# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District:  Ipplepen, Teignbridge	National Grid Reference: SX 8505 6644		Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording Marldon Road, Ipplepen, Devon.	on land	l adjacent to	Photo attached: Y
Planning Application no: n/a		Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-406565		Museum Referen	ice no:
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1711		<b>Dates fieldwork v</b> 05-07/10/2020	ındertaken:

#### **Background**

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology in October 2020 on works associated with the installation of additional drainage and soakaway measures alongside Marldon Road, Ipplepen, Devon (Devon (SX 8505 6644). The work was required by the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).

The site (Fig. 1) lies in an area of high archaeological potential on the southeastern edge of an extensive area of Iron Age, Romano-British, post-Roman and early Saxon activity.

### **Description of the works**

A watching brief was maintained during excavations associated with the creation of a temporary access and working area (Fig. 2, pls. 1-2). The works entailed the excavation of an area approximately 205m long and 3m wide to a maximum depth of 0.3m. The works revealed a simple deposit sequence extending across the whole site. This exposed shale subsoil (101) at a depth of 0.3m below current ground level, sealed underneath a mid to dark brown silty clay topsoil (100).

A small collection of archaeological material was recovered from the topsoil, consisting of 17 sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries industrial whitewares. In conjunction with the ground works a metal detecting survey of the route and spoil heap was also carried out. This recovered a large number of ferrous objects, associated with post-medieval farming of the area, and a single cast lead probable 'palm guard' (pl. 3). Recovered from the spoil heap this is sub-oval in plan with one convex face and one flat face, with a circular depression on the convex side. The entire object is a darker grey colour, weighs 301.7g and measures 101mm in length, 52.6mm wide and 8.76mm thick. Palm guards were for use by leather workers to protect the palm whilst stitching. Dating of these artefacts is very difficult; the earliest examples seem to date from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, although they may have been in use right through to the 20<sup>th</sup> century (Bailey, G. 1993 Detector Finds 2, pp. 64-5)

## **Conclusion:**

No deposits, features or dating evidence indicative of archaeological activity was found. The lack of pottery and other artefacts from the site, despite examination of spoil heaps, further indicates that the site is archaeologically sterile. This is the only report on these works.

#### **OASIS** entry

Due to the limited nature of the findings a project archive will not be produced. A summary of the investigations has been submitted to the on-line archaeological database OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological InterventionS).

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)	

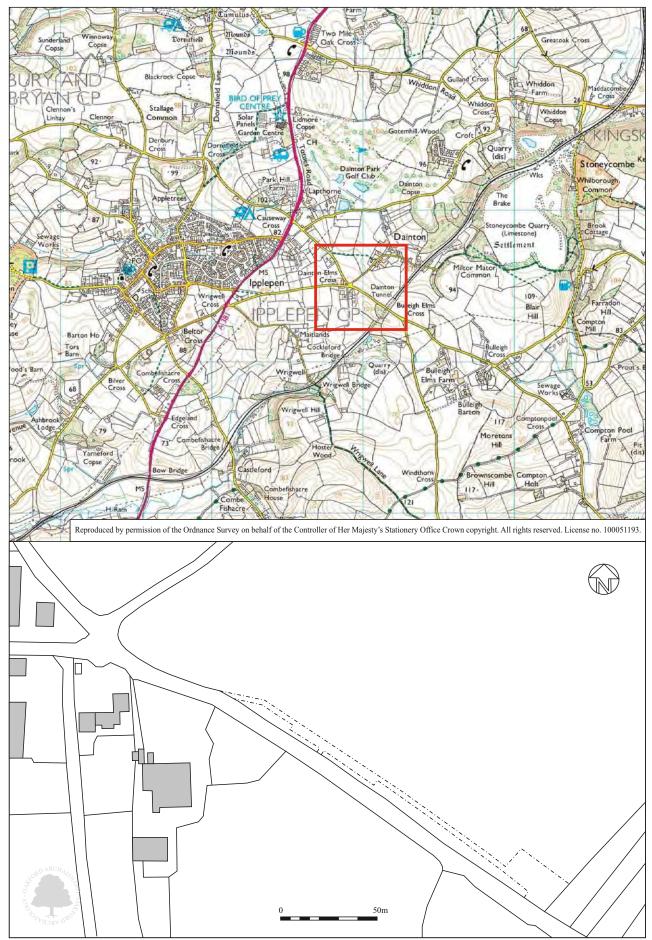


Fig. 1 Location of site.



Pl. 1 General view of access road excavations. 1m scale. Looking northwest.



Pl. 2 General view of access road and new soakaway site excavations. 1m scale. Looking northwest.



Pl. 3 Detail of the lead 'palm guard' (Scale 1:1).