

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Exeter, Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SX 9309 8985	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Bale distribution centre and storage centre with wash down at Plot 4 Thorverton Road, Matford, Marsh Barton, Exeter		<b>Photo attached?</b> YES
<b>Planning Application no:</b> DCC/3510/2013	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Royal Albert Memorial Museum	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> southwes1-157428	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> N/A	
<b>Contractor's reference number:</b> ETR13	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 13.05.14	
<p><b>Description of works:</b> Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology (SWARCH) at the request of Philip Domville-Musters of PDM Design (the Agent) on behalf of Devon Contract Waste (the Client) during preliminary groundworks in advance of the construction of a bale distribution plant at Thorverton Road, Marsh Barton, Exeter, Devon (Figure 1). The work was carried out by S Walls in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) approved by B. Horner of Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>The development lies on low lying ground on the boundary between the parishes of Alphington and Exminster, with the Exeter canal and railway line to the east, and other modern industrial units to the north, south and west. Previous archaeological interventions have identified several palaeochannels to both the north and south of the development site, and good palaeoenvironmental evidence has been recovered from some of these investigations.</p> <p>Monitoring was undertaken during the excavation of initial test-pits on the site (see Figure 2). These excavations were undertaken by a machine fitted with a 1m wide toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. It was clear from an early stage that the site has been substantially built up primarily with a single 2.0-2.1m thick layer of homogenous grey yellow-red clay-silt with occasional to common sub-angular pebbles (&gt;60mm diameter). This was confirmed at a depth of 2.5m below the present ground surface by the exposure of a layer of geotextile (terram) in all four of the test-pits. This terram overlay a 0.15m thick layer of large sub-angular to sub-rounded stones (&gt;80mm diameter), which was presumably laid down to assist with drainage. Below this stone layer was a clean reddish-yellow clay which was the limit of the excavations. No groundworks on the site will go below this level and so archaeological monitoring was ceased.</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were noted in these investigations. No finds were recovered</p>		
<p><b>A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.</b></p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> S. Walls		<b>Date sent to HER:</b> 15.05.14

Please email completed form to: [archaeol@devon.gov.uk](mailto: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.

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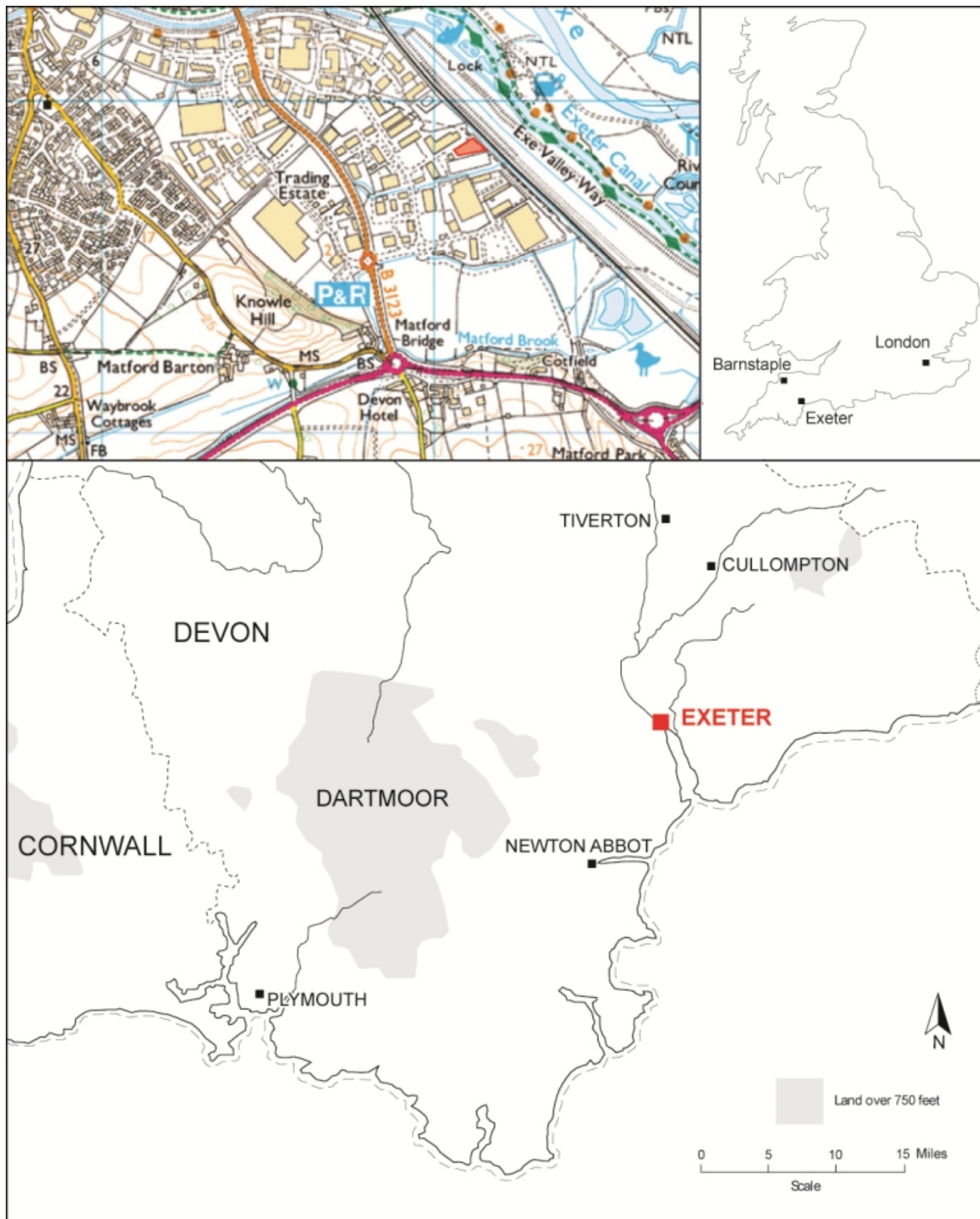


Figure 1: Site Plan and location. The site is highlighted.





Figure 2: Location plan of the test pits.



Figure 3: Test Pit 1 post-ex, viewed from the north.