

Cotswold Archaeology

Land at Beech Cottage Old Rydon Close Exeter

Archaeological Evaluation



for GRM Trident Developments Ltd

> CA Project: 880290 CA Report: 18075

> > February 2018



Andover Cirencester Exeter Milton Keynes

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Document Control Grid										
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A	26	Jonathan	Derek Evans	Internal	-	Derek				
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					comments					

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Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

National Grid Reference:		Number:		
296035	5 090730			
			Photo attached:	
Land at Beech Cottage, Old Rydon Close, Exeter: archaeological evaluation				
	Recipient museum:			
	N/A			
	Museum Accession no:			
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	Date fieldwork undertaken:			
	5 February 2018			
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Introduction

In February 2018, Cotswold Archaeology carried out an archaeological evaluation on at land at Beech Cottage, Old Rydon Close, Exeter. This evaluation was commissioned by GRM Trident Developments Ltd.

Exeter City Council has granted planning permission for the residential development of the site. Condition 6 of this planning permission requires a programme of archaeological investigation.

The site lies in an area of high archaeological potential. Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity have recorded evidence for activity in the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age periods. This activity included Bronze Age enclosures and structures and an Iron Age roundhouse. Archaeological works to the immediate west of the present evaluation site (Cotswold Archaeology, forthcoming, *Land South of the A379, Newcourt, Exeter: Archaeological Excavation*) suggested that that particular area of the prehistoric activity did not extend as far eastwards as the evaluation site.

Methodology

The evaluation followed the methodology set out in the Written Scheme of Archaeological Work (Cotswold Archaeology 2018) and comprised the excavation of five trenches (Fig. 1). Two trenches were 20m long and three trenches were 10m long. All trenches were 1.8m wide. The trenches were located to provide a representative sample of the site.

Results

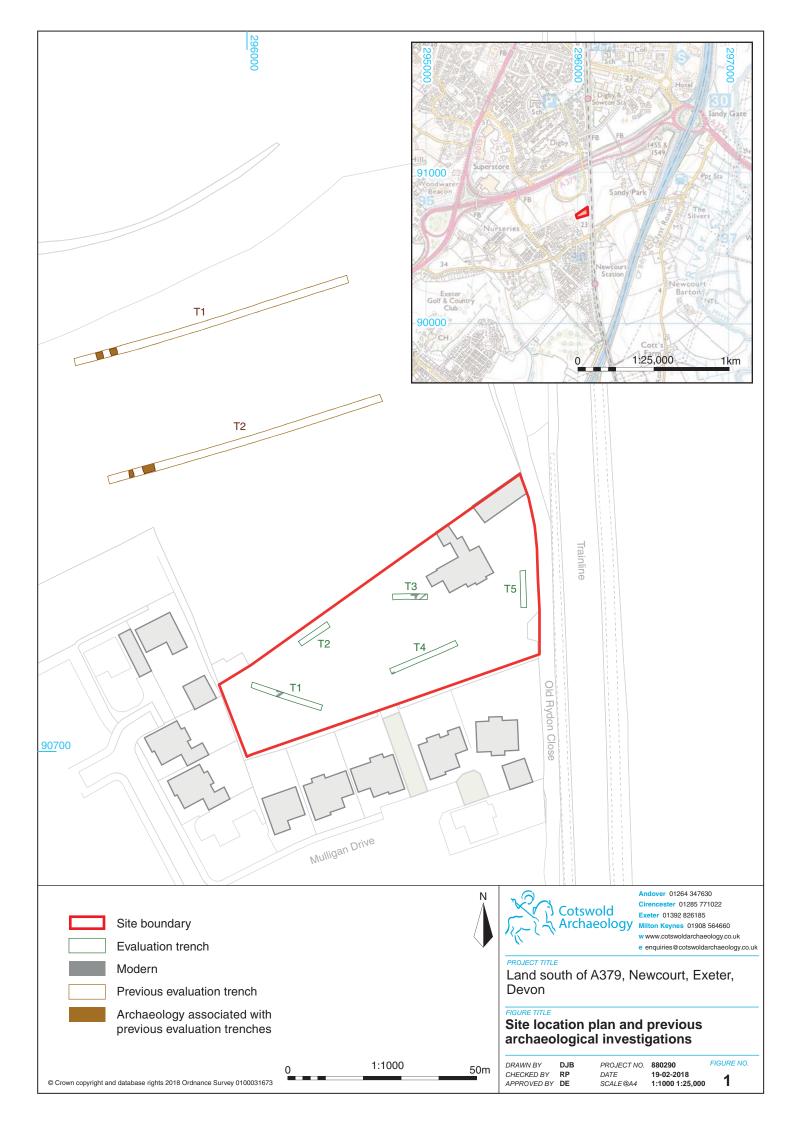
The natural substrate comprised reddish orange sand with occasional patches of gravel and was identified in all trenches at a depth of 0.4m–0.6m below the present ground level. The natural substrate was sealed directly by the topsoil. Modern disturbance was recorded in T1, T3 and T4.

No archaeological features or deposits were recorded and no artefactual material was recovered.

Discussion

The absence of archaeological remains at the evaluation site indicates that the prehistoric activity recorded in the vicinity did not extend as far as the evaluation site. This is in line with evidence from previous archaeological works to the immediate west of the present evaluation site (Cotswold Archaeology, forthcoming, *Land South of the A379, Newcourt, Exeter: Archaeological Excavation*), which suggested that the prehistoric activity did not extend as far eastwards as the evaluation site.

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
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