

LAND AT SANDY PARK, EXETER, DEVON

(NGR SX 96423 90739)

Results of an Archaeological Trench Evaluation

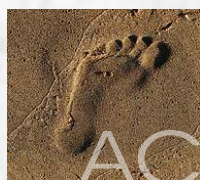
Exeter City Council Planning Permission Reference:
17/0665/OUT (Condition 14)

Prepared by:
Chris Blatchford

On behalf of:
Exeter Rugby Group PLC

Report No: ACD1987/2/0

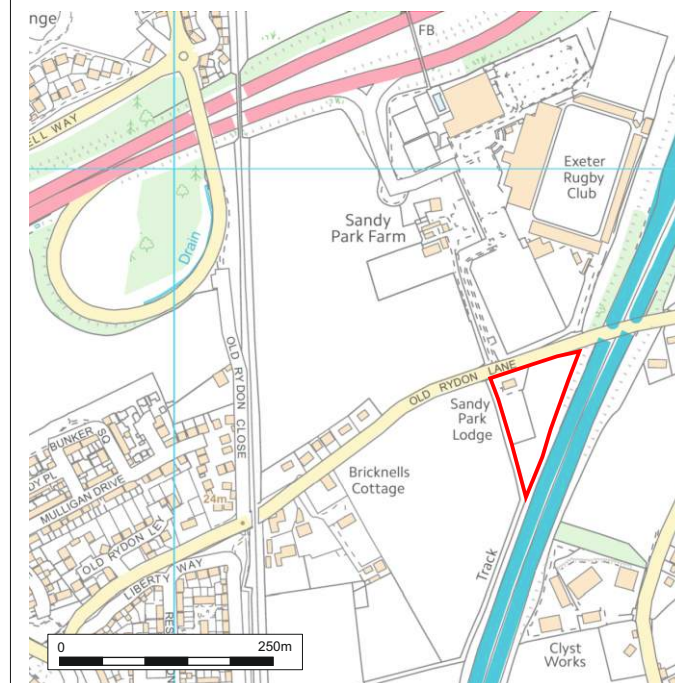
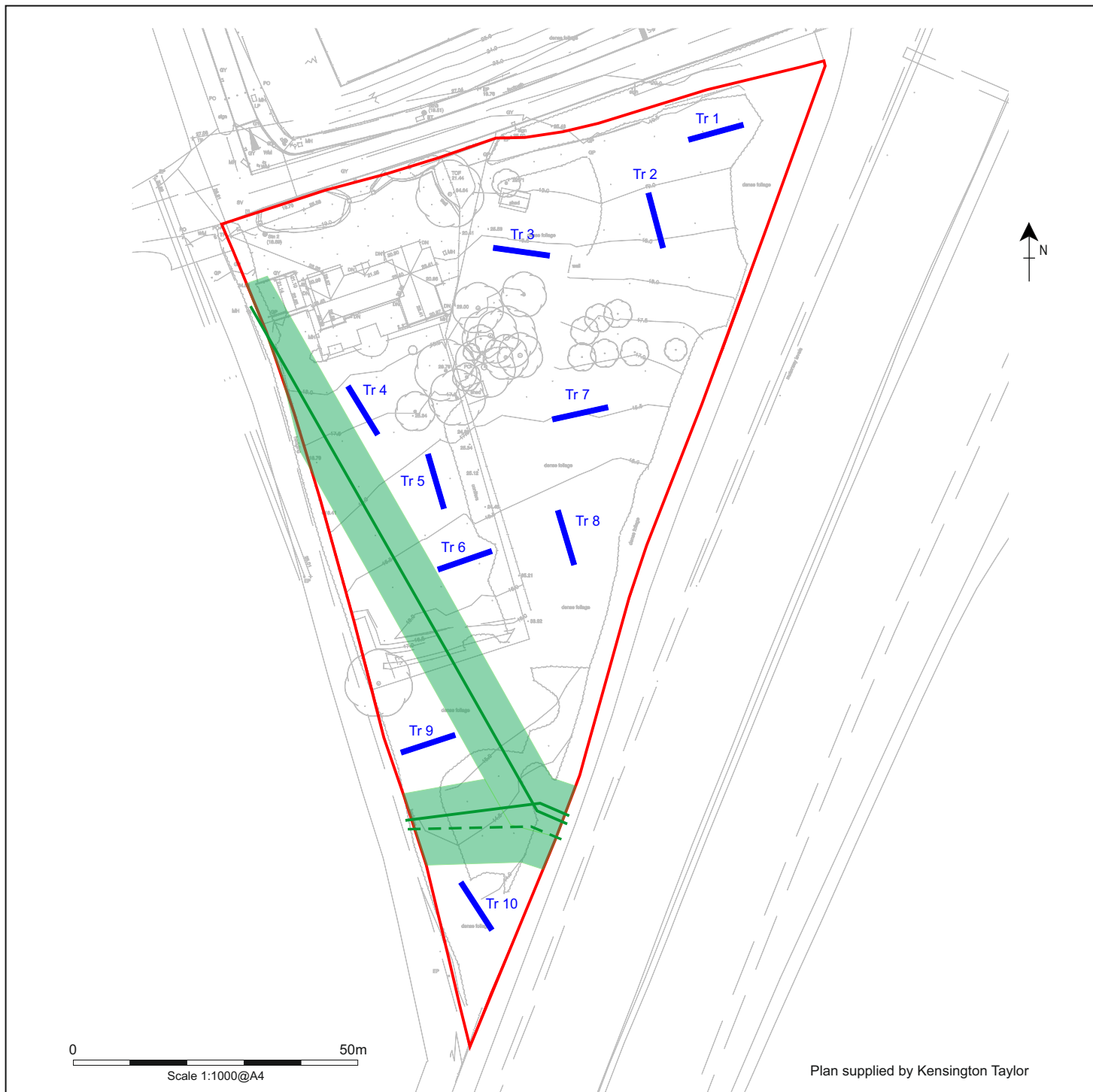
Date: April 2019



AC archaeology

Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish: Exeter	National Grid Reference: SX 96423 90739	Number:
Subject: Land at Sandy Park, Exeter, Devon: Results of an archaeological trench evaluation		Photo attached: Plates 1-3
Planning Application no: 17/0665/OUT (Condition 14)	Recipient museum: N/A	
OASIS ID: 347153	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's site code: ACD1987	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 20-22 March 2019	
<p>Introduction</p> <p>An archaeological trench evaluation was carried out on land at Sandy Park, Exeter, Devon (Fig. 1). It consisted of the machine excavation of ten trenches totalling 100m in length, with each trench 1.6m wide. The site lies to the south of Exeter Rugby Club and immediately west of the M5 Motorway. It currently comprises a large bungalow (Sandy Park Lodge) at the road frontage and a garden and grass-covered field behind. It lies on level ground at around 17m aOD (above Ordnance Datum), with the underlying solid geology comprising sandstone of the Dawlish Sandstone Formation (British Geological Survey Online Viewer 2019).</p> <p>A single heritage asset has been recorded within the site on the Devon Historic Environment Record (HER) and comprises a collection of prehistoric flint flakes containing a mixture of damaged and undiagnostic debitage and utilised flakes (HER ref. MDV60431). Further findspots of artefacts dating to the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods have been discovered to the southwest, while cropmarks identified from aerial photographic evidence have indicated the site of a ring ditch (MDV28623) and three possible enclosures of prehistoric to Romano-British date (MDVs 113336, 28624 & 113997).</p> <p>Results</p> <p>Across the site, natural subsoil composed of light reddish-yellow soft sand was exposed in most trenches at a depth of between 250mm and 850mm below existing levels, except in Trench 10 where it was exposed at a depth of 1.35m beneath an overburden probably derived from the cutting of the M5 motorway. In Trenches 1-9 the natural subsoil was overlain by a light brown sandy silt agricultural subsoil and this in turn was overlain by a dark brown loamy sand topsoil. No archaeological features or deposits were exposed.</p> <p>Note on the finds by Naomi Payne</p> <p>Finds from overlying deposits in Trenches 4 and 10 comprised two prehistoric worked flints and a small piece of modern pottery. The flint from Trench 4 (context 402) is a squat tertiary waste flake. The flint from Trench 10 (1002) is a secondary flake with some retouch at the distal end and along one lateral edge. This context also produced a small body sherd of 19th century willow pattern china.</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>The trial trenches contained no archaeological features or deposits. The finds of prehistoric worked flint from overlying deposits corresponds with the previously identified widespread use of the area in the late prehistoric period.</p>		
Recorder: Chris Blatchford, AC archaeology		Date sent to HER: 02 April 2019



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- Site Boundary
- Trial trenches
- SWW sewer pipe with 5m buffer



PROJECT

Land at Sandy Park, Exeter, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Location of site and trial trenches



Plate 1: General view of the site looking southwest, with Trench 1 in the foreground



Plate 2: General view of the site looking north, with Trench 10 in the foreground



Plate 3: Trench 4, looking southeast (1m scale)

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