

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Woodbury, East Devon	National Grid Reference: SY 03184 86377	Number:
Subject: Archaeological Monitoring and Recording during Improvement Works at Four Firs Car Park, Woodbury, East Devon, Devon		Photo Attached?: Yes
Planning Reference: 21/1443/FUL Parent Planning Reference: 21/1392/FUL	Recipient Museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: southwes1-511657	Museum Accession Number: N/A	
Contractor's Reference: WCFF21	Dates Fieldwork Undertaken: 07 th , 08 th , and 10 th February 2022	
<p>Description of Works Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of East Devon Council (The Client) as part of the archaeological requirement for improvements to the car park at Four Firs, Woodbury, East Devon, Devon. This work was carried out by Dr. S. H. Walls in February 2022 in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Boyd 2021) agreed with Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>The site is located to the east of the B3180, c.1.4km east of Woodbury, accessed and to the south of a lane leading to Yettington. The soils in the vicinity of Four Firs are the well-drained very acid very stony sandy soils of the Goldstone Association (SSEW 1983); overlying a bedrock of interbedded sandstone and conglomerate of the Triassic Rocks (undifferentiated) (BGS 2022). Four Firs Car Park lies within an area of archaeological potential with regard to known prehistoric funerary activity being located c.12m to the east of four prehistoric funerary monuments that are protected as scheduled monuments, while another two scheduled burial sites some 230m to the east. The Historic Environment Record also records the site of another, unscheduled, burial mound some 180m to the east.</p> <p>A wheeled mechanical excavator undertook the substantive groundworks under archaeological supervision. The works consisted of removing an earth mound and earth banks within the area of the car park; and the excavations of drainage ditches to the southern end of the car park. The landscaping works demonstrated that the carpark surface continued below all of the earth mounds and banks, and as such all of these landscaping works were just within mixed re-deposited topsoil layers. The c.0.85m-1.4m wide drainage trenches, were excavated to a depth of between 0.6m-1m. Below the carpark surface, was a yellowish-brown topsoil, which was 0.3m thick, which directly overlay the natural, a clean reddish-yellow sand with common sub-rounded to rounded pebbles. There was no noticed variation within this stratigraphy, and nor were any archaeological features noted.</p> <p>No archaeological features or finds were made during the works, although an assemblage of tennis balls, crisp packets and glass bottles and aluminium drinks cans was noted within the landscaped soils.</p> <p>Conclusions No significant archaeological features were encountered, and no pre-20th century finds recovered.</p> <p>Bibliography Boyd, N. 2021: <i>Car Park Improvements, Pebblebed Heaths, Devon: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH report no. CRJC21WSIV1. British Geological Survey 2022: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p>		
Recorder: Dr. S. H. Walls		Date Sent to HER: 25 th November 2022

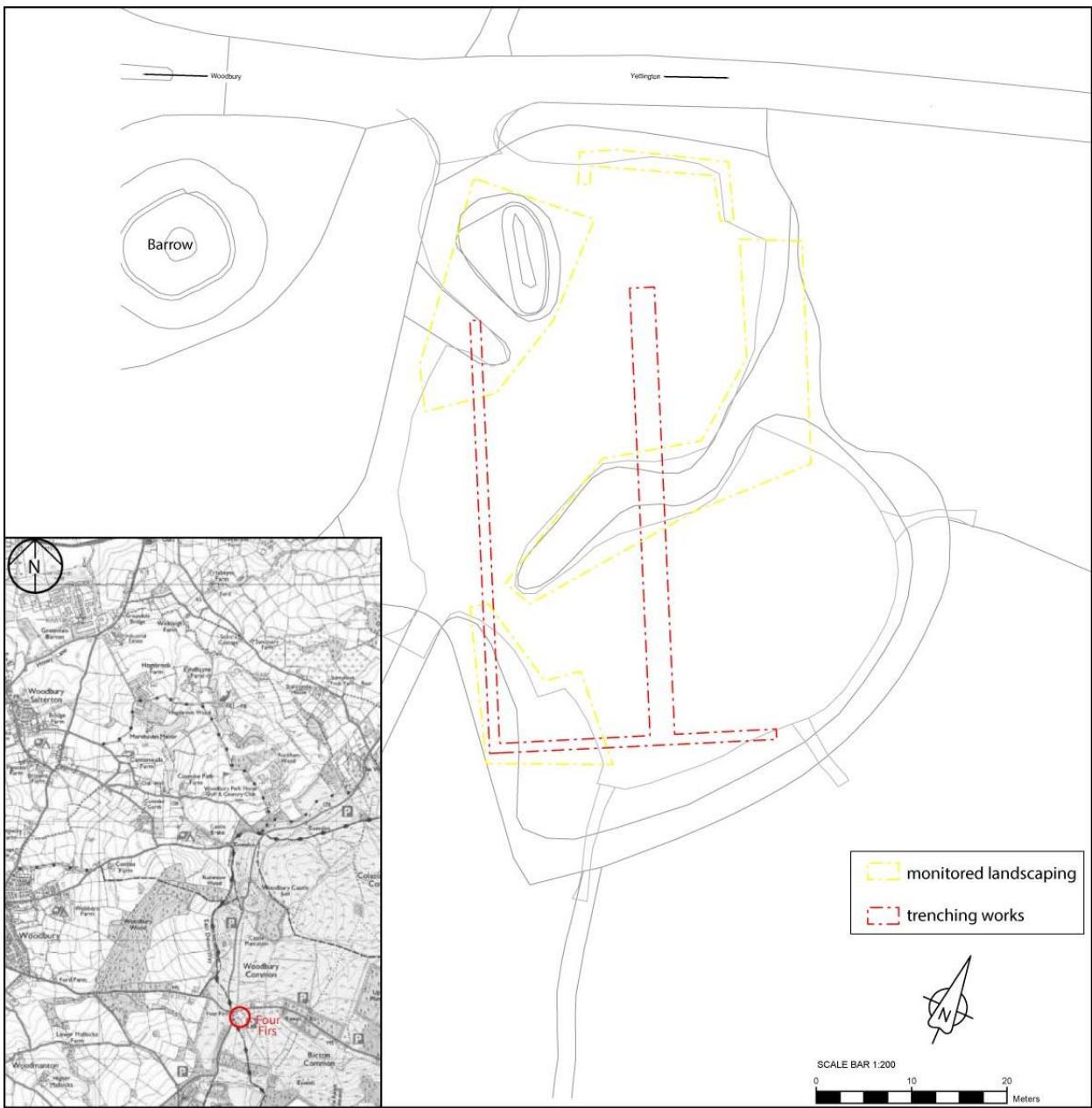


FIGURE 1: LOCATION PLAN, SHOWING AREAS OF MONITORED WORKS OVERLAID ON ARCHITECTS PLAN.



FIGURE 2: TYPICAL SAMPLE SECTION, SHOWING THE TOPSOIL, BELOW NEW CARPARK SURFACE EXPOSED WITHIN DRAINAGE DITCHES, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-WEST. (NO SCALE).