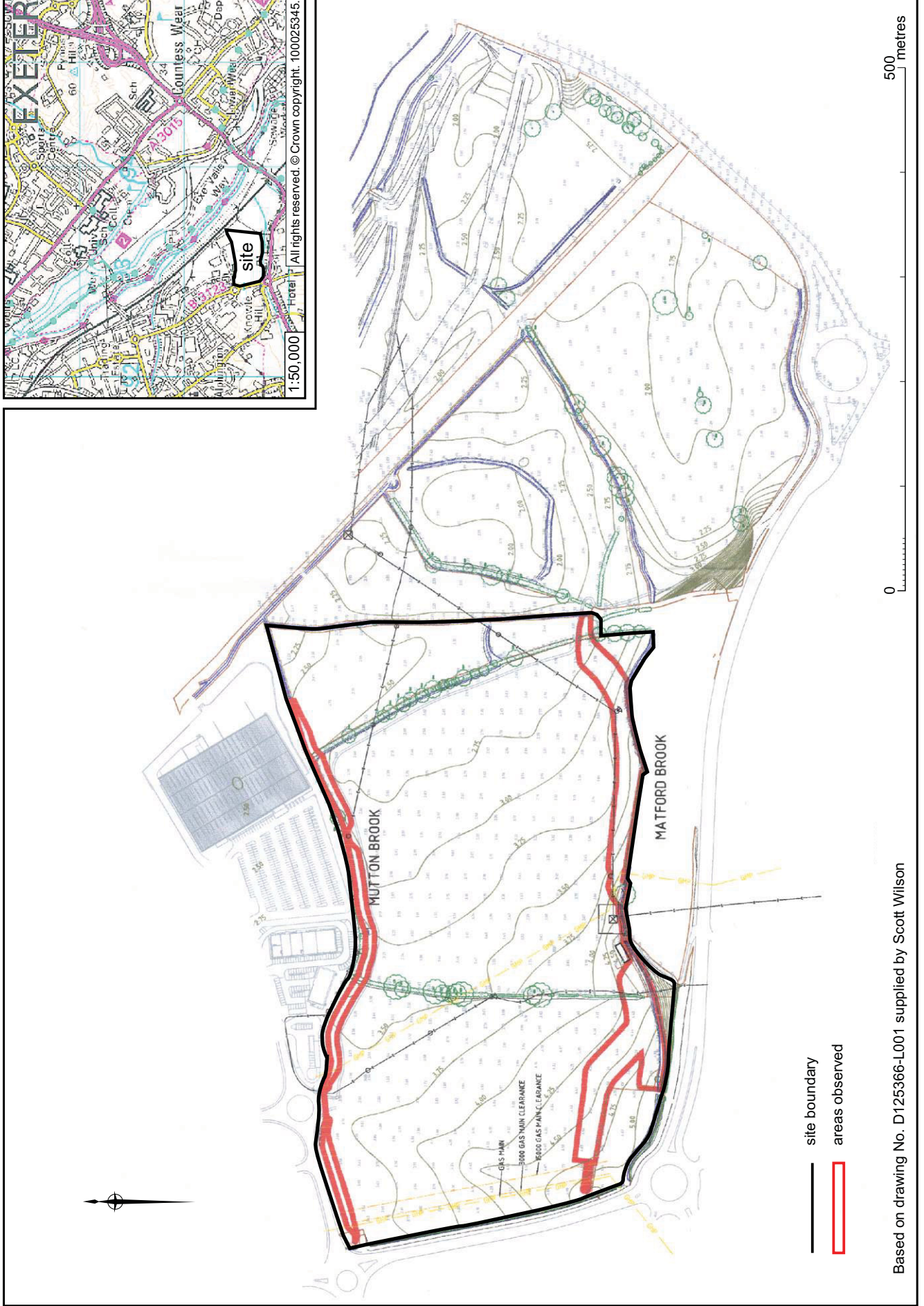


Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Exeter	National Grid Reference SX 932 894	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring of drainage works on land to the south of Yeoford Way, Exeter		Photo attached: No
Planning Application no: ECC 09/1371/03	Recipient museum: RAMM	
OASIS ID:	Museum Accession no: RAMM 415/2009	
Contractor's reference number/code: EA 6992	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 09.11.09 – 17.02.10	
<p>Background Excavations to improve the drainage on land to the south of Yeoford Way were monitored by Exeter Archaeology (EA) on behalf of Eagle One Ltd. This work was required under condition 5 of the grant of planning permission for the enlargement and improvement of existing drainage channels (ref. ECC 09/1371/03).</p> <p>The site lies on the southern fringe of the city, towards the western edge of the floodplain of the river Exe and comprises three fields totalling 19.2ha (fig. 1). It is bounded to the west by Bad Homberg Way; to the south partly by the A379 but mainly by Matford Brook; to the southeast by wetland habitat; to the northeast by a railway line and to the north by Yeoford way and recent developments of the business park. An archaeological assessment of the site produced by EA in 2009 (report number 09.41) concluded that the site contained the potential for palaeoenvironmental remains preserved in the river terrace deposits and possible palaeochannels underlying the site.</p> <p>Results Drainage works comprised the widening of both Matford Brook and Mutton Brook (along the southern and northern site boundaries respectively) and the creation of a 'collector drain' in the southwest corner of site extending to the north of a small parcel of land enclosed by a post and wire fence. Excavations extended the approximate length of the site from east to west along both the northern and southern boundaries and were typically up to 10-15m wide along the length. The maximum depth of excavation rarely exceeded 600mm.</p> <p>A consistent sequence of deposits was encountered consisting of yellowish grey and reddish brown alluvial clay encountered at a depth of approximately 150-300mm below topsoil. This alluvial clay was exposed across the entire area of excavation. Deeper river terrace gravels were not encountered and no palaeochannels were exposed. No features were observed to cut the alluvial clay and no finds were recovered.</p> <p>Conclusion The excavations have remained within an upper alluvial clay layer overlying deeper river terrace deposits known to be present across the flood plain of the river Exe. In view of the shallow nature of the groundworks, the absence of palaeochannels is not unexpected as they commonly occur at greater depth. It is therefore quite possible that palaeochannels are present within the site, sealed by the alluvial clay. No archaeological deposits or features were exposed and no finds recovered.</p>		
<p>A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.</p>		
Recorders: A. Farnell		Date sent to HER: 30th March 2010

Please email completed form to: archaeol@devon.gov.uk or post to County Archaeology Service, Environment Directorate, Matford Lane Offices, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QW. Information recorded on this form will be added to the Historic Environment Record, and made available to all researchers. Any plans or photographs embedded within or attached to this form remain the copyright © of the recorder, and must not be reproduced in any publication without the explicit consent of the copyright holder.



Based on drawing No. D125366-L001 supplied by Scott Wilson

Fig. 1 Site location plan.