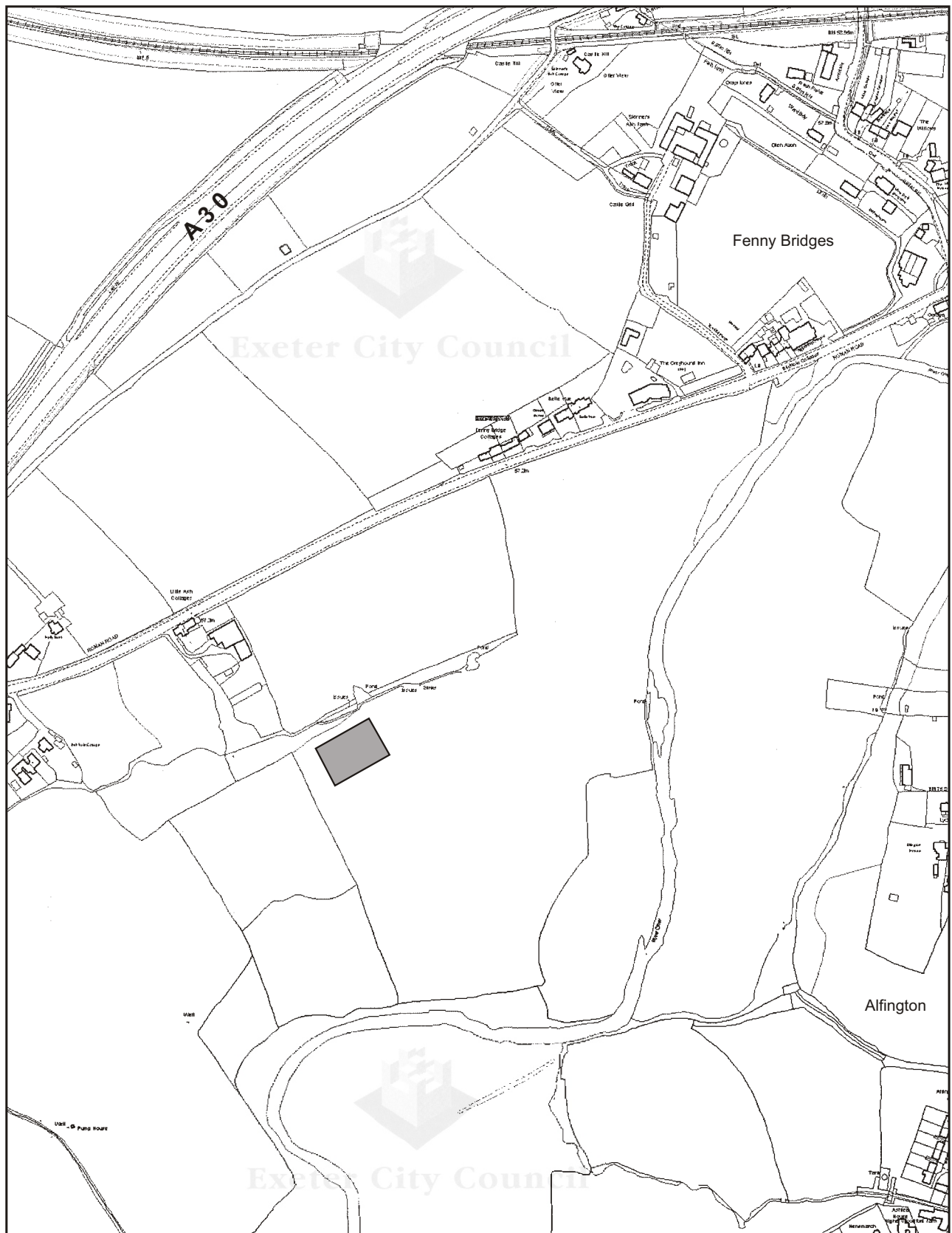


Devon County Historic Environment Record

Parish: Ottery St Mary	NGR: SY 10925 98150	Number:
Subject: Skinners Ash Farm, Fenny Bridges		
Description <p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Exeter Archaeology at Skinner's Ash Farm, Fenny Bridges, during a topsoil strip carried out in advance of the construction of a concrete raft for a pair of calf sheds (see attached figure for location). The work was required as a condition attached to the grant of planning permission (ref. 07/0721/FUL, East Devon District Council).</p> <p>Previous excavations in advance of improvements to the A30 to the north of the site, exposed extensive evidence for prehistoric activity, including Neolithic features, a Bronze Age enclosure ditch, pits and boundary ditches (Fitzpatrick <i>et al</i> 1999).</p> Results <p>An area 55m x 36m wide was stripped of topsoil using a 360° tracked excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket. Mixed yellowish-brown clay natural subsoil was exposed across the whole of the site, the surface of which was heavily marked by plough scarring. Numerous modern field drains also crossed the area.</p> <p>Disturbance of the natural subsoil was not enough to obscure any potential <i>in situ</i> archaeological deposits or feature, and none were present.</p> <p>Seven unstratified lithic artefacts were recovered from the topsoil. These are greensand-derived worked chert, including one blade of possible early Neolithic date, one core, four broad waste flakes and one broken blade, again of possible early Neolithic date. These artefacts are likely to represent a general background scatter of material.</p> <p>The finds and archive have been collated and will be deposited in RAM Museum, Exeter, under the accession number 451/2007.</p> Reference <p>Fitzpatrick, AP., Butterworth, C.A & Grove, J., 1999, <i>Prehistoric and Roman sites in East Devon: The A30 Honiton to Exeter Improvement DBFO Scheme, 1996-9</i>. Wessex Archaeology Report no. 16, (Volume 1).</p>	Ref: Exeter Archaeology Project no. 6247	Date: 03/09/07
Client: Mrs J.M. Hulbert	Recorder: A. Farnell	



Location of observations (shaded). Scale 1:5,000. Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. Exeter City Council 100025345.