

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Braunton, North Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SS 4860 3600	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Watching brief at former Brannoc Fibres site, First Field Lane, Braunton (new Tesco site)		<b>Photo attached?</b> N
<b>Planning Application no:</b> Outline App. No. 34480, Revised App. No. 42871	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 39544	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> 2007.64	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b>  6141	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b>  19/11/07 to 21/02/08	
<p><b>Description of works.</b></p> <p>Groundworks for a new Tesco store, associated car parking and a service yard were monitored (Fig. 1). The north-eastern part of the site was formerly occupied by a factory (Brannoc Fibres).</p> <p>Reductions to formation level involved a 'cut and fill' operation, with the level of the southern and eastern side of the site raised using material removed from the area to the north. The only intrusive works in the eastern part of the site were the removal of overburden and the excavation of a service trench near a pond, which exposed <i>in situ</i> subsoil below a 0.1m depth of topsoil and modern debris. A large part of this area had been disturbed, probably during the construction of the former factory.</p> <p>The south-western part of the site was covered by contaminated soil, probably also associated with the former factory.</p> <p>Much of the north-western part of the site was stripped of topsoil and monitored prior to the bulk removal of clay down to the formation level.</p> <p>A new retaining wall was constructed along much of the western site boundary. This produced a trench c. 150m long and up to 2.2m deep. The general layer sequence was:          0-0.6m topsoil          0.6-1.3m subsoil (mid-yellowish brown silty clay with occasional pebbles)          1.3m+ <i>in situ</i> alluvial clay with pebbles</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were identified across the site. The few finds were typical of late 18th/19th-century domestic assemblages.</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b>  Neil Goodwin, Exeter Archaeology		<b>Date sent to HER:</b>  20.3.08

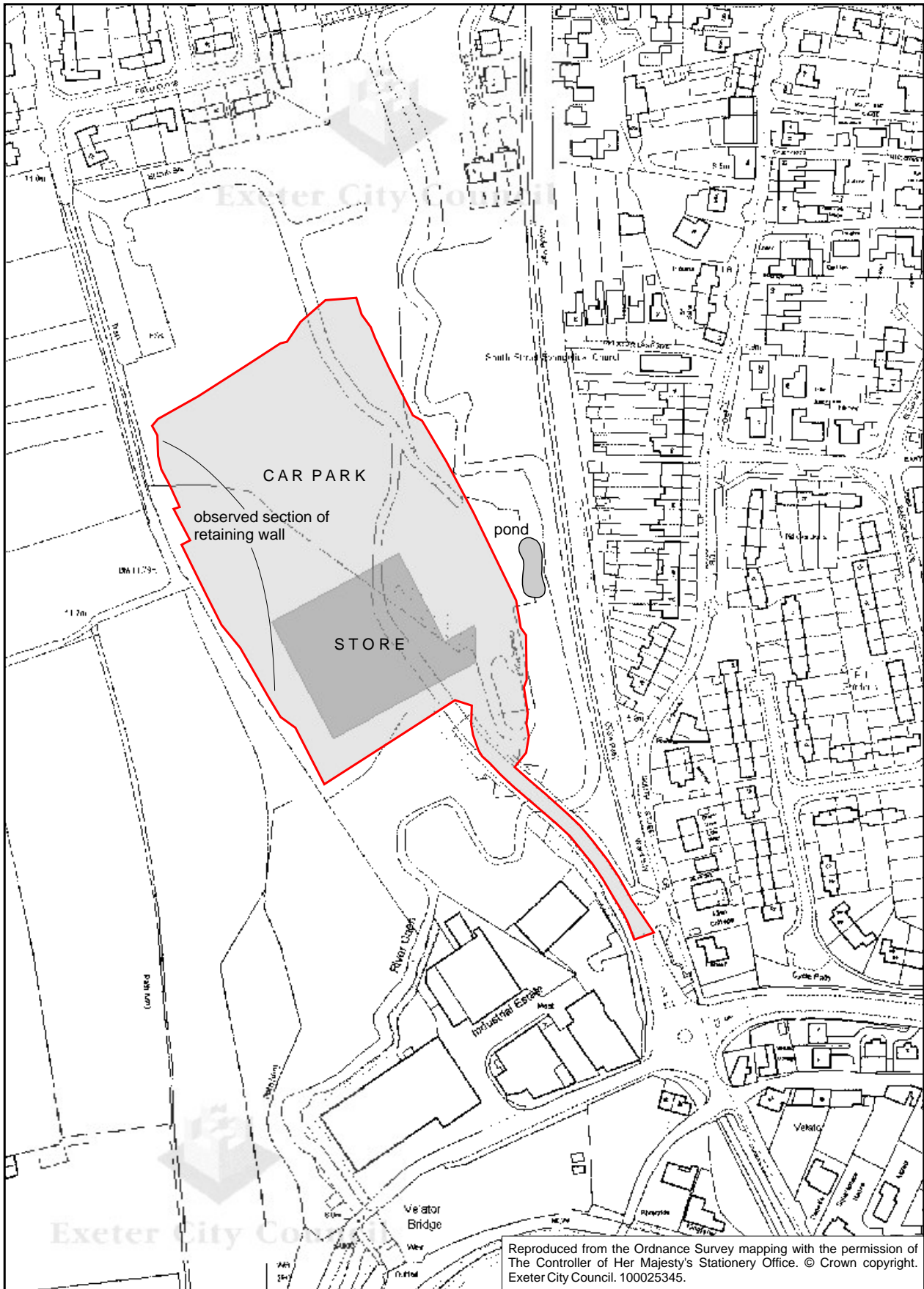


Fig. 1 Location of site. Scale 1:2,500.