Exeter UAD – Recognition Event Data Sheet

Planning no: **06/1365/03 and 13/4920/03** NGR: **SX 91005 92206**

NGR Easting: **291028** NGR Northing: **092188**

Event Type: **WB** Event Start: **03/11/12** Event End: **06/11/14**

Site Name: **28 Manor Road**

Fieldworker Name: **Jennifer Watling, Bryn Morris**

Associated Organisation: **South West Archaeology Limited** Parish: **Exeter**

Postal Address: **28 Manor Road, Exeter, Devon, EX4 1EN**

Event Description:

**South West Archaeology (SWARCH) were commissioned by Graham Street of Firmplot Ltd. (the Client), to carry out an archaeological watching brief at 28 Manor Road, St. Thomas, Exeter. The watching brief was carried out by J. Watling and B. Morris of South West Archaeology Limited between the 3rd–6th November 2014, in accordance to a WSI drawn up in consultation with Andrew Pye (Exeter City Council's Principal Project Manager [Heritage]). The excavations were carried out by an 8 tonne mechanical excavator machine fitted with a 0.6m wide toothless grading bucket. These excavations consisted of *c.*120m of foundation trenches.**

**The topsoil (100) consisted of a loose dark brown silt loam containing material derived from the former house and sheds on the site as well as other modern debris; it varied in thickness between 0.1–0.5m. Underlying this was a clean dense brownish-red slightly clayey silt (101); this material was deemed suitable for the foundations of the proposed build, and thus trenching rarely exceeded a depth of 1.0m (see Figures 2&3).**

**Beneath the foundations of the former dwelling on the site, and where excavations exceeded *c.*1.0m in depth, two further layers were identified. The upper layer (102) was a soft reddish-grey/brown clayey-silt with common to frequent well-rounded pebbles. This was 0.1–0.5m thick and was exposed in several areas around the site; at its highest point it was only 0.58m below the existing ground surface. Beneath this was layer (103), a dense pinkish-red deposit of well-rounded river pebbles/cobbles in a matrix of clayey silt. This material was exposed at a depth of 1.5m below ground level beneath the former house on the property, and at several locations at *c.*1.0m below ground level within the footprint of the block of flats.**

**In the south-west corner of the site, a pit 3m deep containing modern building refuse (bricks, plastic etc.) was encountered. This material was removed by machine and the gravels exposed at (103), but at a much greater depth than elsewhere.**

**The exposed gravels relate to the complex floodplain deposits of the River Exe. Palaeochannels within these alluvial deposits have been reported elsewhere in St. Thomas and Alphington and dated to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age. However, no waterlogged silts, organics or charcoal were encountered at Manor Road.**

**Finds: brick, concrete and other modern debris was observed, but none of this material was collected or retained. No finds earlier than the early 20th century were observed.**

Sample Deposit Column

NGR Easting: **291028** NGR Northing: **092188**

Surface Level (m AOD): **c.9.00m** Intervention to (m AOD): **c.7.4m**

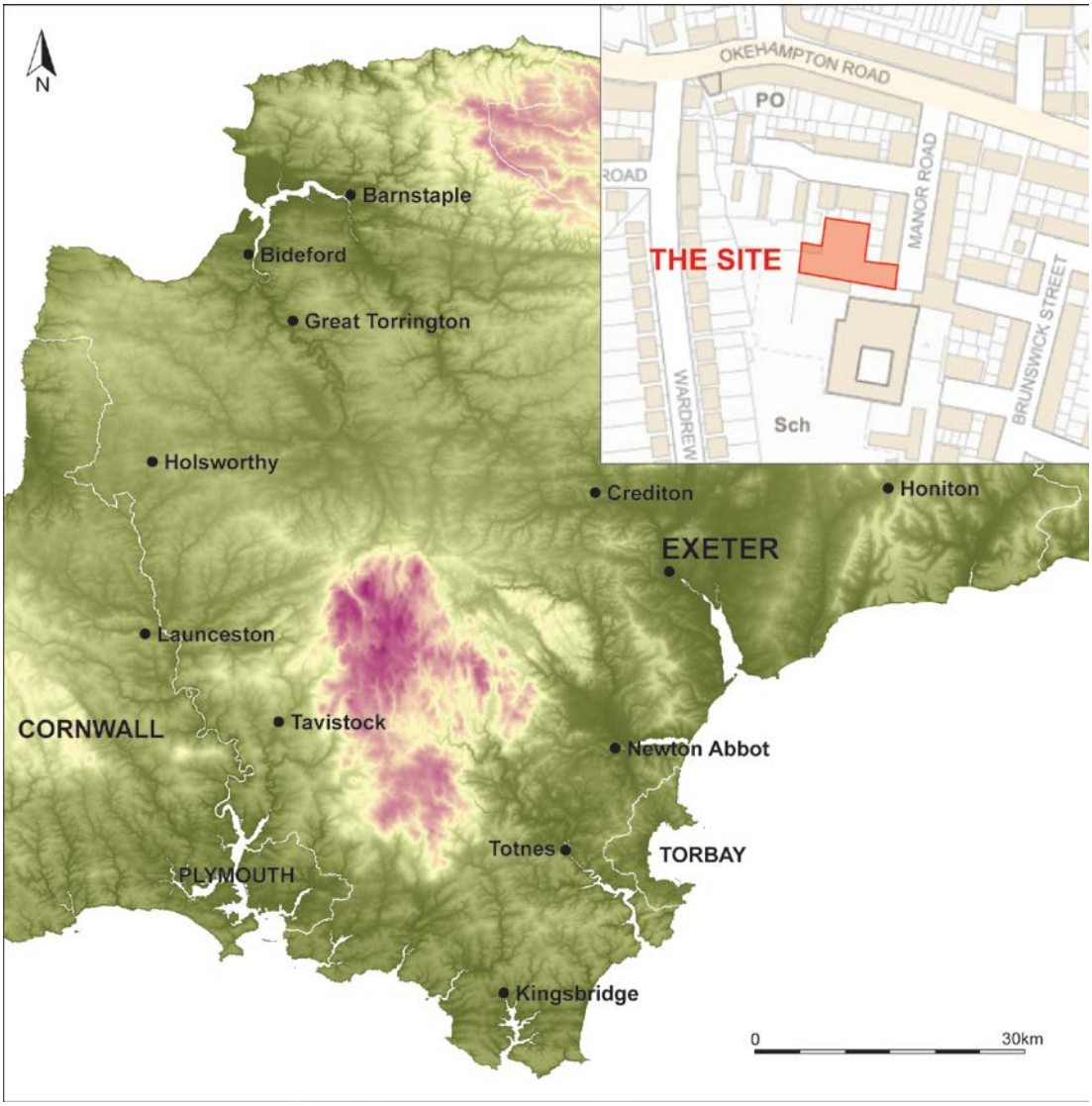
Water Level (m AOD): **not encountered**

Principal Deposit Top (m AOD): **7.40-8.00m**
Principal Deposit Base (m AOD): **unknown**

Geology: **superficial deposits of clay, silt, sand and gravel of the Exe floodplain; mudstones and siltstones of the Crackington Formation at depth**

Additional/Synthetic Information

**Principal deposit identified as river gravels (102) and (103).**



Site location (the site in indicated in red).

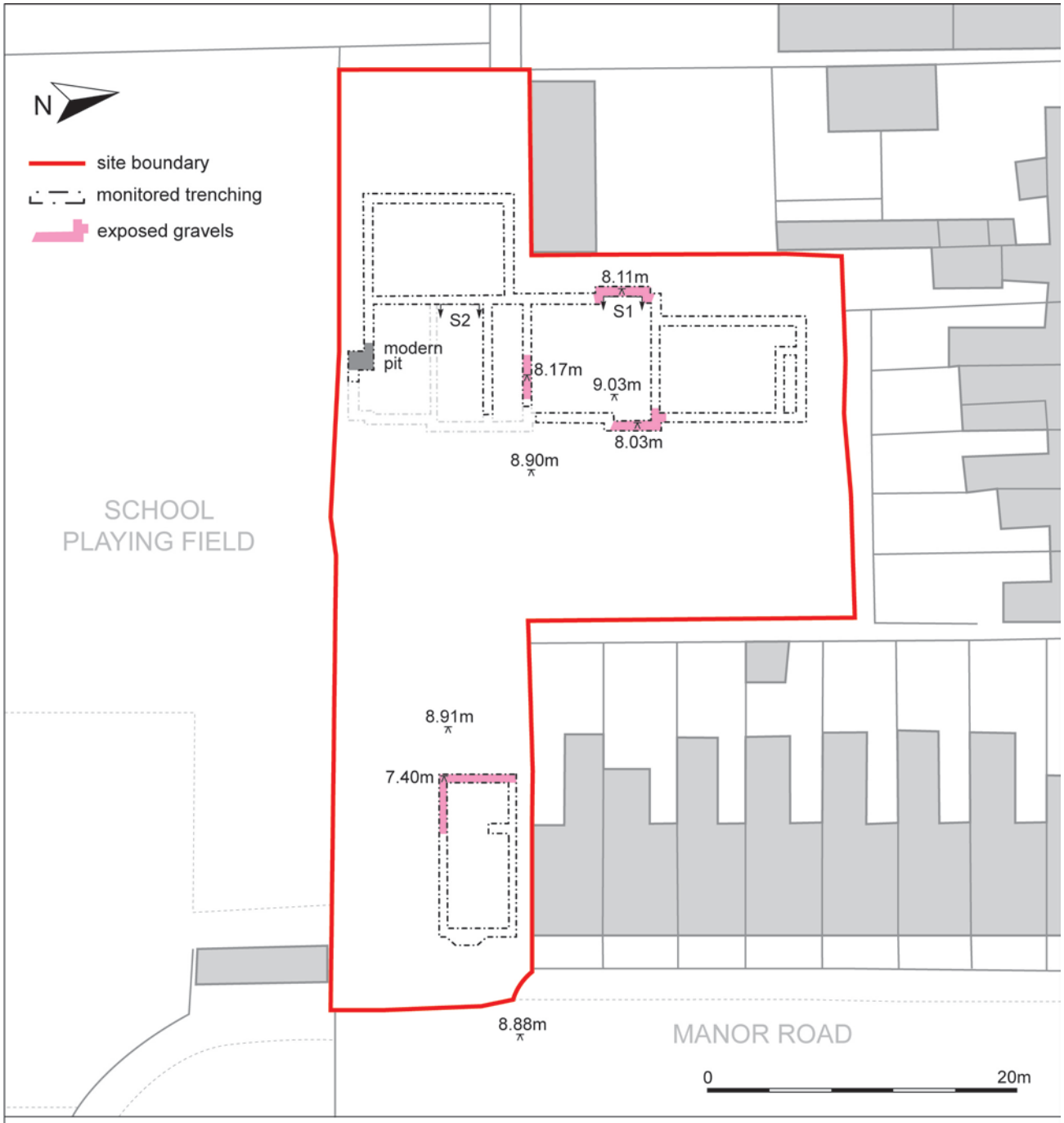
Representative section: rear (northern) foundation trench for the new terrace house fronting Manor Road, following the removal of the old concrete foundations; viewed from the north-east (scale 2m). The pink river gravels (103) are visible at the base of the section, with the darker soft clay silts of (102) immediately above.

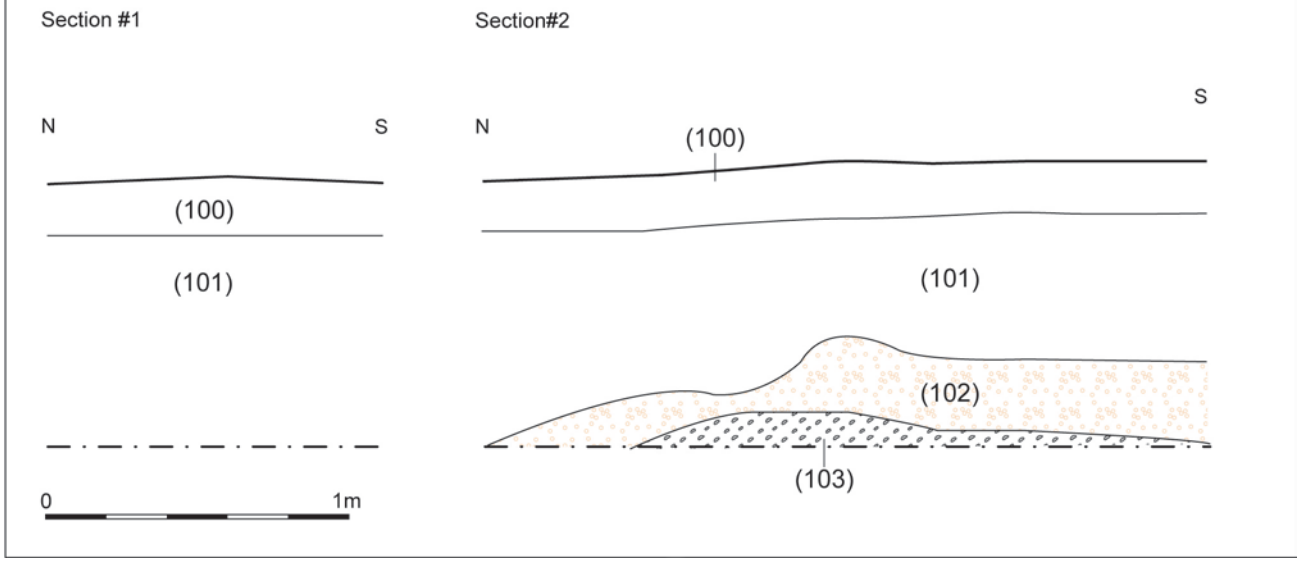
Notes

NGR Qualifier from:
FCE Feature Centred GCE Group or Complex Centred FS Findspot LO Locality Only LIN Linear

Event Type from:
AP Air photography AS Air Photo Survey BS Building Survey CS Geochemical Survey DR Documentary Record ES Environmental Sampling EV Evaluation EX Excavation FE Full Excavation FO Field Observation FS Full Survey FW Fieldwalking GS Geophysical Survey MS Photogrammetric Survey PE Part Excavation PHS Photographic survey PO Personal Observation PS Part Survey RO Recorded Observation SE Salvage Excavation SR Salvage Record TS Topographic Survey WB Watching Brief

Digital site plan to be attached.


N
site boundary
monitored trenching
exposed gravels
8.11m
S1
S2
modern pit
8.17m
9.03m
8.03m
8.90m
SCHOOL PLAYING FIELD
8.91m
7.40m
8.88m
MANOR ROAD
0
20m


Section #1
N
S
(100)
(101)
0
1m
Section#2
N
S
(100)
(101)
(102)
(103)