

LAND AT PINHOE SHOOTING CLUB, LANGATON LANE, PINHOE, DEVON

(NGR SX 9725 9405)

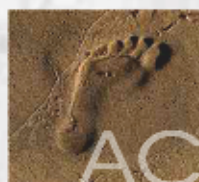
Results of an Archaeological Trial Trench Evaluation

Prepared by:
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On behalf of:
Exeter Target Sports Academy Ltd

Report No: ACD1449/2/0

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archaeology

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Summary

An archaeological trial trench evaluation was carried out by AC archaeology during September 2016 on land at Pinhoe Shooting Club, Langaton Lane, Pinhoe, Devon (NGR SX 66770 43720). The site comprised the grounds of the existing Pinhoe Shooting Club, situated to the southeast of Pinhoe. The site lay within a large probable prehistoric enclosure, which had been identified from aerial photographs and recent fieldwork.

The archaeological trench evaluation consisted of the machine-excavation of three trenches totalling 55m in length, with each trench 1.5m wide. These were positioned to provide a sampled coverage of the site.

No archaeological features or deposits were exposed within the trenches and no finds were recovered.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document sets out the results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation, which was undertaken during September 2016 on land at Pinhoe Shooting Club, Langaton Lane, Pinhoe, Devon (NGR SX 9725 9405; Fig 1). The work was required following consultation with the Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (hereafter DCCHET) in order to provide accompanying information for a proposed planning application.

1.2 The archaeological works were carried out by AC archaeology and were commissioned by Parkes Architecture on behalf of the Exeter Target Sports Academy Ltd.

1.3 The site lay on the southwest side of Pinhoe, separated from the Exeter suburb by the M5 motorway. It occupied a triangular plot of land to the northeast of Langaton Lane, on what was occupied by the existing Pinhoe Shooting Club premises, associated car park and grounds. It was positioned on flat ground at 11m aOD to the south of the Pinn Brook. The underlying solid geology comprised sandstone of the Dawlish Sandstone formation, which was beneath an alluvial superficial deposit of clay, sand and gravel (British Geological Society Online Viewer).

1.4 The proposed development will comprise an extension to the existing Pinhoe Shooting Club building and the provision of additional car parking.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 The site lay within a large probable enclosure, which has been identified from aerial photographs as extending either side of the Pinn Brook (Devon County Council Historic Environment Record MDV28622). Part of this enclosure was investigated in 2011 during the construction of a new water main (Hughes forthcoming). During this work, the perimeter ditch to the enclosure was exposed as well as an iron working pit furnace. These features were dated from the later Iron Age to Romano-British periods. Further recent work carried out to the southeast of the site also investigated part of the enclosure, with remains exposed dated to the Iron Age and medieval periods.

3. AIMS

- 3.1** The aim of the work was to establish the presence or absence, extent, depth, character and date of any archaeological features, deposits or finds within the site. The results of the work will be reviewed and used to inform any subsequent mitigation and whether or not the significance and state of survival of any buried archaeological remains is great enough to influence the layout of the proposed development should planning consent be obtained.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1** The fieldwork was undertaken in accordance with a Project Design for an Archaeological Trench Evaluation (Hughes 2016), submitted to and approved by DCCHET prior to commencement on site. The evaluation comprised the machine-excavation of three trenches totalling 55m in length, with each trench 1.5m wide. These were positioned to provide a sampled coverage of the proposed application area. The removal of soil overburden was undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a grading bucket under the control and direction of the site archaeologist. Machine-excavation ceased at the level at which natural subsoil was exposed.
- 4.3** All trenches were recorded using the standard AC archaeology pro-forma recording system, comprising written, graphic and photographic records, and in accordance with AC archaeology's General Site Recording Manual, Version 2 (revised August 2012).

5. RESULTS (Plan Fig. 1; Plates 1-4)

- 5.1** Aside from some evidence for modern wheel rutting in Trench 3, no archaeological features were exposed within the trenches and no finds were recovered. The results for all trenches are set out in tabulated form in Appendix 1 and are summarised below.
- 5.2** Natural subsoil comprised a mid red sandy-clay with degraded breccia gravels and was exposed at a depth of between 0.3m and 0.58m below existing levels. This was overlain by a mid brownish-red to yellowish-red compact sandy loam subsoil and a light brownish-red sandy-loam topsoil. In Trench 1 the subsoil was overlain by a recent dumped deposit of re-deposited natural subsoil.

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1** The trial trench evaluation has established that there were no archaeological features or deposits present within the sampled portion of the site. A simple sequence of subsoil and topsoil was broadly consistent throughout each of the trenches, while the presence of wheel rutting and the dumped deposit are considered to relate to the construction of the existing shooting club premises.
- 6.2** Based on the lack of pre-modern features and indeed any finds recovered from the overlying soils, there was no evidence for activity in this location that can be associated with the wider prehistoric enclosure in which the site is situated.

7. ARCHIVE AND OASIS

- 7.1** An OASIS entry including a digital copy of this report has been created using the unique identifier 260253.
- 7.2** This report and the OASIS entry represent the archive for the project.

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

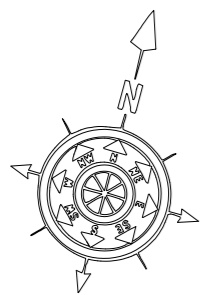
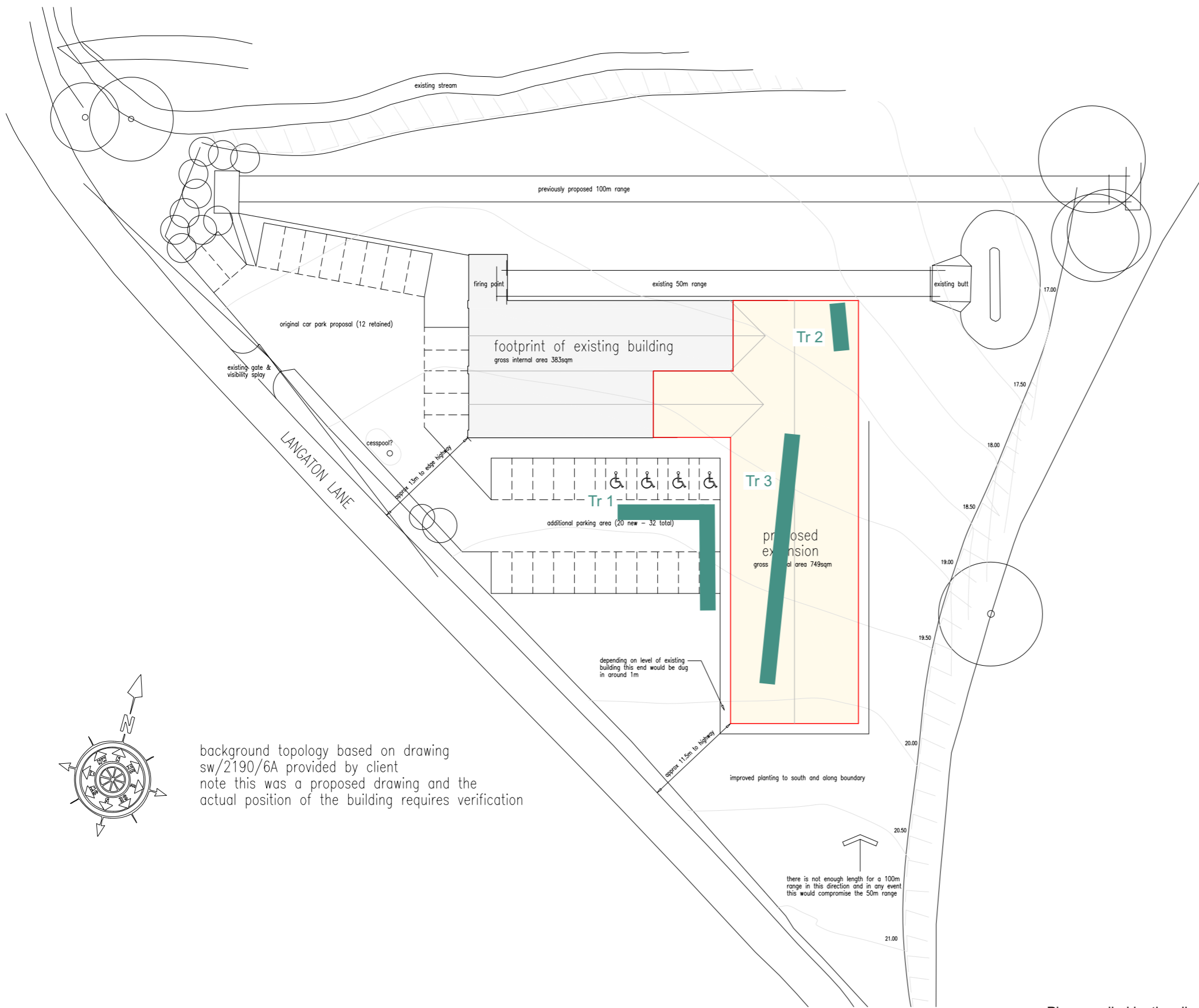
- 8.1** The fieldwork was commissioned by Parkes Architecture on behalf of the Exeter Target Sports Academy Ltd. The site work was undertaken by Alex Farnell and Naomi Kysh, with the illustrations prepared by Sarnia Blackmore. The collaborative role of Stephen Reed, DCCHET Archaeology Officer, is duly acknowledged.

9. REFERENCES

British Geological Society Online Viewer, www.bgs.ac.uk

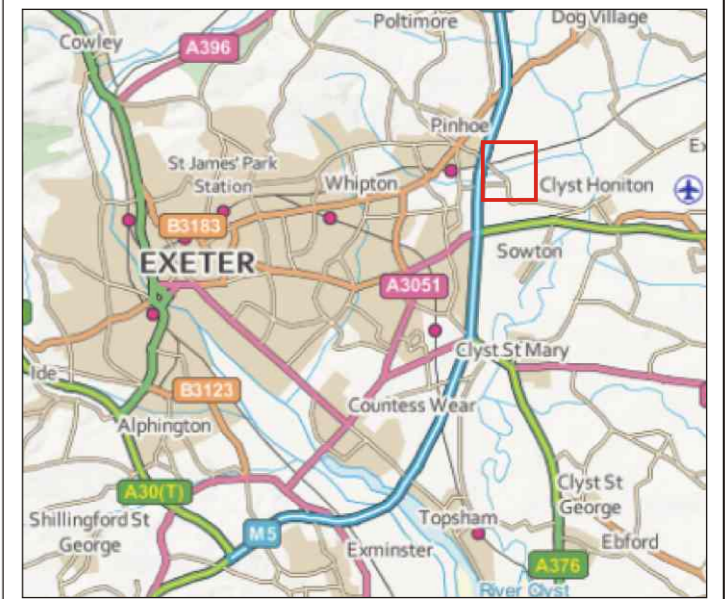
Hughes, S, 2016, Land at Pinhoe Shooting Club, Langaton Lane, Devon: Project Design for an archaeological trial trench evaluation. Unpublished AC archaeology document. Ref. ACD1449/1/0

Hughes, S., forthcoming, The New Cranbrook Water Main, East Devon: Post-excavation Assessment Report. Unpublished AC archaeology report, ref ACD295/2/0



background topology based on drawing sw/2190/6A provided by client
 note this was a proposed drawing and the actual position of the building requires verification

Plan supplied by the client



PROJECT
 Land at Pinhoe shooting club, Langaton Lane,
 Exeter

TITLE
 Fig. 1: Location of site and trench plan





Plate 1: General view of site looking northwest from Trench 3



Plate 2: Trench 1, view to west (scale 1m)



Plate 3: Trench 2, view to north (scale 1m)



Plate 4: Trench 3, with modern wheel rutting visible in foreground. View to north (scale 1m)

Appendix 1

Tabulated Context Descriptions by Trench



Appendix 1: Tabulated context descriptions by trench

Trench 1		Length 20m	Width 1.5m	Alignment NNW-SSE and ENE- WSW
Context	Description	Depth	Interpretation	
100	Light brownish-red sandy-loam	0m-0.15m	Topsoil	
101	Mid brownish-red sandy-loam	0.15-0.3m	Subsoil	
102	Mid red sandy-clay with weathered breccia gravels	0.3m+	Natural subsoil	
103	Mid red clay with frequent gravel inclusions	0.15-0.3m	Re-deposited natural subsoil dump	

Trench 2		Length 5m	Width 1.5m	Alignment NNW-SSE
Context	Description	Depth	Interpretation	
200	Light brownish-red sandy-loam	0m-0.19m	Topsoil	
201	Mid yellowish-red sandy-loam	0.19-0.58m	Subsoil	
202	Mid red sandy-clay with weathered breccia gravels	0.58m+	Natural subsoil	

Trench 3		Length 30m	Width 1.5m	Alignment N-S
Context	Description	Depth	Interpretation	
300	Light brownish-red sandy-loam	0m-0.11m	Topsoil	
301	Mid brownish-red sandy-loam	0.11-0.3m	Subsoil	
302	Mid red sandy-clay with weathered breccia gravels	0.3m+	Natural subsoil	

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