

NEW AIRCRAFT STORAGE SHED, DUNKESWELL AIRFIELD, DEVON

(NGR ST 12995 07908)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

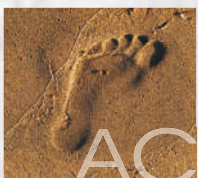
East Devon District Council planning reference 14/2226/FUL,
condition 3

Prepared by:
Chris Caine

On behalf of:
Mr Brendon Proctor

Document No: ACD1387/2/0

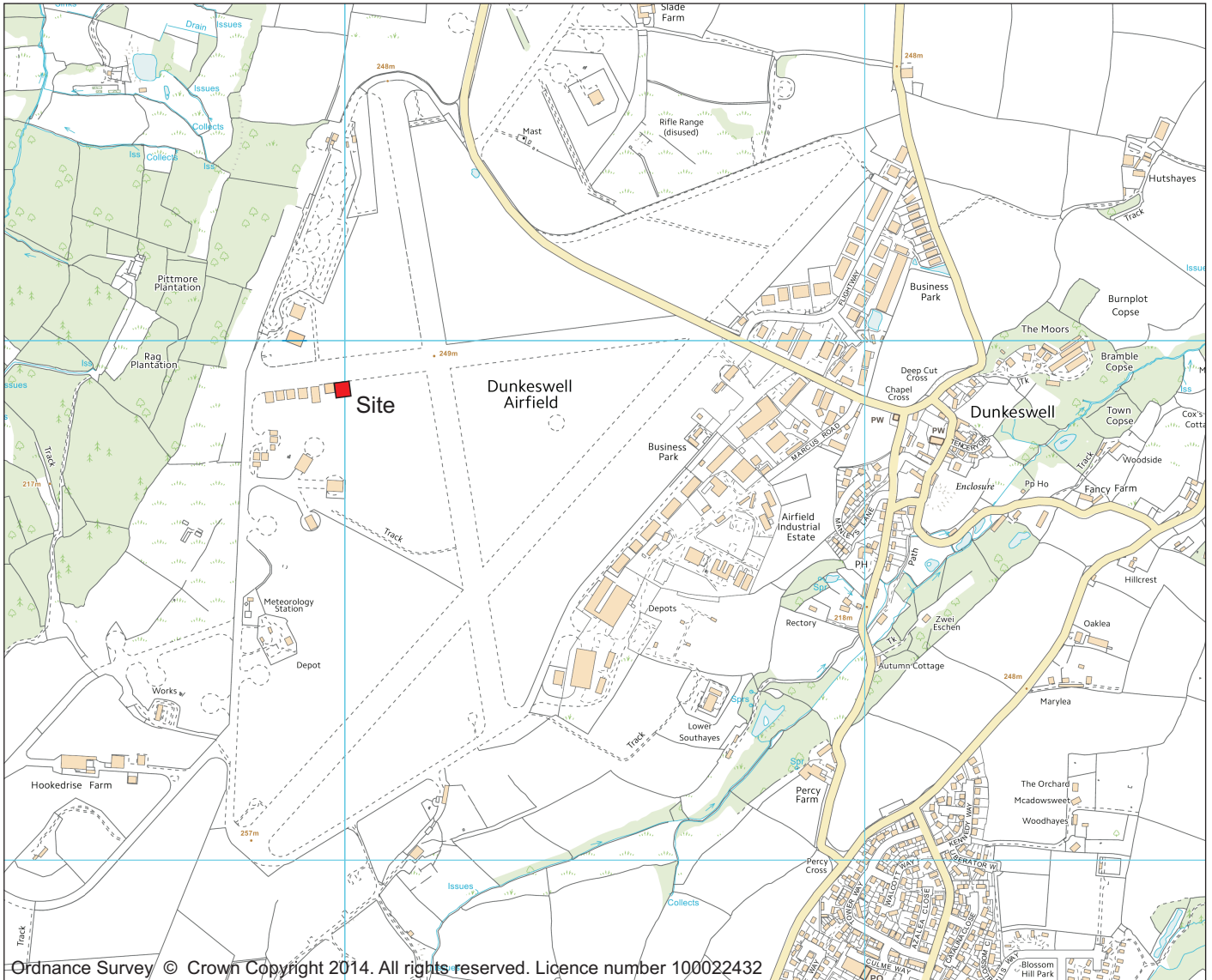
Date: June 2016



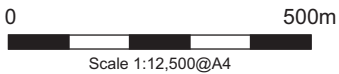
AC archaeology

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Dunkeswell, East Devon	National Grid Reference ST 12995 07908	Number:
Subject: New aircraft storage shed, Dunkeswell Airfield, Devon, Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached? Yes
Planning Application no: 14/2226/FUL	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 255398	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1387	Date fieldwork undertaken: 3 May 2016	
<p>Introduction (Fig. 1) Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out by AC Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a new aircraft storage shed on land at Dunkeswell Airfield, Devon (ST 12995 07908).</p> <p>The development site is located 1.4km to the west of Dunkeswell (Fig 1). It comprised part of a grassed area within the airfield, at 256m aOD on ground that was fairly level. The underlying solid geology comprises sandstone of the Upper Greenstone Formation (British Geological Survey Online Viewer).</p> <p>The site is close to an area of undated iron ore extraction pits located 600m to the northeast; a few similar truncated features have been found only 10m to 20m away to the west when AC archaeology monitored groundworks for another aircraft storage shed. The site had previously been landscaped to form a level airfield for the RAF during the Second World War.</p> <p>Description of works (Fig. 1 and Plates 1-4) The monitored groundworks consisted of the removal of topsoil within an area measuring 35m by 32m (Plates 1 and 2); this was located adjacent to a former runway that is now used for taxiing.</p> <p>Natural subsoil, which comprised a light brownish-yellow, sandy clay with occasional flint gravel inclusions, was exposed at a depth of between 0.21m and 0.25m below existing levels, and was overlain by the light greyish-brown sandy silty-loam topsoil.</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were exposed and no finds were recovered. Some disturbance from landscaping was identified close to the former runway (Plate 3) and two post-war land drains were observed crossing the site (Plate 4).</p> <p>Discussion There was no evidence for cut features pre-dating the mid-late 20th century within the stripped area, with no residual finds from the topsoil recovered.</p> <p>This document and the associated OASIS entry represent the archive for the project.</p>		
Recorder: Chris Caine, AC archaeology		Date sent to HER: 20 June 2016



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PROJECT

New Aircraft Storage Shed, Dunkeswell Airfield,
Dunkeswell, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site





Plate 1: View of site from the south. Scale 1m



Plate 2: Representative section, view from the west. Scale 1m



Plate 3: Modern disturbance, view from east. Scale 1m



Plate 4: Land drain, view from the southeast. Scale 1m

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