 2011), and outside specialists (AEA) organised to undertake further assessment and analysis as appropriate.
- 3.5 Initial cleaning, conservation, packaging and any stabilisation or longer-term conservation measures will be undertaken in accordance with relevant professional guidance (specifically 'First Aid for Finds' Watkinson, D and Neal V, (London: Rescue/UKICAS 2001) and CIfA 2014 'Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials') and on advice provided by A Hopper-Bishop, Specialist Services Officer, RAM Museum, Exeter.

- 3.6 Should artefacts be exposed that fall within the scope of the Treasure Act 1996, then these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Act. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 3.7 Should any articulated human remains be exposed; these will initially be left *in situ*. If removal at either this or a later stage in the archaeological works is deemed necessary, these will then be fully excavated and removed from the site subject to the compliance with the relevant Ministry of Justice Licence, which will be obtained by OA on behalf of the client. Any remains will be excavated in accordance with the CIfA 'Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains' (Megan Brickley and Jacqueline I McKinley, 2004) and the CIfA Standards for Recording Human Remains (Piers D Mitchell and Megan Brickley, CIfA 2017). Where appropriate bulk samples will be collected.
- 3.8 The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve artefacts or report on other aspects of the investigations can be called upon (see below). The client will be fully briefed and consulted if there is a requirement to submit material for specialist research.
- 3.9 Health and Safety requirements will be observed at all times by archaeological staff working on site, particularly when machinery is operating nearby. Personal protective equipment (safety boots, helmets and high visibility vests) will be worn by staff when plant is operating on site. A risk assessment will be prepared prior to work commencing.
- 3.10 The DAC will be informed of the start of the project and will monitor progress throughout. A date of completion of all archaeological site work will be confirmed with the DAC and the timescale of the completion of items under section 5 will run from that date.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

- 4.1 The standard OA recording system will be employed, consisting of:
 - standardised single context record sheets; survey drawings, plans and sections at scales 1:10,1:20, 1:50 as appropriate;
 - colour digital photography;
 - survey and location of finds, deposits or archaeological features, using EDM surveying equipment and software where appropriate;
 - labelling and bagging of finds on site from all excavated levels, post-1800 unstratified pottery may be discarded on site with a small sample retained for dating evidence as required

5. REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

- 5.1 The reporting requirements will be confirmed with the DAC on completion of the site work. If little or no significant archaeology is exposed then reporting will consist of a completed DCC HER entry, including a plan showing location of groundworks and of any significant features found. The text entry and plan will be produced in an appropriate electronic format suitable for easy incorporation into the HER and sent to the DAC within 3 months of the date of completion of all archaeological fieldwork.
- 5.2 Should significant deposits be exposed the results of all phases of archaeological work and historic building recording will be presented within one summary report within six months of the date of completion of all archaeological fieldwork. Any summary report will contain the following elements as appropriate:
 - location plan and overall site plans showing the positions of the excavations and the distribution of archaeological features;
 - a written description of the exposed features and deposits and a discussion and interpretation of their character and significance in the context of the known history of the site;
 - plans and sections at appropriate scales showing the exact location and character of significant archaeological deposits and features;
 - a selection of photographs illustrating the principal features and deposits found:
 - specialist assessments and reports as appropriate.
- 5.3 A pdf version of the summary report will be produced and distributed to the Client and the DAC on completion of sitework within the timescale above. A copy of the report and pdf version will also be deposited with the site archive.
- 5.4 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared with reference to *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991 2nd edition) upon completion of the project.

The archive will consist of two elements, the artefactual and digital - the latter comprising all born-digital (data images, survey data, digital correspondence, site data collected digitally etc.) and digital copies of the primary site records and images.

The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) with the permission of the landowner within 6 months of the completion of site work, while the artefactual element will be deposited with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum (ref. number *pending*). Any artefacts not taken by the Royal Albert Memorial Museum will be offered to the landowner before being discarded. The hardcopy of the archive will be offered to the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and if not required will be disposed of by OA.

OA will notify the DAA upon the deposition of the digital archive with the ADS, and the deposition of any material (finds) archive with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum.

Should no artefacts be recovered or should the Royal Albert Memorial Museum not wish to retain any that are, then, with the agreement of the DAA, the report submitted to OASIS will form the sole archive for this project.

- 5.5 A .pdf copy of the updated summary report will be submitted, together with the site details, to the national OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of Archaeological investigationS) database within three months of the completion of site work.
- 5.6 A short report summarising the results of the project will be prepared for inclusion within the "round up" section of an appropriate national journal, if merited, within 12 months of the completion of site work.
- 5.7 Should particularly significant remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance. If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements including (para 141 of the NPPF) any further analysis that may be necessary will be confirmed with the DAA, in consultation with the Client. OA, on behalf of the Client, will then implement publication in accordance with a timescale agreed with the Client and the DAA. A final draft publication text and figures will be produced within 12 months of the completion of all phases of archaeological site work unless otherwise agreed in writing.

6. CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORILY PROTECTED SPECIES

6.1 If topsoil stripping or groundworks are being undertaken under the direct control and supervision of the archaeological contractor then it is the archaeological contractor's responsibility - in consultation with the applicant or agent - to ensure that the required archaeological works do not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.

7. COPYRIGHT

7.1 OA shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved, excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive

licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in this document.

8. PROJECT ORGANISATION

8.1 The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified and experienced archaeologists, in accordance with the Code of Conduct and relevant standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (*Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*, 2014, revised 2020, the *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*, 2014). The project will be managed by Marc Steinmetzer. Oakford Archaeology is managed by a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Health & Safety

8.2 All monitoring works within this scheme will be carried out in accordance with current *Safe Working Practices* (*The Health and Safety at Work Act* 1974).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Specialists contributors and advisors

The expertise of the following specialists can be called upon if required:

Bone artefact analysis: Ian Riddler; Bird remains: Matilda Holmes;

Dating techniques: Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre;

Charcoal identification: Dana Challinor; Diatom analysis: Nigel Cameron (UCL);

Environmental data: AEA;

Faunal remains: Lorraine Higbee (Wessex);

Finds conservation: Alison Hopper-Bishop (Exeter Museums);

Fish remains: Hannah Russ, Sheila Hamilton-Dyer; Human remains: Charlotte Coles, Mandy Kingdom; Lithic analysis: Linda Hurcombe (Exeter University);

Medieval and post-medieval finds: John Allan;

Metallurgy: Gill Juleff (Exeter University);

Numismatics: Norman Shiel (Exeter);

Petrology/geology: Roger Taylor (RAM Museum), Imogen Morris;

Plant remains: Lisa Gray;

Prehistoric pottery: Henrietta Quinnell (Exeter);

Roman finds: Paul Bidwell & associates (Arbeia Roman Fort, South Shields);

Others: Wessex Archaeology Specialist Services Team

Appendix 2:

Context descriptions by Trench

Table 1: Trench 1

Context	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation
No.			
100	0-0.04m	tarmac	Tarmac
101	0.04-0.09m	tarmac	Tarmac
102	0.09-0.24m	Mid reddish brown silty clay shillet	Charnel soil
		flecks (2-3%), gravel (1%)	
103	0.24-0.78m	Mid to dark reddish brown silty clay	Charnel soil
		shillet flecks (2-3%), gravel (1%)	
104	0.78m+	Dark reddish brown silty clay shillet	Charnel soil
		flecks (2-3%), gravel (1%)	

Table 2: Trench 2

Context	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation	
No.				
200	0-0.01m	Tarmac	Tarmac	
201	0.01-0.03m	Tarmac	Tarmac	
202	0.03-0.05m	aggregate	Sub-base	
203	0.05-0.09m	Tarmac	Tarmac	
204	0.09-0.11m	aggregate	Sub-base	
205	0.11-0.17m	Mid reddish brown silty clay shillet Charnel soil		
		flecks (2-3%), gravel (1%)		
206	0.17m+	Dark reddish brown silty clay shillet	Charnel soil	
		flecks (2-3%), gravel (1%)		

Table 3: Trench 3

Context No.	Depth (b.g.s.)	Description	Interpretation	
300	0-0.04m	Tarmac	Tarmac	
301	0.04-0.07m	Tarmac	Tarmac	
302	0.07-0.18m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of land drain [308]	
303	0.18-0.26m	Land drain	Land drain	
304	0.26-0.32m	Mid reddish brown silty clay	Fill of land drain [308]	
305	0.32-0.76m	Mid reddish brown silty clay shillet flecks (2-3%), gravel (1%)	Charnel soil	
306	0.76-0.86m	Mid reddish brown silty clay shillet flecks (2-3%), gravel (1%), white lime mortar flecks (1%)	Charnel soil	
307	0.86m+	Dark reddish brown silty clay shillet Charnel soil flecks (1%)		
308	0.07-0.32m	Cut of land drain Cut of land drain		
309	0.07-0.18m	Mid reddish brown silty clay Fill of land drain [308]		

Appendix 3: Finds quantification

Context	Feature	Spot date	Quantity	weight	Notes
102			2	11g	1 sherd of Frechen stoneware drinking jug (late 16 th -early 17 th century); 1 clay pipe stem (18 th -19 th century).
206			2	24g	1 sherd Totnes type coarseware (15 th -16 th century); 1 sherd Totnes type ridgetile (15 th century), 1 silver Penny (1558-1603).
305			9	37g	2 sherds Exeter fabric 40 (1250-1550); 1 sherd Totnes type coarseware (15 th -16 th century); 1 fragment of inlaid floor tile circle with dots decoration (14 th century); 5 sherds Totnes type ridgetile incl. raised moulded peak (14 th -15 th century).
309			2	3g	1 sherd of industrial redware (19 th century), 1 clay pipe stem (19 th century).