HILL POND CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITE, CLYST ST MARY, DEVON

NGR SX9976 9084

Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

East Devon District Council Planning Reference 16/0412/FUL (Condition 5)

Prepared by: Chris Blatchford

On behalf of: Mr and Mrs Feast

Report No: ACD1468/2/0

Date: January 2017



Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Clyst St Mary, East Devon	National Grid Reference SX 9976 9084		Number:	
Subject: Hill Pond Caravan and Camping Site, Clyst St Mary, Devon: Results of archaeological monitoring and recording Photo attached Plates 1-3				
Planning Application no: 16/0412/FUL		Recipient museum: N/A		
OASIS ID: 274392		Temporary Museum Accession no: N/A		
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1468		Dates fieldwork undertaken: 3rd to18th October 2016		

Introduction

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out by AC Archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction two buildings to provide a reception and shower block and for storage and extension of hard standing at Hill Pond Caravan and Camping Site, Clyst St Mary, Devon (SX 9976 9084).

The site was located to the north of the A3052 and to the west of Hill Barton Business Park (Fig 1). It was positioned on a gradually-sloping west-facing hillside above the Grindle Brook at a height of 30m aOD (above Ordnance Datum). The underlying solid geology was comprised of Triassic Mudstone of the Exmouth Mudstone and Sandstone Formation (www.bgs.ac.uk).

The A3052 was a Roman road between Exeter and Charmouth. Immediately east of the application area archaeological investigations have been undertaken since 2009 as part of the expansion of the Hill Barton Business Park. Here evidence for Romano-British settlement activity has been recorded, as well as a small number of prehistoric pits. Investigations in the western part of the area (closest to the present site) were largely negative, but several undated, but possibly prehistoric pits were recorded.

Description of works (Fig. 1; Plates 1-3)

The monitored groundworks consisted of the bulk reduction within the footprint of the new buildings and the associated trackway using a tracked-machine. The area for the storage building was terraced into the slope, while the reception building comprised the excavation of footings trenches following a shallow topsoil strip. Footings trenches measured 0.5m wide and were dug to a depth of 1.1m below existing levels.

Natural subsoil, which comprised a mid brownish-red to red clay with rare sub-rounded gravel and pebble inclusions, was exposed at a depth of between 0.26m and 0.43m below existing levels. It was overlain by a 0.2m to 0.3m thick light reddish-brown silty-clay subsoil (101) and a 0.1m to 0.15m thick dark reddish-brown silty-clay loam topsoil (100).

No archaeological features or deposits were exposed by the work.

Finds by Naomi Payne

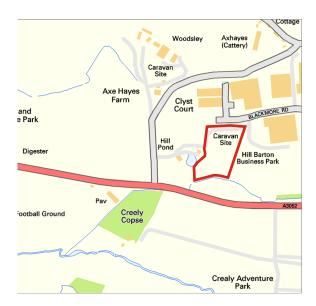
The only finds recovered from the site were four small sherds of industrially produced (post c. 1770) pottery from context 100, topsoil, and two pieces of worked flint from context 101, subsoil. One of the pieces of flint is a tertiary flake of opaque mottled mid-grey flint, which has been retouched on the ventral surface along part of both lateral sides. The other piece is also in mottled grey opaque flint, but does not have any retouch. These area likely to date from the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age periods.

Discussion

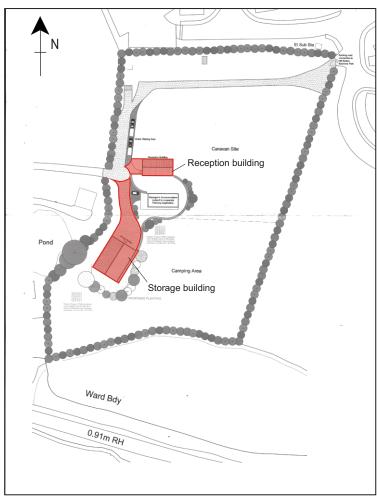
There was no evidence within the areas investigated for any pre-modern activity, with the recovery of the worked flints are likely to reflect the background to the previously-recorded prehistoric activity in the area.

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
Chris Blatchford, AC Archaeology	January 2017





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Based on drawing prepared by WD Architecture



Location of monitored groundworks

PROJEC

Land at Hill Pond caravan and camping site, Clyst St. Mary, Devon

Fig. 1: Location of site with areas of monitored groundworks shown





Plate 1: Pre-commenement view of site looking west (scale 1m)



Plate 2: Showing ground reduction for storage building. View to northeast (scales 2 x 1m)



Plate 3: Showing footings trenches for reception building. View to east (scales 2 x 1m)



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