KEYWISE CARS, SILVERTON, DEVON

SS 94436 01092

Results of an archaeological trench evaluation

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> On behalf of: Mr P Dummet

> > Document No: ACD1492/1/0

Date: October 2016



Devon County Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish and District: Silverton, Mid Devon	National Grid Reference SS 94436 01092		Number:
Subject: Keywise Cars, Silverton: Results of an archaeological trench evaluation		Photo Attached? Yes	
Local Planning Authority reference: 16/00220/NUDRU		Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 266201		Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1492		Dates fieldwork und 17 October 2016	ertaken:

Description of works.

Introduction

An archaeological trench evaluation took place on land forming an extension to the existing car sales area at the northwest side of the existing property. The work was requested by the Devon County Historic Environment Team following the issuing of a stop notice on the development by Mid Devon District Council. The site is a former garden, situated on generally level ground at a height of approximately 33m aOD. The underlying geology comprises Permian mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Yellowford Formation, overlaid by Quaternary 3rd River Terrace Deposits of sand and gravel (BGS Online Viewer).

The archaeological interest in the site is the presence of a bowl barrow, designated as a Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List no. 1019289), located 30m to the south of the development area, within the garden of an adjacent house.

Results

Prior to the evaluation commencing the turf and upper part of the topsoil had been removed to depths of between 0.05m (southeast corner of site) to 0.20m (northeast corner of site), exposing the lower part of the topsoil; this had been partially covered with rubble. Two trenches were excavated using a tracked excavator fitting with a 1.8m grading bucket in the part of the site not yet covered with rubble. The location of the trenches was determined by the Devon County Historic Environment Team.

Trench 1 measured 11m long and was aligned north-west to south-east. It contained a single 0.22m deep topsoil layer of grey-brown soft silty loam with very rare gravels, brick and lime fragment inclusions together with very rare industrial china. This layer overlaid the natural, which consisted of light reddish-brown sandy silty clay with patches of clay containing sub-rounded gravels. A more widespread band of gravels was exposed at the north-west end of the trench.

Trench 2 measured 17m long and was on a roughly north to south alignment. The topsoil, as exposed in trench 1, measured 0.30m deep, and overlaid natural consisting of light reddish-brown sandy silty clay with a wide band of pale buff-yellow clay at the southern end of the trench. Two drains, orientated on a north-west to south-east alignment disturbed the trench between 5.5m and 8.5m from the south end of the trench; one was stone filled, whilst the other consisted of ceramic pipes.

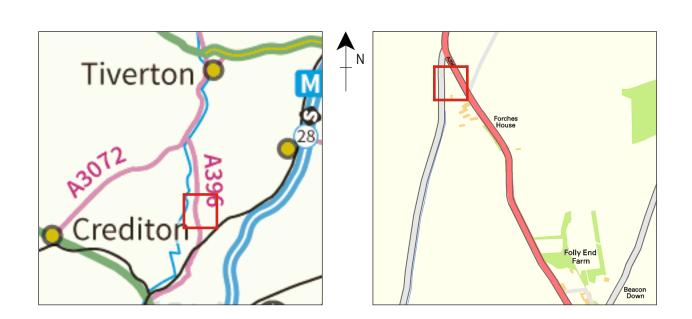
No archaeological features or deposits were exposed in either trench and no finds were recovered.

Comments

The shallow soil sequence comprised topsoil over natural deposits, which may indicate the land has previously been landscaped, perhaps when it became a garden to the house associated with the garage. No archaeological features or deposits were exposed, and no evidence was found for any prehistoric activity associated with the adjacent barrow.

This report and the associated OASIS entry represent the archive for the project.

Recorder:	Date Sent to HER:
Andrew Passmore, AC archaeology	21 October 2016



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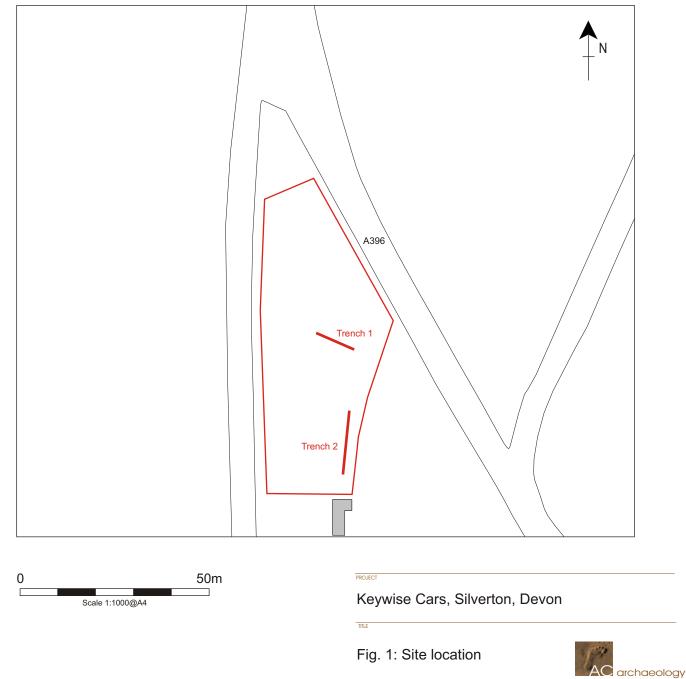




Fig. 1: General view of the site looking south. The depth of topsoil removal is visible to the rear of the cars.



Fig. 2: Trench 1, post-excavation view looking east (1m scale)



Fig. 3: Trench 2, post-excavation view looking south. The depth of topsoil removal closest to the scheduled barrow is visible to the rear of the cars, left of the trench (1m scale)



Fig. 4: Trench 2, west-facing section (1m scale)



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