

LAND AT SPRINGWELL NURSERY, IDE, DEVON

(SX 90531 90516)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

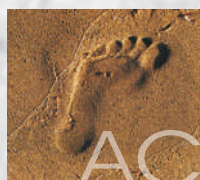
Teignbridge District Council planning reference
11/00884/MAJ

Prepared by:
Dr Paul Rainbird

On behalf of:
Stevens Homes Ltd

Document No: ACD485/2/0

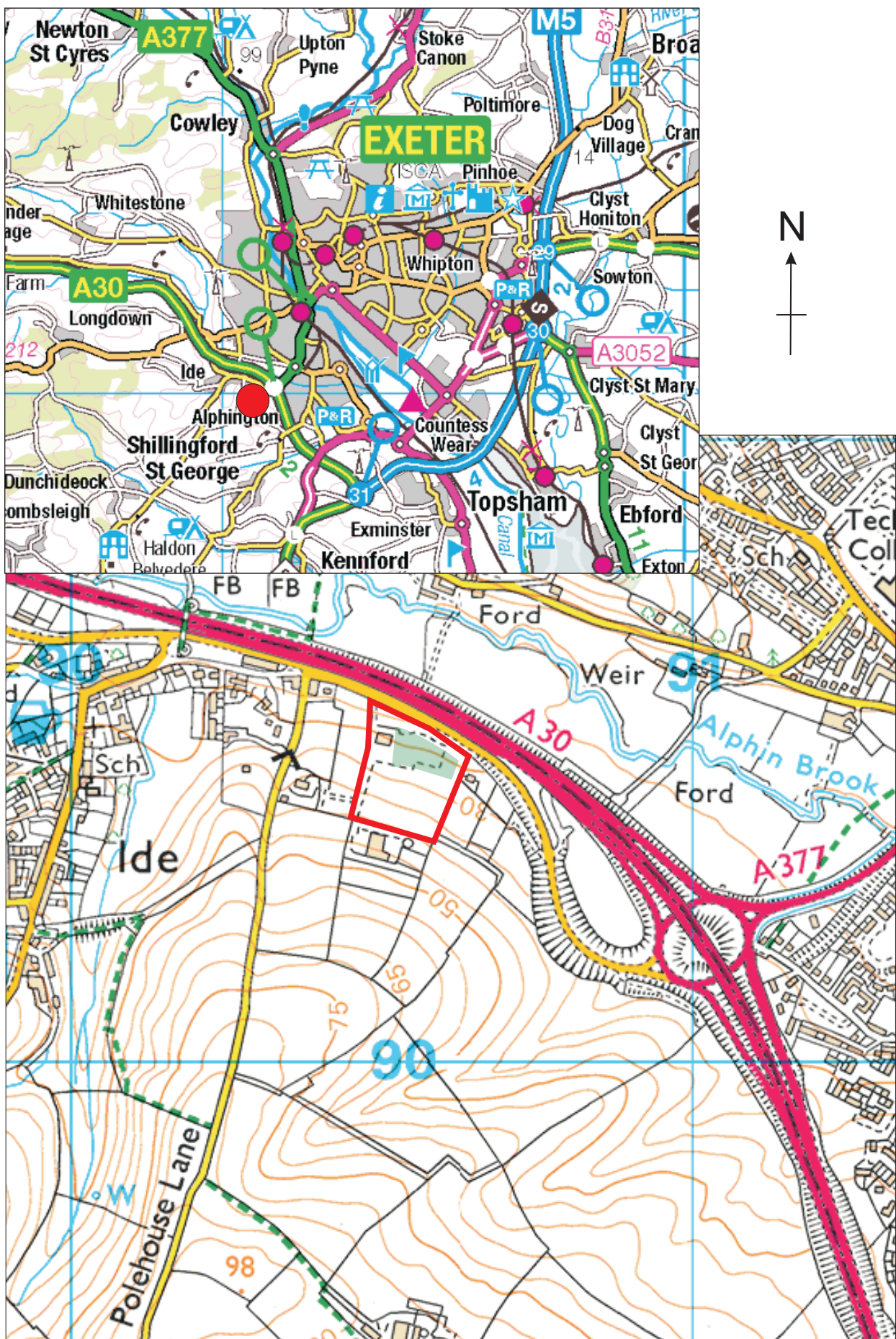
Date: November 2015



AC archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Ide, Teignbridge	National Grid Reference SX 90531 90516	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Land at Springwell Nursery, Ide, Devon; Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: 11/00884/MAJ	Recipient museum: RAMM, Exeter	
OASIS ID: 223147	Museum Accession no: RAMM 12/23	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD485	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 14.04.14 - 20.08.2015	
<p>Description of works</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AC archaeology on behalf of Stevens Homes Ltd during the construction of a retail and café unit, car parking and access improvements at Springwell Nursery, Ide. The work was required by Teignbridge District Council under condition 10 of the grant of planning permission, as advised by the Devon County Council Historic Environment Team.</p> <p>Springfield Nursery is located on the eastern edge of Ide to the south of an unclassified road, close to the A30. The local topography drops northwards towards the Alphin Brook. Much of the northern part of the development is occupied by the existing nursery building, polytunnels, growing area and car park, although a small area is currently under grass. The site lies at around 25m aOD and the underlying solid geology comprises Permian Breccia of the Alphington formation overlain by superficial deposits of sand with clay and gravel.</p> <p><i>Archaeological background</i></p> <p>The principal archaeological interest in the site is that it lies to the south of two general areas where flint artefacts were found during construction of the A30 to the northeast and northwest of the present site (DCHER refs MDV16133 and MDV16132). These dated to between the early Neolithic and late Bronze Age.</p> <p>The aim of the archaeological monitoring and recording was to preserve by record any archaeological features or deposits exposed during groundworks associated with the project. This was with particular reference for the potential for prehistoric remains to be present on the site.</p> <p><i>Results (Figs 1-2; Plates 1-3)</i></p> <p>An area of approximately 37m by 85m was stripped of overlying deposits by machine, and in addition building footings, measuring 0.5m wide and joining seven 1.5m x 1.5m stanchion pits, were dug through the natural (103) to a depth of between 1m to 1.5m. No buried archaeological features were exposed during the groundworks and the overlying deposits (measuring up to between 0.3m and 1.2m deep) were found to have been extensively disturbed by garden centre activities. The natural (103) consisted of light brownish-yellow to brownish-red sandy clay to silty clay, and was overlain by mid brownish-red friable silty clay (102) and dark reddish-brown to black firm organic rich clayey silt topsoil (101).</p> <p>Much late post-medieval and modern material was observed in the overlying deposits, and has not been retained. These finds included industrially-produced pottery, ceramic building material, clay tobacco pipe stem fragments, a clear green glass bottle stopper manufactured by Aire and Calder Bottle Works of London and Castleford (this glassworks was operating between 1836 and 1913), two pieces of blast furnace slag that were most probably brought into the site as hardstanding material, and modern rubbish (plant labels and broken flower pots) associated with the nursery. Unworked flint nodules were noted in the topsoil, and probably derived from naturally-occurring sources to the south on the Haldon Hills.</p> <p><i>Conclusion</i></p> <p>No archaeological features related to nearby prehistoric activity were observed. The overlying deposits were heavily disturbed and modern material was present to deep depths within it.</p> <p>This document and the associated OASIS entry represent the archive for the project.</p>		
<p>A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.</p>		
Recorder: Paul Cooke, AC archaeology		Date sent to HER: 9 November 2015



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0 250m
1:10,000@A4



Area monitored

PROJECT

Land at Springwell Nursery, Ide, Devon

TITLE

Fig.1: Site location



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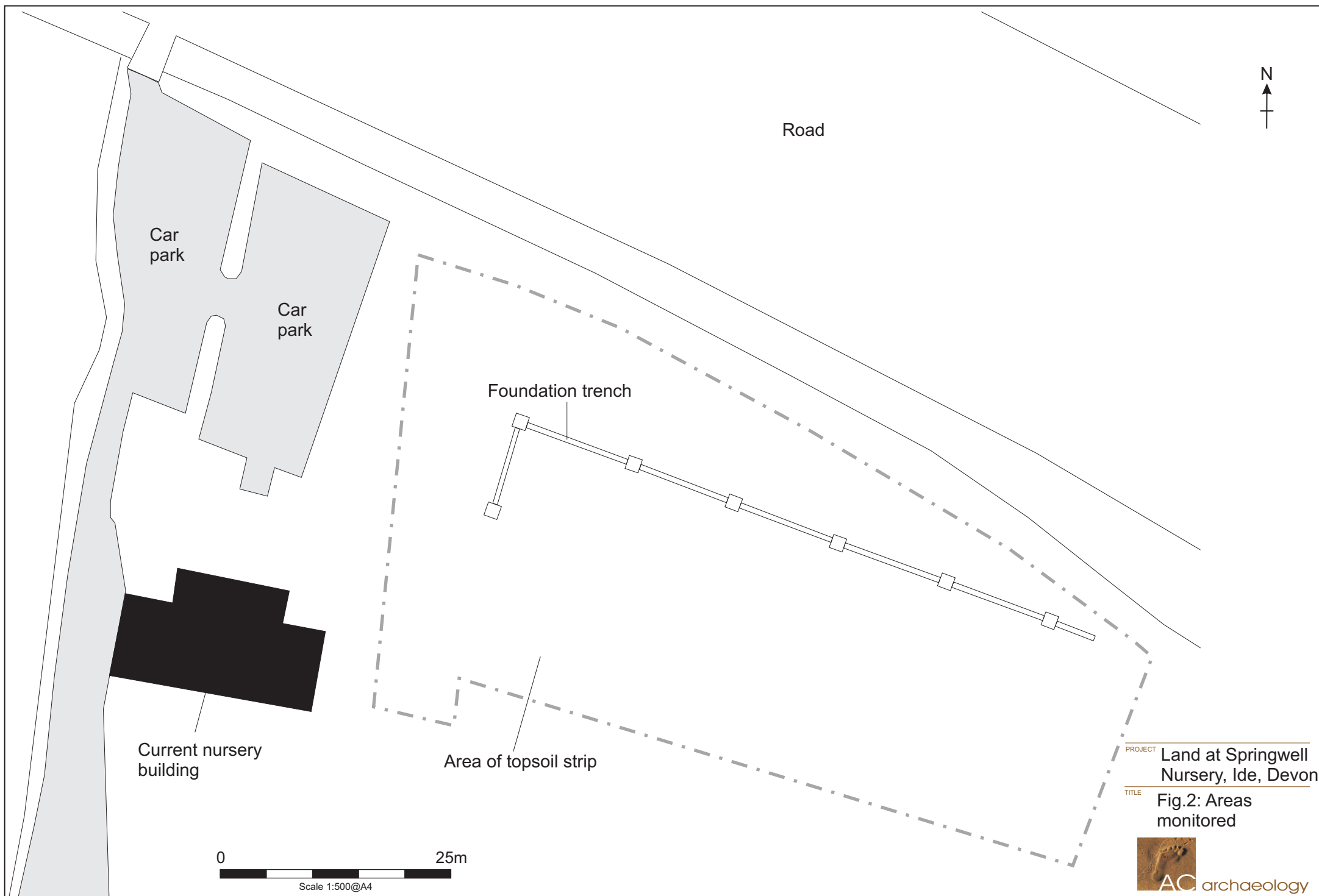




Plate 1: Northern part of site, prior to machining, looking northwest



Plate 2: Southern part of site, work in progress, looking east



Plate 3: Foundation trench and stanchion pits, looking east (scale 1m)

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