

LAND TO THE NORTHEAST OF STUART WAY, HILL BARTON BUSINESS PARK, CLYST ST MARY, DEVON

(NGR SY 0064 9128)

Results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation

Planning ref. East Devon District Council 14/1443/MFUL
(condition 7)

Prepared by:
Chris Caine

On behalf of:
Aggregated Micro Power Holdings plc

Document No: ACD1118/2/0

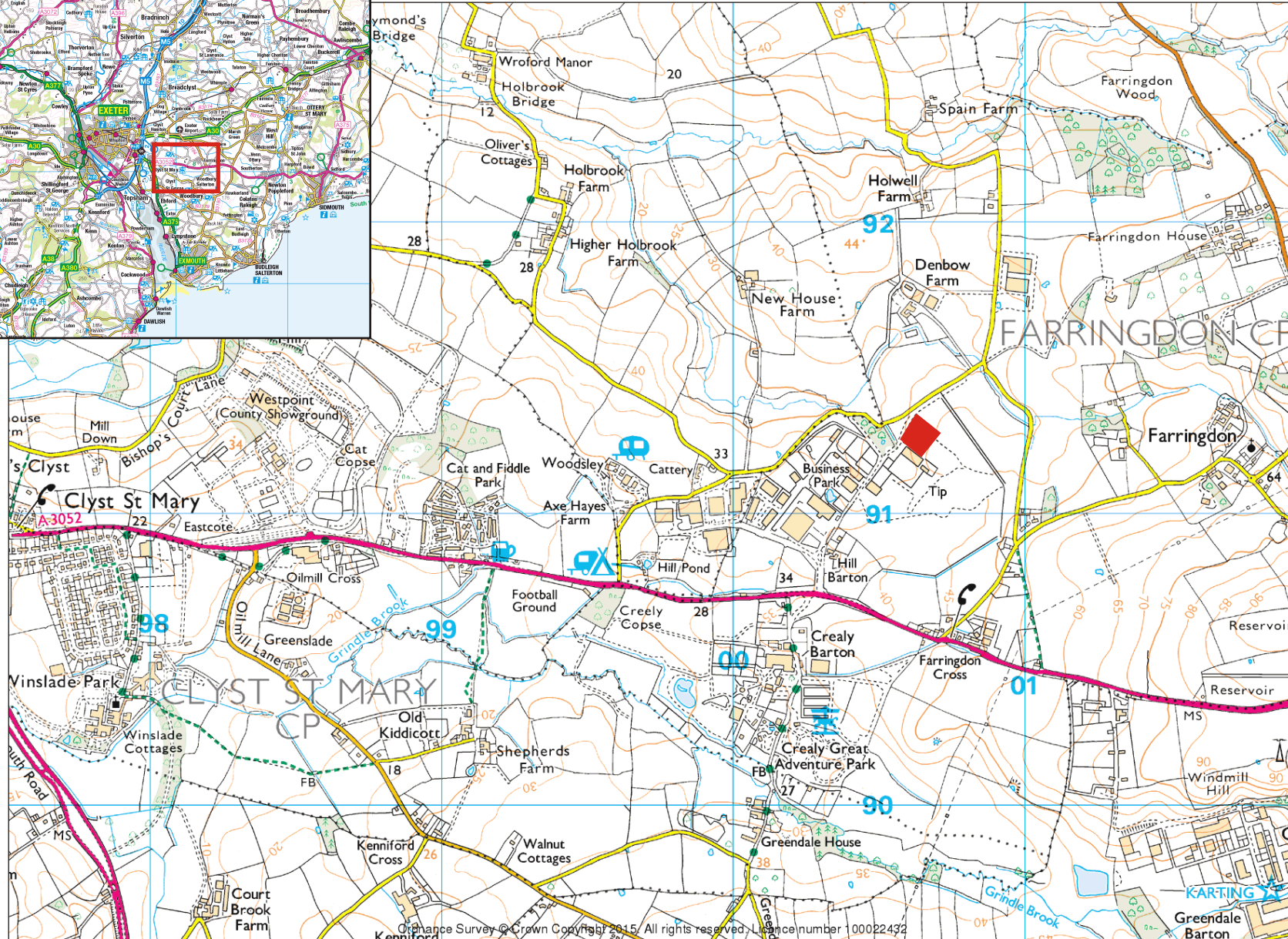
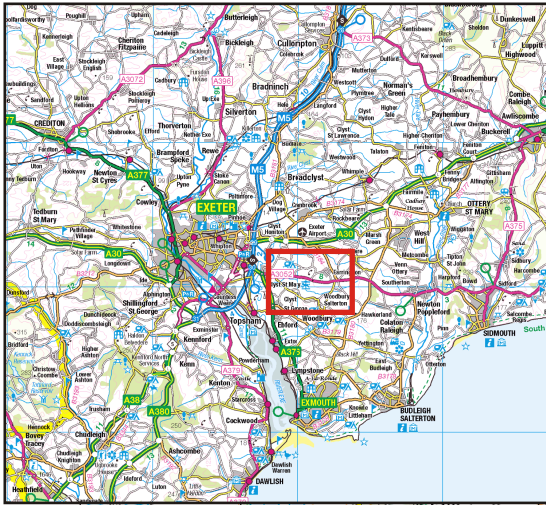
Date: May 2015



AC archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Farringdon	National Grid Reference NGR SX 0064 9128	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Land to the northeast of Stuart Way, Hill Barton Business Park, Clyst St Mary, Devon		Photo attached? Yes
Planning Application no: EDDC 14/1443/MFUL	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 210924	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1118	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 27/04/15	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>An archaeological trench evaluation on land to the northeast of Stuart Way, Hill Barton Business Park, Clyst St Mary, Devon (SX 00644 91288) was carried out by AC Archaeology during April 2015. Work was required as condition 7 of planning consent for the proposed development of the site as a wood gasification plant.</p> <p>The site lies 3km to the east of Clyst St Mary and on the northeast extent of the Hill Barton Business Park (Fig 1). It is bounded to the northwest by a trackway extending from Stuart Way and to the southwest by a composting facility. The proposed development site comprises part of a wider plot that was partially occupied by former arable land, and with the southern portion covered by a spoil bund and the edge of a former landfill tip. It lies on broadly level ground at 40m aOD (above Ordnance Datum), with the underlying solid geology comprising mudstone of the Exmouth Mudstone and Sandstone Formation (British Geological Survey Online Viewer).</p> <p>The northeast portion of the site partially overlies a possible enclosure that had been previously interpreted from an aerial photograph (Devon Historic Environment Record reference MDV73316). This comprised a rectangular cropmark thought to represent possible prehistoric or Romano-British activity.</p> <p>Description (<i>Fig 2 and Plates 1 and 2</i>)</p> <p>Archaeological work comprised the machine excavation of four trenches totalling 130m in length, with each trench measuring 1.6m wide. Trenches were positioned to provide a sampled coverage of the previously undisturbed portion of the site.</p> <p>The site had been previously stripped of topsoil prior to the excavation of trenches, which were then dug through an agricultural subsoil onto a natural subsoil of a mid brownish-red sandy-clay with gravels. Trenches contained a consistent soil profile comprising up to 0.13m of subsoil composed of mid reddish-brown clayey-loam with occasional rounded and sub-rounded gravels. Modern land drains were exposed in Trenches 2 and 4 and modern made ground relating to waste tipping overlay the natural subsoil at the northwest end of Trench 3.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were exposed and no finds were recovered. The possible prehistoric or Romano-British enclosure (MDV73316), interpreted from aerial photography, was not encountered. The site was positioned within former agricultural fields, and drainage relating to this was observed. A portion of the investigated site incorporating the southern half of Trench 3 had been subject to modern truncation and disturbance related to the former landfill tip to the south.</p>		
Recorder: C. Caine, AC archaeology		Date sent to HER:

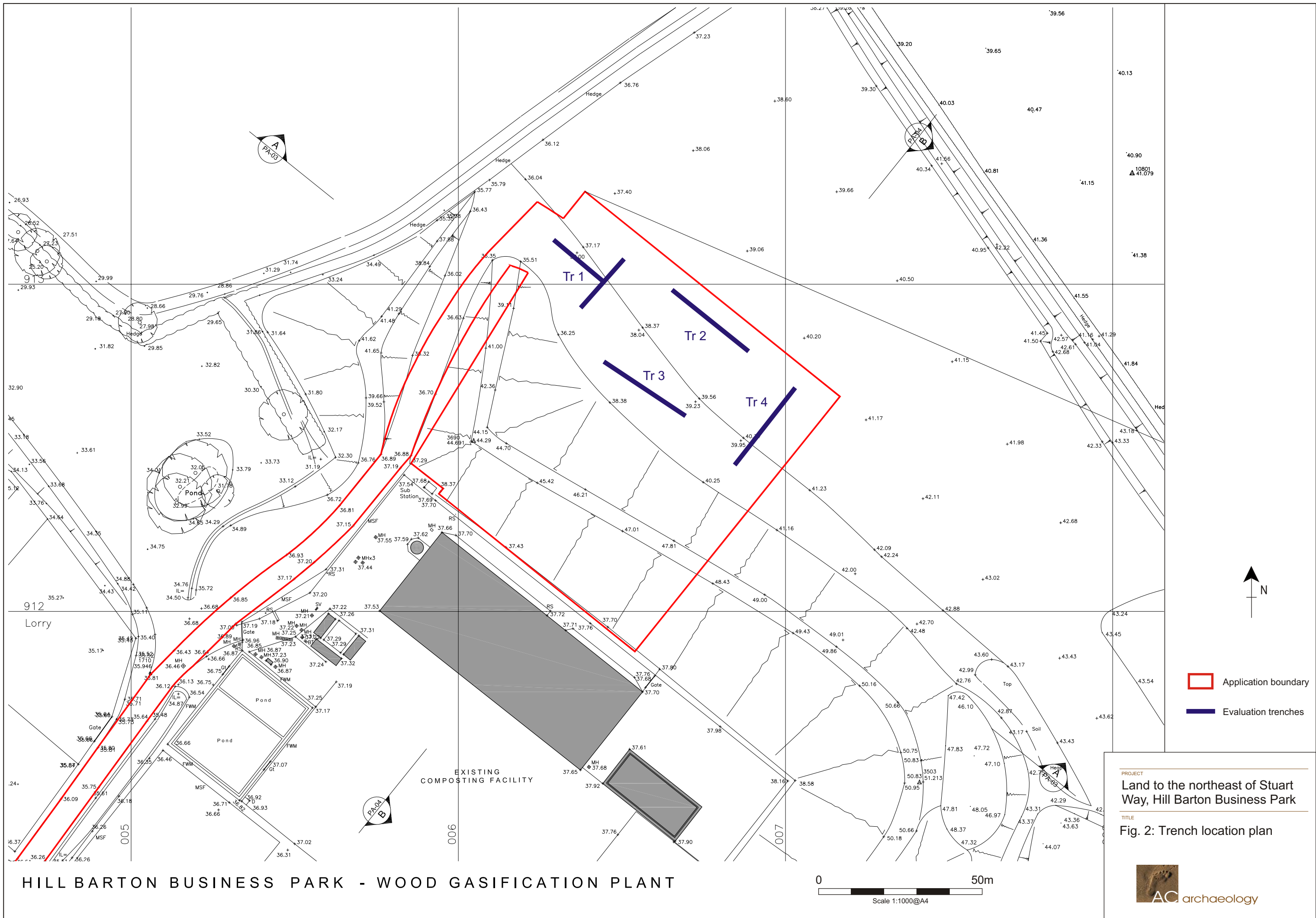


Site location



PROJECT
 Land to the northeast of
 Stuart Way, Hill Barton
 Business Park
 TITLE
 Fig. 1: Site location





HILL BARTON BUSINESS PARK - WOOD GASIFICATION PLANT

PROJECT
 Land to the northeast of Stuart Way, Hill Barton Business Park

TITLE
 Fig. 2: Trench location plan





Plate 1: General site view, looking southwest



Plate 2: Trench 1, looking northeast (scale 1m)

Devon Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Unit 4, Halthaies Workshops
Bradninch
Nr Exeter
Devon
EX5 4LQ

Telephone/Fax: 01392 882410

Wiltshire Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Manor Farm Stables
Chicklade
Hindon
Nr Salisbury
Wiltshire
SP3 5SU

Telephone: 01747 820581
Fax: 01747 820440

www.acarchaeology.co.uk