

Field west of Gosford Lane, Gosford Road, Ottery St  
Mary, Devon (SY 09453 97558)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

East Devon District Council ref. 11/2164/FUL

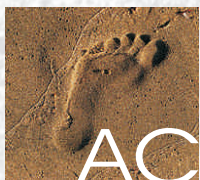
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Prepared by Kerry Kerr-Peterson

On behalf of  
Adam Brown

Document No: ACD431/2/0

Date: January 2012

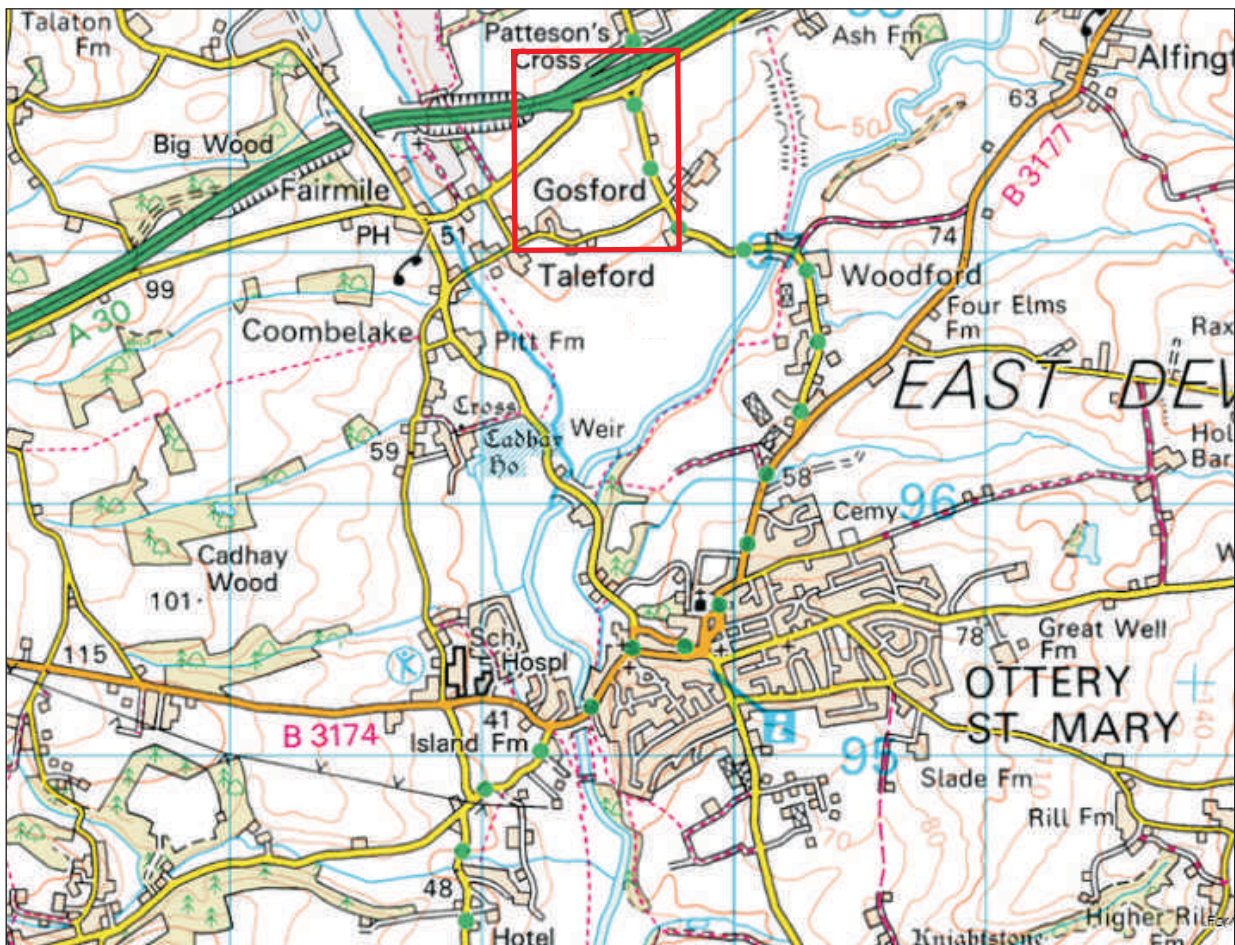
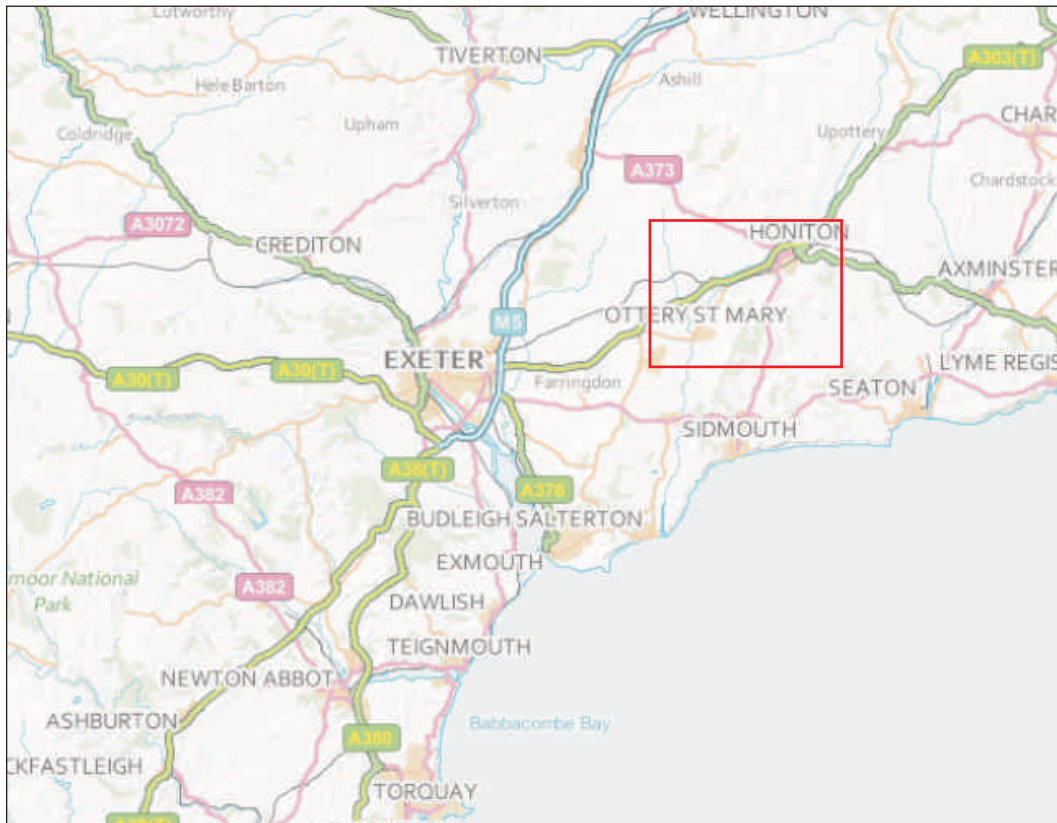


AC archaeology

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# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Ottery St Mary, East Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SY 09453 97558	<b>Number:</b> (Leave blank for HES to fill in)															
<b>Subject:</b> Results of an archaeological watching brief in a field west of Gosford Lane, Gosford Road, Ottery St Mary		<b>Photo attached?</b> N															
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 11/2164/FUL		<b>Recipient museum:</b> Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter															
<b>OASIS ID:</b> 117820		<b>Museum Accession no:</b> RAMM ref 12/01															
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> ACD431		<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 19 January 2012															
<p><b>Description of works</b></p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AC Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of an agricultural storage shed and access track in a field west of Gosford Lane, Gosford Road, Ottery St Mary (Fig. 1). The site lies at around 60m aOD and the underlying geology consists of Otter formation sandstone overlaid by river terrace sand and gravel deposits. The site is located in an area where there is evidence for prehistoric activity in the form of crop marks, as well as the excavated site of a Bronze Age settlement to the north of the development that included two roundhouses, one of which was located inside an enclosure. Several flint scatters are also known in the area.</p> <p>The archaeological monitoring covered an area 30m long by 15m wide on the site of the new agricultural building (Fig. 2). The topsoil (100) was a medium brown, friable sand clay with common sub-rounded and sub-angular, small to medium sized chert fragments and small rounded pebbles, and was a maximum of 0.4m deep. Pieces of modern ceramic building material, glass and industrial blue and white transfer printed china were noted but were not collected. One sherd of c.18th-century South Somerset lead glazed earthenware was also recorded but not collected. The topsoil overlaid a subsoil (101) of medium orange-brown, friable sand clay with common sub-rounded and sub-angular, small to medium sized chert fragments and sparse charcoal flecks and small rounded pebbles. This subsoil was not removed, and no excavations penetrated beneath the topsoil.</p> <p><b>The Finds</b></p> <p>Worked and burnt flint and chert was recovered from the topsoil (100). The quantification of the finds is shown in Table 1.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="306 1265 1276 1366"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Context</th> <th colspan="2">Worked Flint/Chert</th> <th colspan="2">Burnt Flint/Chert</th> </tr> <tr> <th>No</th> <th>Wt</th> <th>No</th> <th>Wt</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>100</td> <td>15</td> <td>199</td> <td>9</td> <td>228</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Table 1: Finds quantification, weight in grams (g).</b></p> <p>The assemblage consists of fifteen pieces of worked stone (199 grams). There are eight pieces of dark brown, granular river chert which are all waste fragments including one fragment that appears to have been used as a small bifacial core. Two larger fragments of dark grey-brown river chert have also been used as bifacial cores to produce blade type tools. There are five tool fragments in the assemblage; almost all of these are struck from dark grey cherty flint, apart from one broken blade fragment which has been struck from a dark brown flint. The rest of the tools include another broken fragment of a blade tool, a thumb nail scraper, an end scraper and an awl type object which has been re-touched to sharpen the point.</p> <p>The assemblage also contained nine fragments of burnt flint or chert (228 grams). Eight of these fragments are derived from flint or chert and one piece is derived from a quartz pebble. Four of the fragments derive from small chert or flint nodules.</p> <p><b>Conclusions</b></p> <p>The groundworks did not go deep enough to expose any archaeological features or deposits. The presence of worked and burnt flint and chert is consistent with previously-recorded finds, and adds a little to the understanding of Bronze Age prehistoric activity and settlement that was present in the area.</p>				Context	Worked Flint/Chert		Burnt Flint/Chert		No	Wt	No	Wt	100	15	199	9	228
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100	15	199	9	228													
<b>Recorder:</b> Kerry Kerr-Peterson, AC archaeology		<b>Date sent to HER:</b> 31 January 2012															



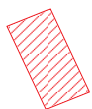
PROJECT

Gosford Lane, Ottery St Mary

TITLE

Fig.1: Location of site




 Area of observed topsoil strip

PROJECT

Gosford Lane, Ottery St Mary

TITLE

Fig. 2: Location of observed topsoil strip



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