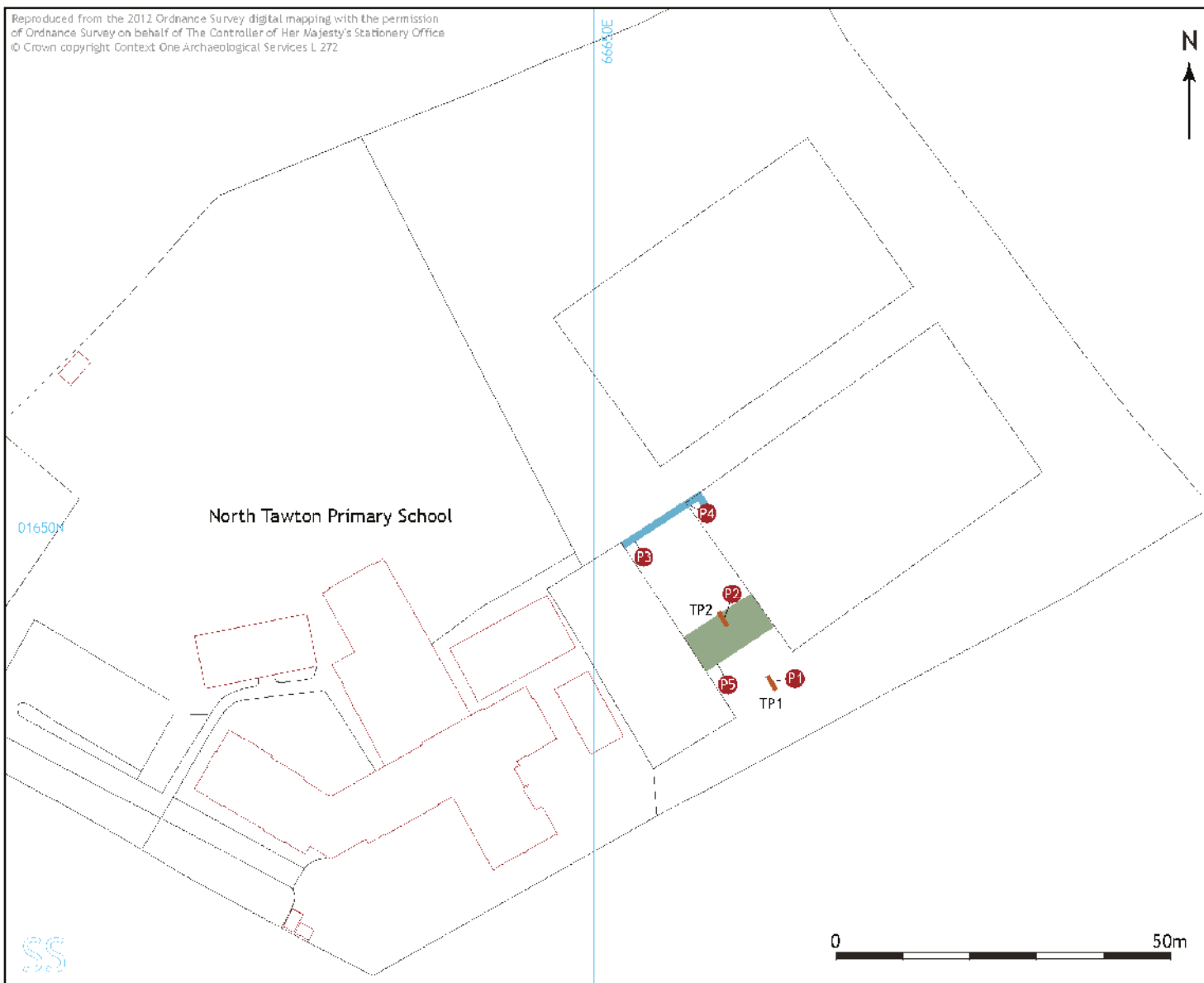


Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish: North Tawton	National Grid Reference SS 66661 01649	Number: (Leave blank)	
Subject: North Tawton Community Primary School, Exeter Street, North Tawton, Devon EX20 2HB Planning Application no: DCC/01498/2011: Condition No. 4		Plan/Photo attached? Y	
Description of works. Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks relating to the reinstatement of a hard surfaced playground following the installation of a double mobile classroom at North Tawton Community Primary School, Exeter Street, North Tawton, Devon (NGR SS 66661 01649; hereafter referred to as the Site). The project was commissioned and funded by NPS South West Ltd. The programme of works was requested by the Local Planning Authority (West Devon District Council) on the advice of Ms Cressida Whitton (Archaeologist, Devon County Historic Environment Service (HES)). In an Archaeological Brief, dated 8 th March 2011, Ms Whitton stated that: <i>"The proposal area for the new playground is on the existing playing field, which is marked as a field on the OS 1880s-1890s historic mapping. As this area of the school is previously undeveloped and close to the historic core of the town, any groundworks may impact on archaeological features/deposits associated with the medieval development of North Tawton, including the Scheduled Monument Motte and Bailey Castle which overlooks the school field."</i> It was therefore considered that archaeological features/deposits could be present on the Site, and that these could be damaged or destroyed by development. However, as the nature or presence of such features/deposits had not been proven on the basis of currently available information, it was determined that a reasonable archaeological response would be to carry out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (watching brief) during all ground disturbance associated with the development. A Written Scheme of Investigation for a <i>Programme of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording</i> (COAS 2011) was submitted to and approved by Ms Whitton. It was followed by desk-based research to place the Site within its historic and archaeological context. This work comprised map regression, based on the Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map(s) and Apportionments, examination of documentary records and assessment of air photographs held by the HER and HES. The collected data was assembled as a digital archive. Ms Whitton was kept fully informed during the project. It was not deemed necessary to make a monitoring visit to the Site. The request for the archaeological work followed advice given by Central Government as formerly set out in Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (2010) and the Local Development Framework Policy on Archaeology. The archaeological work consisted of monitoring the excavation of two test pits, foundations trenches and top soil stripping (Figure 1) and is described below.		Reference. COAS site code: COAS/WBF/11/NTS OASIS ID: contexto1-108354 Accession no: RAMM 11/51	Date. <i>of site visits</i> 01/09/2011 07/06/2012

<p>The location, extent and altitude of the archaeological work was mapped relative to the National Grid and Ordnance Datum using a handheld GPS unit capable of <12m and tape measures.</p> <p>Test pit 1 The topsoil comprised a dusky red friable silty sand including up to 6% small angular pebbles to a depth of up to 0.20m (100) (Figure 1, P1). It overlay a weaker red subsoil of similar make-up layer including up to 20% small angular pebbles to a depth of up to 0.20m (101). The natural (102) was of similar material but with a higher percentage of inclusions at ca. 40%, some of which were also larger. It was excavated to a depth of 2.4m</p> <p>Test pit 2 The topsoil (200) was similar to that in test pit 1 but deeper, reaching a depth of up to 0.40m (200) (Figure 1, P2). The subsoil (201) was also similar but slightly deep at up to 0.30m. The natural (202) was of indistinguishable from that in test pit 1. It was excavated to a depth of 2.4m</p> <p>Foundation trench Two representative profiles showing the sequence of soils were recorded in the c. 14m by 0.80m 'L'-shaped foundation trench. The depth varied from 0.60m to 0.80m. Profile 3 (Figure 1, P3) butted up to the existing playground foundation wall and Profile 4 was c. 10m to the north east (Figure 1, P4). A make-up layer (303) formed to a depth of up to 0.94m at the west end and up to 0.70m at the east, comprised re-deposited natural and included modern glass (not retained). It sealed a buried modern former topsoil (302) which ranged in depth from 0.18m to 0.23m. The former topsoil sealed a mid-reddish brown gravelly sandy clay including up to 20% pea grit which was only partially exposed in Profile 3 but reached natural (300) at c. 1.52m in Profile 4.</p> <p>Topsoil strip Profile 5 (Figure 1, P5), a sondage within a ca. 12m by ca. 6m rectangular area stripped of topsoil, revealed natural at a depth of ca. 0.50m at a point ca. 2m north east of the playground foundation wall, ca. 22m south of Profile 1. It was under buried modern topsoil (401), depth ca. 0.12m depth, which was sealed to a depth of ca. 0.35m by make-up layer and topsoil (400).</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were identified nor were any finds recovered during the investigation.</p>		
<p>Recorder Richard Tabor, Context One Archaeological Services Ltd.</p>	<p>Date sent to HER 16/03/2011</p>	



- TPX Location and number of testpits
- Foundation trench
- Topsoil strip
- PX Location and number of profile

PROJECT TITLE

North Tawton Community Primary School,
Exeter Street, Devon

FIGURE TITLE

Detailed site setting showing locations of
groundworks and archaeological recording

SCALE

as shown

PROJECT CODE

C1/WBF/11/NTS

FIGURE NO.

1



Plate 1. Test pits 1 and 2, and the playground (from SSE).



Plate 2. Test pit 1 profile (from SW; 1m scale)



Plate 3. North foundation trench and playground foundation wall (from NE; 1m scale)



Plate 4. Profile 4 (from NW; 1m scale)

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

Location: North Tawton Community Primary School
Parish: North Tawton
District: West Devon Borough
County: Devon
NGR: SS 666016

Planning Application no: DCC/3217/2011

North Tawton Community Primary School, Exeter Street, North Tawton, EX20 2HB

Proposal: Reinstatement of hard surfaced playground following installation of double mobile classroom accomodation

Historic Environment Service ref: ARCH/CM/WD 17958

1. INTRODUCTION AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

1.1 This brief has been prepared by the Devon County Council Historic Environment Service (HES) with regard to the archaeological works required as a condition of planning consent for the above works. This brief has been produced specifically for the above planning application and may require alteration if this application is revised, amended or resubmitted. This document is not transferable to any other scheme or planning application.

1.2 In accordance with PPS5 *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment* (2010), and the Local Development Framework Policy on archaeology, consent has been granted, conditional upon a programme of archaeological work being undertaken. This condition requires that:

'No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by West Devon Borough Council (WDBC) Planning Authority.' The development shall be carried out at all times in strict accordance with the approved scheme, or such other details as may be subsequently agreed in writing by WDBC Planning Authority.

1.3 The principal objective of the programme shall be to observe, investigate, excavate and record any surviving below-ground archaeological artefacts and deposits across the area affected by the proposed development.

1.4 The proposal area for the new playground is on the existing playing field, which is marked as a field on the OS 1880s-1890s historic mapping. As this area of the school is previously undeveloped and close to the historic core of the town, any groundworks may impact on archaeological features/deposits associated with the medieval development of North Tawton, including the Scheduled Monument Motte and Bailey Castle which overlooks the school field.

1.5 This Brief covers the application area as defined in the plans submitted in support of this application.

2. WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

2.1 This document sets out the scope of the works required to record the extent and character of any surviving archaeological deposits within the application area and will form the basis of the *Written Scheme of Investigation* (WSI) to be prepared by the archaeological consultant.

2.2 The Written Scheme of Investigation must be submitted by the applicant or on their behalf by their agent or archaeological consultant and approved by the HES and the **Local** Planning Authority *prior* to any development commencing on site.

3. PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

3.1 *Desk-based assessment*

The programme of work shall include an element of desk-based research to place the development site into its historic and archaeological context. This work will consist of map regression based on the Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map(s) and Apportionments. An examination will also be made of records and aerial photographs held by the HER. In addition, it will involve the examination of other *known* relevant cartographic, documentary and photographic sources held by the Devon Record Office, West Country Studies Library and the County Historic Environment Service. The reporting requirements for the desk-based work will be confirmed in consultation with the HES.

This desk-based work will be undertaken in advance of any fieldwork commencing.

If a full report is prepared then this information will be presented as part of the final report along with the results of the fieldwork.

3.2 Monitoring and Recording of Groundworks

Intermittent monitoring and recording (as and when seems appropriate and may involve viewing the trenches after machining)

Topsoil stripping and groundworks will be monitored and recorded by the site archaeologist at agreed and appropriate intervals throughout the groundworks phase of the construction programme. The intervals will be determined by the archaeological consultant in consultation with the applicant, the ground-workers and the HES and set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation.

3.3 Archaeological features and deposits will be cleaned and excavated by hand and will be fully recorded by context as per the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (1994 - revised 2008). All features shall be recorded in plan and section at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50. All scale drawings shall be undertaken at a scale appropriate to the complexity of the deposit/feature and to allow accurate depiction and interpretation.

As a minimum:

- i) small discrete features will be fully excavated;
- ii) larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated); and
- iii) long linear features will be sample excavated along their length - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.

Should the above % excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts.

Any variation of the above will be undertaken in agreement with the HES.

3.4 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts.

3.5 Should deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements appropriate sampling and post-excavation analysis strategies will be initiated. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits - if required. On-site sampling and post-excavation assessment and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with English Heritage's guidance in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation 2002*.

3.6 In the event of particularly significant discoveries, the HES will be informed and a site meeting between the consultant, the HES and the client/applicant to determine the appropriate mitigation.

3.7 An adequate photographic record of the excavation will be prepared. This will include photographs illustrating the principal features and finds discovered, in detail and in context. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. All photographs of archaeological detail will feature an appropriately-sized scale. The photographic record should be made in B/W print supplemented by digital or colour transparency. However, if digital imagery is to be the sole photographic record then suitably archivable prints must be made of the digital images by a photographic laboratory. Laser or inkjet prints of digital images, while acceptable for inclusion in the report, are not an acceptable medium for archives. The drawn and written record will be on an appropriately archivable medium.

3.8 Human remains must initially be left in-situ, covered and protected. Removal can only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal must be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.

3.9 Should any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or prehistoric metalwork, be exposed, these will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2nd Revision). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

3.10 The results of the desk-based work and a copy of the agreed Written Scheme of Investigation must be made available to the site director/supervisor to enable the adequate interpretation of exposed features/deposits during fieldwork and that the agreed programme of works is understood and undertaken.

4. MONITORING

4.1 The archaeological consultant shall agree monitoring arrangements with the HES and give two weeks notice, unless a shorter period is agreed, of commencement of the fieldwork. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made.

4.2 Monitoring will continue until the deposition of the site archive and finds, and the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report - see 5.5 below.

4.3 The archaeological contractor undertaking the fieldwork will notify the HES upon completion of the fieldwork stage of these works.

5. REPORTING

5.1 The reporting requirements will be confirmed with the HES on completion of the site work. In the event that few or no archaeological remains are exposed, only minimal reporting would be required. The results may be presented in the form of a short entry to the Historic Environment Record (HER), sent to the HES either digitally or as a hard-copy. If archaeological deposits or remains are exposed during the course of the works, then more detailed reporting would be required, in the form of an illustrated summary report submitted both in hard-copy and digitally and, if merited, wider publication.

5.2 Upon completion of the fieldwork and required post-excavation analysis an illustrated report will be prepared. The report will collate the written, graphic, visible and recorded information outlined in section 3 above.

The report will include:

- (i) a summary of the project's background;
- (ii) description and illustration of the site location;
- (iii) a methodology of the works undertaken;
- (iv) include plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
- (v) a description of the project's results;
- (vi) an interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- (vii) a summary of the contents of the project archive and its location (including summary catalogues of finds and samples);
- (viii) a site location plan at an appropriate scale on an Ordnance Survey, or equivalent, base-map;
- (ix) a plan showing the location of the areas subject to the archaeological work and the exposed features and deposits in relation to the site boundaries;
- (x) detailed plans of areas of the site in which archaeological features are recognised along with adequate OD spot height information. These should be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans must show the site and features/deposits in relation to north. Archaeologically sterile areas need not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- (xi) section drawings of deposits and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile areas need not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeoenvironmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- (xii) site matrices where appropriate;

- (xiii) photographs showing the general site layout and exposed significant features and deposits that are referred to in the text. All photographs should contain appropriate scales, the size of which will be noted in the illustration's caption;
- (xiv) a consideration of evidence within its wider context;
- (xv) a summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- (xvi) specialist assessment or analysis reports where undertaken;
- (xvii) an evaluation of the methodology employed and the results obtained (i.e. a confidence rating).

It is recommended that a draft report is submitted to the HES for comment prior to its formal submission to WDBC Planning Authority.

5.3 The timetable for the production of the report must be set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation. The HES would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork - dependant upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HES must be informed of this and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HES and the archaeological contractor. If a substantial delay is anticipated then an interim report will be produced within three months of the completion of the fieldwork.

5.4 Should the development proceed in a staged manner, with each stage requiring archaeological fieldwork, and where a period of more than three months between each stage is anticipated or occurs, then the archaeological contractor shall prepare an interim illustrated summary report at the end of each stage. The report will set out the results of that phase of archaeological works, including the results of any specialist assessment or analysis undertaken. The report will be produced within three months of completion of each phase of fieldwork. At the completion of the final stage of the fieldwork an overarching report setting out the results of all stages of work will be prepared. HES would normally expect to receive the report within three months of completion of fieldwork - dependant upon the provision of specialist reports, radiocarbon dating results etc the production of which may exceed this period. If a substantial delay is anticipated then the HES must be informed of this, an interim report will be produced within three months of the completion of the final stage of fieldwork, and a revised date for the production of the full report agreed between the HES and the archaeological contractor.

5.5 On completion of the final report, in addition to copies required by the Client, hard copies of the report shall be supplied to the HES on the understanding that one of these copies will be deposited for public reference in the HER. In addition to the hard copies of the report, one copy shall be provided to the County Historic Environment Service in digital format - in a format to be agreed in advance with the HES - on the understanding that a digital version of the report may in future be made available to researchers via a web-based version of the Historic Environment Record.

5.6 The archaeological consultant shall complete an online OASIS (*Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological investigationS*) form in respect of the archaeological work. This will include a digital version of the report. The report or short entry to the Historic Environment Record will also include the OASIS ID number.

5.7 *Publication*

Should particularly significant archaeological remains, finds and/or deposits be encountered, then these, because of their importance, are likely to merit wider publication in line with government planning guidance (PPS5). If such remains are encountered, the publication requirements – including any further analysis that may be necessary – will be confirmed with the HES.

6. PERSONNEL

6.1 The work shall be carried out by a recognised archaeological consultant, agreed with the DCHES. Staff must be suitably qualified and experienced for their project roles. All work should be carried out under the control of a specified Member of the Institute for Archaeologists (MIFA), or by a specified person of equivalent standing and expertise. The Written Scheme of Investigation will contain details of key project staff and specialists who may contribute during the course of the works - excavation and post-excavation.

6.2 Health and Safety matters, including site security, are matters for the consultant. However, adherence to all relevant regulations will be required.

6.3 The work shall be carried out in accordance with *IfA Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief (1994)*, as amended (2008).

7. DEPOSITION OF ARCHIVE AND FINDS

7.1 The archaeological consultant shall contact the Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, to obtain a reference number in order to agree future conditions for deposition of the site archive. The reference number must be quoted in the Written Scheme of Investigation and within the final report or the short entry to the Historic Environment Record.

7.2 Archaeological finds resulting from the investigation (which are the property of the landowner), should be deposited with the appropriate museum - in a format to be agreed with the museum, and within a timetable to be agreed with the HES. The museum's guidelines for the deposition of archives for long-term storage should be adhered to. If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with the landowner, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists.

7.3 The artefact discard policy must be set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation.

7.4 The condition placed upon this development will not be regarded as discharged until the report has been produced and submitted to the HES and the LPA, the site archive deposited and the OASIS form submitted.

8. CONTACT NAME AND ADDRESS

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