Court Farm,
Cullompton,
Devon

Written Scheme of Investigation

ISCA Archaeology Limited

39D New Bridge Street

Exeter

Devon

EX4 3AH

07943204239

contactus@iscaarch.co.uk

For: **Robinson Jary Architecture**

On behalf of: **Maggie Harris**

ISCA Project: **P01-0017**

ISCA Report: **R01-0017-1**

December 2021

Project Name:	Court Farm
Location:	Cullompton, Devon
Type:	Archaeological Field Evaluation
National grid reference (NGR):	ST 02243 07715
Planning authority:	Mid Devon District Council
Planning Application:	21/00637/FULL
Proposed date of fieldwork:	January 2022
Site Code:	CFC21
Location of Archive:	Exeter RAMM
Museum Reference Code:	RAMM: 21/37
Report number:	R01-0017-1
Report written by:	Simon Sworn
Produced by ISCA for:	Robinson Jary Architecture
OASIS number:	iscaarch2-503467

SUMMARY

This Written Scheme of Investigation has been prepared by ISCA Archaeology Limited for Robinson Jary Architecture for an archaeological evaluation to be undertaken at Court Farm, Cullompton, Devon, for the proposed development of a single two storey residential property.

The proposed site is located towards to north-east of the town and approximately 350m to the east of two Roman military forts on St Andrew's Hill (NGR: ST018076). Prehistoric, Roman, and medieval assets are recorded within the vicinity, and the site is in an area where any potential Roman road, extending eastwards from the Roman forts, may be situated.

The Written Scheme of Investigation sets out a proposed methodology and programme of works for an archaeological field evaluation and subsequent analysis and reporting as required as part of the planning condition.

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document sets out details of a *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) by ISCA Archaeology (ISCA) for an archaeological field evaluation at Court Farm, Cullompton, Devon (henceforth referred to as 'the Site'), centred at NGR ST 02243 07715 (Fig. 1). The evaluation has been commissioned by Robinson Jary Architecture as part of an updated planning application: 21/00637/FULL (earlier applications – 19/01967/FULL and 20/00537/FULL). The WSI sets out the methodology for the archaeological works ahead of the proposed development, and for related off-site analyses and reporting. The WSI and the schedule of work therein were drawn up in consultation with Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (DCC HET).

1.2 The proposed development site lies within an area of known prehistoric sites, and close to where a possible projected Roman road leading eastward from the nearby Roman fort at St Andrews's Hill may lie. As such, the development may have the potential to expose and destroy buried archaeological and artefactual deposits associated with either early prehistoric activity, the projected Roman road (and any contemporary roadside settlement) and/or later medieval and post-medieval activity.

1.3 The evaluation results will inform the planning application for the construction of a new-build two storey residential property and garage.

1.4 Archaeological work within the Site will take the form of a staged programme of work, commencing with a programme of archaeological field evaluation which will be implemented prior to any construction works to allow for the identification, investigation and recording of any exposed archaeological or artefactual deposits. The results of the fieldwork and any post-excavation analysis undertaken will be presented in a detailed and illustrated report.

1.5 This WSI has been guided in its composition by *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (CIfA 2020), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment PPN 3: Archaeological Excavation* (Historic England 2015) *and Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*: *Project Manager's Guide* (Historic England 2015), and in accordance with paragraph 199 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (2019), and with Policy EN6 (Nationally and Locally Important Archaeological Sites) which states:

> 'Development that would harm locally important archaeological remains or their settings will only be permitted where the need for the development outweighs the damage to the archaeological interest of the site and its setting. There is a presumption in favour of preservation in situ in the case of nationally and locally important remains. Preservation of locally important remains by record will be required where the need for the development outweighs the need to preserve the remains in situ.'

1.6 Furthermore, this WSI has been informed and guided by DCC HET *Specification for Archaeological Field Evaluation.* This specification, prepared by the DCC HET, sets out the scope of the archaeological works required as a condition of planning consent granted by the Planning Authority in Devon. This specification states that:

> 'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or such other details as may be subsequently agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority' (DCC HET, 2021).

1.7 The DCC HET have made no additional comments to those already made on the earlier planning applications 19/01967/FULL and 20/00537/FULL:

> The proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential in an area where the Roman road leading eastward from the Roman fort at St Andrew's Hill may be present. As such, groundworks for the construction of the proposed development have the potential to expose and destroy archaeological and artefactual deposits associated with the putative alignment of the Roman road as well as any contemporary roadside settlement here. The impact of development upon the archaeological resource here should be mitigated by a programme of archaeological work that should investigate, record and analyse the archaeological evidence that will otherwise be destroyed by the proposed development.
>
> The Historic Environment Team recommends that this application should be supported by the submission of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) setting out a programme of archaeological work to be undertaken in mitigation for the loss of heritage assets and

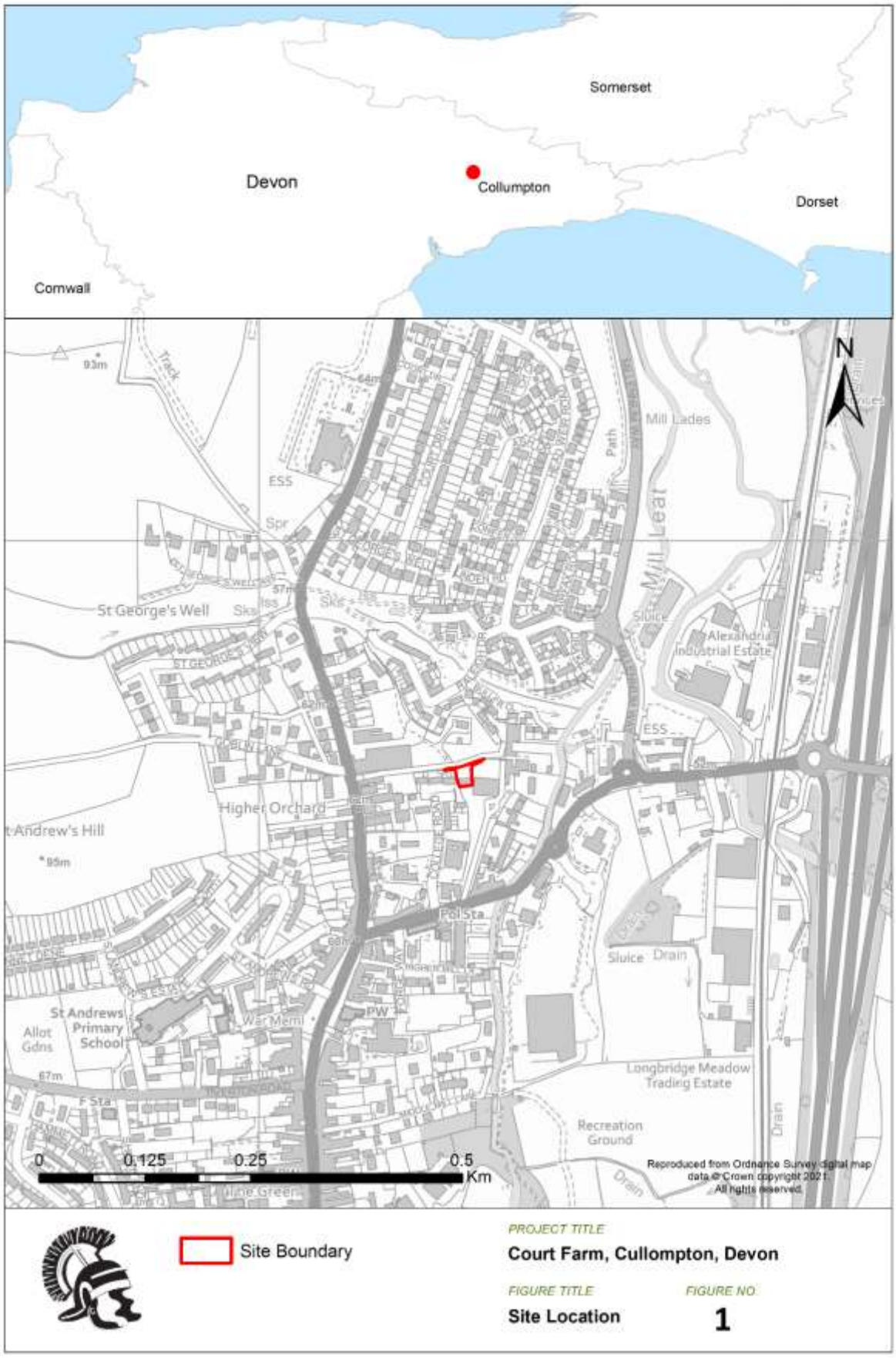
archaeological interest. The WSI should be based on national standards and guidance and be approved by the Historic Environment Team.

Reason:
To ensure, in accordance with Policy DM27 and paragraph 199 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2019), that an appropriate record is made of archaeological evidence that may be affected by the development'
(Stephen Reed, Senior Environment Officer).

The Site

1.8 The proposed site is located within the grounds of Court Farm, Cullompton, Devon and is accessed via an unclassified road leading off the southern extent of Willand Road (B3181) within the north-eastern part of the town (Fig. 1). The site consists of an area measuring approximately 20m by 15m (300m²), with the northern half of the Site occupied by open scrub land, whilst to the south, there remains an open sided storage barn, which is due for demolition within the proposed works. The Site is bounded to the north by the unclassified access road, by existing residential buildings to the west, and care home accommodation to the south and east.

1.9 The bedrock geology of the Site is mapped as sedimentary sandstone of the Cadbury Breccia Formation formed approximately 252 to 299 million years ago in the Permian Period, in an environment previously dominated by hot deserts. Overlying superficial deposits of Diamiton Colluvium, a coarse-to-fine-grained material formed in an area previously dominated by subaerial slopes formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2021).


Somerset
Devon
Cullompton
Dorset
Cornwall
N
Mill Lades
Mill Leat
St George's Well
Alexandria Industrial Estate
Higher Orchard
St Andrews Primary School
Allot Gdns
Longbridge Meadow Trading Estate
Recreation Ground
Sluice
Drain
0
0.125
0.25
0.5
Km
Reproduced from Ordnance Survey digital map data © Crown copyright 2021. All rights reserved.
Site Boundary
PROJECT TITLE
Court Farm, Cullompton, Devon
FIGURE TITLE
Site Location
FIGURE NO
1

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Previous work has been undertaken to detail the known archaeological and heritage assets within the vicinity of the proposed Site, and these include (but are not limited to) a Historic Market Town Survey (HEP 2013), Historic Environment Assessment (AC Archaeology 2014), and Heritage Statement (Cotswold Archaeology 2019). The following text is summarised from these sources and information contained within Heritage Gateway (accessed 20 December 2021).

Prehistoric (10000BC – 43AD)

2.2 No finds of features dating to the prehistoric are recorded within the immediate area of the Site. However, within the wider area an isolated chert pick of probable Mesolithic date was found at East Culme Farm located 800m to the south-east. Within the broader landscape, human activity becomes more apparent during the Neolithic (4,000 BC – 2,400 BC), Bronze Age (2,400 BC – 700 BC) and Iron Age (700 BC – AD 43) periods, especially on the higher ground to the north-west of Cullompton. Recent archaeological work here has revealed prehistoric worked flint and pottery of a Bronze Age and Iron Age date, with features including Bronze Age/Neolithic ditches and pits, a Bronze Age oval enclosure and an Iron Age ring ditch (Cotswold Archaeology 2018a, 2018b and 2018c).

2.3 A large number of intercutting pits dated to the later Neolithic were also revealed during excavations on Land off Tiverton Road, to the north-west of the study area (Rohan and Morris 2014). The findspot of a Neolithic axe-hammer (MDV1405) is recorded to the north of the Site.

2.4 Closer to the Site, a 'pit-like feature' containing early Neolithic pottery and flint was recorded during the construction of the new medical centre off Willand Road (MDV127907).

2.5 Approximately 600m to the south of the Site, and within the town, Iron Age features have also been identified. A short curving length of gully and a post hole were found during excavations off Shortland Lane; interpreted as possibly forming part of an Iron Age round house. Another curvilinear gully, indicating a possible Iron Age roundhouse was revealed to the west of Willand Road (Cotswold Archaeology 2009).

Roman (43AD – 410AD)

2.6 Exeter (*Isca Dumnoniorum*), located *c*. 17km south-west of the Site, represents the principal Roman centre in the region, and numerous forts and marching camps were located within its wider environs. A Roman military site, comprising two successive forts and two camps at St Andrew's Hill, designated as a Scheduled Monument, are located approximately 350m west of the Site (MDV29189).

2.7 The original fort, defended by double defensive ditches, has entrances to the south and west, with the northern and eastern sides appearing to have been obscured by the development of the second, larger fort. The western defences of this later fort are thought to have been subsequently incorporated into the historic field pattern, surviving as bank and hedge field boundaries, with the known entranceway located along the western side. Roman forts were typically established between mid-1st and mid-2nd centuries AD, and the investigations within the St Andrew's Hill monument revealed pottery assemblages dated from AD 50 to AD 70.

2.8 Identified on aerial photographs, the two Roman camps, located on the eastern side of the St Andrew's Hill fort, and are characterised by double defensive ditches, with one of the camps thought to have preceded the other.

2.9 It is thought that the military establishments at St Andrew's Hill were developed to control presumed route-ways running north from Exeter, along the River Culm, to the east of Cullompton. It has been suggested that Tiverton Road may follow the line of a Roman Road to the Scheduled Roman fort at Bolham, Tiverton.

2.10 Beyond the camps and forts at St Andrew's Hill it is thought that Roman occupation had relatively limited impact on the wider landscape and that Iron Age agricultural practices remained little changed during this period.

2.11 To the north of the Site, on Willand Road, excavations have revealed evidence of an early Roman agricultural settlement, with field boundaries, sub-rectangular enclosures, a circular enclosure, and possible post-holes (MDV74213).

2.12 Recent investigations on Shortlands Lane, to the south of the Site, revealed the remains of a prosperous Romano-British rural settlement which was established in the mid-2nd century AD with occupation lasting into the 4th century.

2.13 A possible Roman road surface was exposed in the early 20th century at the junction of Tiverton Lane and Fore Street. Other finds of Roman date have been found in the vicinity, including coins and the reputed head of a bronze figurine of Bacchus near St George's Well (MDV114927), approximately 350m to the north-west of the Site, which could indicate the presence of a shrine or temple nearby.

2.14 Just over 100m to the north-west of Court Farm, on the junction with Willand Road, pits and postholes were recorded during investigations in 2020, which contained late Iron Age flint and Roman pottery (MDV132137).

2.15 The proposed site lies close to the Roman occupation on St Andrew's Hill, and there is the potential for a road, leading eastwards from the fort(s), to extend close to, or within, the Site.

Early Medieval and Medieval (AD410 – AD1539)

2.16 The name Cullompton is first referred to as 'Columtune' in the will of Alfred the Great, AD872, indicating that the settlement was a royal holding (MDV71719). The church originated as a Saxon minster and was a manor in its own right. The town burgage plots could be Saxon in origin, subdivided into narrower plots in the medieval period.

2.17 The manner in which the town of Cullompton was situated was granted to Buckland Abbey in 1278. Additional town markets, the first being in 1278, were granted to the Abbot and convent of Buckland in 1317. In 1356 the Abbot granted a watercourse to the town which ran in open culverts until as recently as the 1960s. Cullompton remained the property of Buckland Abbey until the dissolution of 1539 and the manor was subsequently purchased from the Crown by Sir John St. Leger. Over the following centuries parts were gradually sold off.

2.18 The core area of medieval settlement at Cullompton is located to the south of the Site. The site was most likely part of the agricultural hinterland at this time.

Post-medieval and modern (1540 – 2000)

2.19 The woollen industry, which had been important in the town since the medieval period, continued to flourish in the 18th and 19th centuries, together with ropemaking, bell-founding, tanning and papermaking.

2.20 The 1889 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 2) shows the Site just to the west of Court House (MDV88811). The Court House itself is a two-storey structure of 18th century date, though its core may be earlier.

2.21 During the 20th century the urban settlement of Cullompton expanded northwards and encompassed the present site.

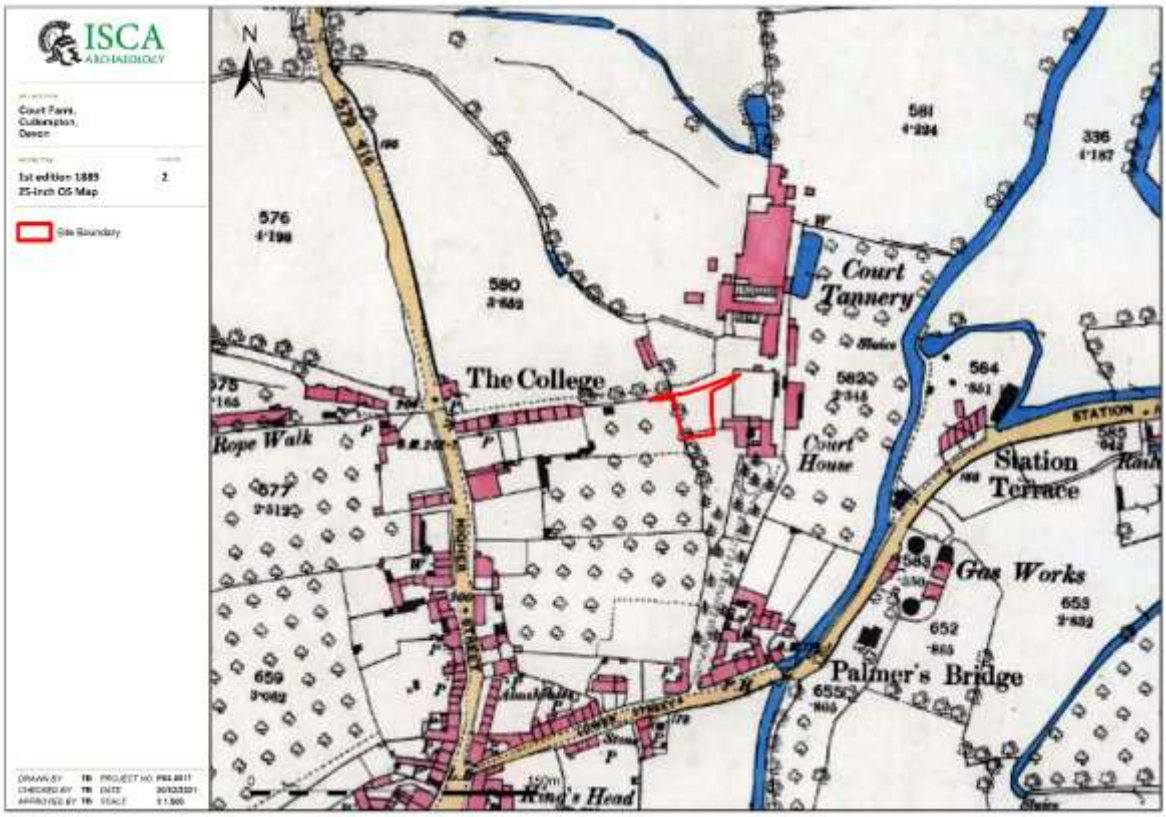


Figure 2: 1st Edition 1889 25-inch OS Map

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 The aims and objectives of the archaeological evaluation are to determine the presence or absence of archaeological deposits and/or remains, and if present, to record the character, date, location, and preservation of any archaeological remains on site, and to record the nature and extent of any previous damage to archaeological deposits or remains on site. This information will enable DCC

HET to identify and assess the particular significance of any archaeological heritage assets noted, and to consider the potential impact of the proposed groundworks upon that significance and, if appropriate, develop strategies to avoid or minimise conflict between heritage asset conservation and the development proposal, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012).

4. METHODOLOGY - ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD EVALUATION

4.1 The definition of an archaeological field evaluation is:

'a limited programme of non-intrusive and/or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits, artefacts or ecofacts and their research potential, within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent, quality and preservation, reports on them and enables an assessment of their significance in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.' (CIfA, 2020)

4.2 The purpose of an archaeological field evaluation is to:

'to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including its presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the appropriate context, leading to one or more of the following:

a. The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource

b. The formulation of a strategy to mitigate a threat to the archaeological resource

c. The formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research'. (CIfA 2020)

4.3 The evaluation will comprise the excavation of three trenches, Trenches 1 and 2 will be 15m long, Trench 3 will be 10m long, all trenches will be 1.6m and in the locations shown on the attached plan (Fig. 3). Trench 1 will be located as close to the road and the northern-most site boundary as

is practical to pick up any evidence of the Roman road which may be on this alignment. The trenches have been located to give a representative sample of the Site.

4.4 Trenches will be set out on OS National Grid (NGR) co-ordinates using Leica GPS and scanned for live services by trained ISCA Archaeology staff using CAT and genny equipment in accordance with the ISCA Safe System of Work for avoiding underground services. The position of the trenches may be adjusted on-site to account for services or other constraints, with the approval of DCC HET.

4.5 All trenches will be excavated by a wheeled mechanical excavator (JCB) equipped with a toothless grading bucket. All machining will be conducted under archaeological supervision and will cease when the first archaeological horizon or natural substrate is revealed (whichever is encountered first). Topsoil and subsoil will be stored separately adjacent to each trench, but at least 1m distant from the trench edges.

4.6 Following machining, any archaeological features revealed will be investigated, planned, and recorded. If extensive and/or complicated archaeological remains are present, then sample excavation will be limited and minimally intrusive, sufficient to achieve the aims and objectives identified in Section 3. Where appropriate, excavation will not compromise the integrity of the archaeological record and will be undertaken in such a way as to allow for the subsequent protection of remains either for conservation or to allow more detailed investigations to be conducted under better conditions at a later date.

4.7 Each excavated trench, whether archaeological remains are present or not, will consist of a minimum of a pro-forma trench sheet including site details, trench dimensions, soil descriptions, depth and nature of the overburden, nature of the natural substrate. All trenches will be surveyed using a Leica GPS with aOD levels.

4.8 Where archaeological features are exposed, as a minimum, features and deposits will be investigated using hand tools to the following sample levels; the full excavation of small discrete features (pits, postholes etc) but a sample only of features present in high numbers, (e.g., stakeholes), half-sectioning (50%) of larger discrete features and, long linear features will be sampled along their length. Terminals, junctions, and relationships between features will also be investigated. Should the above percentage proportions not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, then full excavation of

such features/deposits may be required. Each context will be recorded on a pro-forma context sheet by written and measured description. Additional excavation may also be needed for the taking of paleoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts. Features that are clearly of modern or later post medieval date may not be excavated. Should *in-situ* structural remains be encountered, then sufficient excavation will be undertaken to confirm the function, sequence, chronology and method of construction.

4.9 All excavation of exposed archaeological features shall be carried out stratigraphically by hand and recorded according to CIfA guidelines and best practice. All features/deposits will be recorded by drawn plans (scale 1:20 or 1:50, or electronically using Leica GPS as appropriate) and drawn sections (scale 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate). All scale drawings shall be undertaken at a scale appropriate to the size and/or significance/complexity of the archaeological features to allow accurate depiction and interpretation.

4.10 If either complex or extensive archaeological features, stratigraphy, or deposits that are worthy of preservation *in-situ* are exposed, then excavation will cease so as not to compromise the integrity of the archaeological record. The client and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) archaeologist will be informed and no further works on these features will be undertaken until a suitable mitigation strategy has been agreed by all parties.

4.11 An adequate digital photographic record of all the archaeological works will be compiled in both section and plan. All excavated trenches, features and deposits will be photographed. A selection of representative feature group/area shots will also be taken along with general working shots to illustrate the general nature of the works. A photographic scale and north arrow will be included in detailed photographs.

4.12 Upon completion of the evaluation, all trenches will be backfilled by mechanical excavator, with topsoil and subsoil replaced in original order.

Artefacts

4.13 Any artefacts will be recovered and retained for processing and analysis in consultation with relevant specialists. Artefacts from topsoil, subsoil and unstratified contexts will normally be noted and may be discarded unless they are of intrinsic interest or their further examination is considered necessary for the interpretation of a site. All artefacts from stratified excavated contexts will be

collected, except for large assemblages of post-medieval or modern material. Such material may be noted and discarded or, if appropriate, a representative sample may be retained. Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts; a metal detector may be used to enhance the recovery of metal finds.

4.14 All metal finds, and other typologically distinct or closely dateable artefacts will be recorded three-dimensionally.

Environmental remains

4.15 Due care will be taken to identify deposits which may have environmental potential and, where appropriate, a programme of environmental sampling will be initiated in preparation for scientific assessment/analysis/dating in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 2011). The sample strategy will either consist of bulk soil samples (sampling 100% or 40 litres, in labelled 10 litre plastic sample tubs) or vertical sediment columns – 'monolith tins' and will be examined for diatoms, insect, plant macrofossils and molluscs. The sampling strategy will be adapted for the specific circumstances of this site but will follow the general selection parameters set out in the following paragraphs.

4.16 All samples will be fully recorded and labelled with a register of samples made and sampling pro-forma record sheets completed for all samples taken which will include the following information: sample type, reason for sampling, sample size, context, sample number, spatial location, date, context description, method and the percentage of the context sampled. The samples will be recorded on the relevant site section drawing and photographs of the sample locations taken.

4.17 Bulk samples will be stored in sealed containers until off-site. Bulk samples will be processed using the standard flotation methods with the following mesh sizes: 5.6mm, 4mm and 500 micron Bulk samples will be sub-sampled as appropriate.

4.18 Monolith tin samples, up to 500mm in length, will be overlapped in the standard way to allow for a continuous sample of an entire sequence.

4.19 Secure, phased deposits, especially those relating to settlement activity and/or carbonised or waterlogged organic deposits will be considered for sampling for the recovery of charcoal, charred plant and mineralised remains. Any cremation-related deposits will be sampled appropriately for

the recovery of cremated human bone and charred remains. If any evidence of potential in-situ metal working is found, suitable samples for the recovery of slag and hammerscale will also be taken.

4.20 If sealed waterlogged deposits are encountered, a sampling strategy will be considered for the recovery of waterlogged remains. The taking of sequences of samples for the recovery of molluscs and/or waterlogged remains will be considered through any suitable deposits. Monolith samples may also be taken from suitable deposits as appropriate. All. samples will be recovered and recorded using current guidelines (English Heritage 2011: *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*).

4.21 The project will be organised so that specialist consultants (such as OSL, archaeomagnetic dating and dendrochronology) and the regional Historic England science advisor, can be called upon to advise the works if/when necessary.

4.22 Sample processing and reporting will be undertaken by relevant specialists.

Treasure

4.23 Upon discovery of treasure, these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner within 14 days in accordance with the Treasure Act 1996 and the Code of Practice referred to therein. Suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft. The definition of 'Treasure' is provided within the Code of Practice of the above act and primarily refers to items of gold and/or silver.

Human remains

4.24 If the presence of potential human remains is encountered, then small slots will be hand-excavated across any suspected burial features (inhumations or cremated bone deposits) in order to confirm the presence and condition of any human bone. Where disturbance is unavoidable, or where full exhumation of the remains is deemed necessary, then their excavation and removal will only be undertaken on receipt of the appropriate licence from the Ministry of Justice. All excavation of human remains and associated post-excavation processes will be in accordance with the standards set out in CIfA Technical Paper No 7: *Guidelines to the Standards for recording Human Remains* (CIfA 2004).

4.25 All works will be carried out in accordance with the *Code of Approved Practice* as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. Accordingly, the project team will abide by the CIfA's code of approved practice.

4.26 Any variation of the above will be undertaken in consultation with the Local Planning Authority (LPA).

5. STAFF AND TIMETABLE

5.1 The project will be under the management of Simon Sworn, ACIfA, Senior Project Officer - Fieldwork Manager. Simon Sworn has 26 years of experience in commercial archaeology. Other members of the team will all have relevant knowledge and experience of both the archaeological works and the heritage landscape (details available upon request).

5.2 The staffing structure will be organised thus: the Project Manager will direct the overall conduct of the fieldwork as required during the period of fieldwork. Day to day responsibility, will rest with the Project Leader who will be on-site throughout the project, although this may be one and the same. The evaluation will be carried out by permanent staff members of ISCA Archaeology, all with suitable experience of this type of investigation and adhering to the CIfA‘s Code of Conduct.

5.3 The duration of the monitoring and recording on the Site is expected to last three days. Analysis of the results and subsequent reporting will take up to a further four weeks, longer if dictated by specialist reporting, etc.

5.4 Depending upon the nature of the deposits and artefacts encountered it may be necessary to consult a number of local and/or national specialists who will be invited to advise and report on specific aspects of the project.

6. POST-EXCAVATION, ARCHIVING AND REPORTING

6.1 Prior to work commencing, a museum reference code for the project was be obtained from Royal Albert Memorial Museum. Following the completion of the fieldwork, any artefacts and environmental samples will be processed, assessed, conserved, and packaged in accordance with all relevant guidelines. The museum reference number for this project is: RAMM: 21/37.

6.2 The level of reporting will be confirmed with the LPA on completion of the evaluation. If few or no archaeological deposits are exposed, this is likely to restrict its publication value and it would be anticipated that only a short Historic Environmental Record (HER) entry will be produced (with the WSI also included as a final appendix to the report).

6.3 If an illustrated report is required, then this will be compiled based on the fieldwork results. The extent and nature of this report will be confirmed with the LPA upon completion of the evaluation. Copies of the report (PDF format) will be distributed to the client for submission with DCC HET. The report may vary depending on the nature and extent of any archaeological deposits present, but at a minimum will consist of:

- A report number, date and the OASIS reference number
- A non-technical summary
- a description and analysis of the methodology
- a summary of the historical background of the area and the site
- a description of the results
- an assessment of any artefact/palaeo-environmental analysis undertaken
- a plan showing location of the site
- plans and sections of any archaeology present and a selection of appropriate photographs.
- relevant historic maps - if appropriate
- an index of contexts as an appendix
- OASIS report

6.4 Once the report has been approved by DCC HET and a copy formally submitted and accepted by the LPA, a summary of information will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain, which will include the OASIS reference number, and the report uploaded before the planning condition will be discharged.

6.5 The evaluation archive will be held by ISCA at its office in Exeter until such time as all archaeological works at the site have been confirmed as completed. ISCA will then notify the LPA and make arrangements with the Royal Albert Memorial Museum for the deposition of the site archive and, subject to agreement with the legal landowner(s), the artefact collection. A digital archive

(comprising digital photographs and other relevant born-digital data) will be submitted to the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

6.6 The archive will be concluded within 6 months of the completion of the final report.

7. HEALTH AND SAFETY

7.1 All archaeological staff will operate under ISCA's Health and Safety Policy, and any other additional requirements set out by main site contractor. All works will be carried out in accordance with (but not limited to) the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and all subsequent Health and Safety legislation. A site-specific Project Health and Safety Plan will be formulated prior to commencement of fieldwork, setting out the site-specific health and safety policies that will be enforced in order to reduce to an absolute minimum any risks to health and safety.

7.2 In accordance with ISCA Health and Safety Policy, the archaeological site representative will be responsible for ensuring that all operations under his/her control are carried out in accordance with all details laid out in 8.1.

7.3 All archaeological staff will not work, or be asked to work, in unsafe or unhealthy conditions, even where not to do so may result in the possible under-recording of the archaeological resource.

7.4 All site staff carry Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) cards and senior members will have up-to-date first aid qualifications.

7.5 On-site archaeologists will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client. The Client will also provide any details of all known buried services or other below- and above-ground hazards and provide specific guidance on how works should be undertaken around those hazards. Health and safety requirements will be always observed by all archaeological staff working on site, particularly when working with machinery, deep excavations, standing buildings and any other hazards.

7.6 Appropriate PPE will be always employed. As a minimum: high-visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear will be worn. Additional PPE (such as gloves, glasses etc) will be worn as and when required.

7.7 If the depth of any excavations or trenching exceeds either 1.2 metres or is excavated through unstable ground, a dynamic risk assessment will be undertaken to determine the stability of the excavation. If necessary, excavated sides will be shored or stepped to enable the archaeologists to examine and if appropriate record any features. A vigorous risk assessment methodology (shoring, stepping etc.) for work in any deeper trenches will be developed with the Client and the groundcrew to ensure only the safest possible working conditions for ISCA and all on-site personnel.

8. INSURANCES AND QUALITY CONTROL

8.1 ISCA carries Public Liability Insurance to a limit of £5,000,000 and Professional Indemnity Insurance to a limit of £250,000.

8.2 ISCA is constantly committed to the highest standard of professional ethics and technical standards and adheres to the CIfA and Historic England guidelines.

8.3 The products and work undertaken will be carried out by professional archaeologists overseen by supervisors of at least ACIfA-level competence.

9. MONITORING

9.1 Notification will be made to DCC HET at least one week prior of the start of site works so that there will be opportunities to visit the site and check on the quality and progress of the work if required. Due to the present Covid restrictions and considerations, it is envisaged that on-site meetings will only take place if there are significant issues that need addressing. ISCA will keep DCC HET informed of the works as they progress, and once on-site works are complete, there will be a post-fieldwork monitoring meeting (email/phone call) to discuss the next stages regarding the fieldwork results. Access will also be facilitated for visits by any specialists if deemed necessary and within the present government guideline. The project is currently anticipated to commence in January 2022.

10. QUALITY ASSURANCE

10.1 ISCA endorses the *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020) and the *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (CIfA 2020). All ISCA Project Managers and Project Officers will uphold these to their fullest.

11. REFERENCES

AC Archaeology 2014 *Land to the Northwest of Cullompton: Historic Environment Assessment.* **report ACD952/1/1**

British Geological Survey 2021 *Geology of Britain Viewer* https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/geology-of-britain-viewer/ Accessed 19 December 2021

CIfA, 2020. *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Heritage Gateway 2021. *HeritageGateway* https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/ Accessed 20 December 2021.

Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council 2013. *Devon Historic Coastal and Market Towns Survey: Cullompton.* **report 2013R085**

Cotswold Archaeology, 2009. *Hillcrest, Willand Road, Cullompton, Devon: Archaeological Evaluation.* **report 01934**

Cotswold Archaeology, 2018a. *North-West Cullompton Expansion, Cullompton, Devon: Archaeological Evaluation.* **report 18091**

Cotswold Archaeology, 2018b. *North-West Cullompton Expansion (South), Cullompton, Devon: Archaeological Evaluation.* **report 18161**

Cotswold Archaeology, 2018c. *North-West Cullompton Expansion, Cullompton, Devon: Archaeological Evaluation*. **report 18160**

Cotswold Archaeology 2019. *Cullompton Relief Road, Devon: Heritage Assessment.* **report 880378**

Department of Communities and Local Government 2012. *National Planning Policy Framework*

Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government 2019. *National Planning Policy Framework*

Rohan, N. & Morris, B. 2014. Land of Tiverton Road, Cullompton, Devon. Southwest Archaeology. ***Unpublished Report***


ISCA
ARCHAEOLOGY
Court Farm,
Cullompton,
Devon
Trench Layout
3
Site Boundary
Trench
N
TR1
TR2
TR3
0
15m
DRAWN BY TB
CHECKED BY TB
APPROVED BY TB
PROJECT NO. P02-0017
DATE 17/01/2022
SCALE 1:150