

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Bicton & East Devon	National Grid Reference SY 06867 86758	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Bicton College, East Budleigh, Colaton Raleigh		Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: DCC/3460/2012	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery	
OASIS ID: contexto1-132082	Museum Accession no: RAMM 12/72	
Contractor's reference number/code: C1/EVA/12/BEB	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 6 th -7 th June and 17 th -19 th September 2013	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on an area of land at Bicton College, East Budleigh, Colaton Raleigh, East Devon. The project was commissioned and funded by NPS (South West) Ltd. The request for the archaeological works was made by Mr Stephen Reed (Archaeological Officer, Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (HET)) following a consultation request from the Local Planning Authority (LPA), in advance of granting planning permission for the proposed relocation of Millwater School. In a brief for a staged programme of archaeological investigation and mitigation (dated 25th June 2012) Mr Reed stated:</p> <p><i>'The proposed development site lies in an area of archaeological potential. Findspots of prehistoric and medieval metal artefacts are recorded in the Historic Environment Record (HER) to the east of this area and prehistoric activity in the vicinity is demonstrated by funerary monuments to the north. The historic OS maps of the site show there to be buildings on the western edge of the area marked on your plan - these are no longer present and their age and nature is not recorded in the HER. Groundworks associated with the development of this site have the potential to expose and destroy archaeological and artefactual material associated with the prehistoric and later activity here.'</i></p> <p>The first phase of archaeological work comprised a desk-based appraisal of archaeological and historical data recorded within a 150m radius of the Site. The data was assembled in a digitised pack and included historic map regression based on Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map and accompanying apportionment. In addition, other known relevant cartographic, documentary and photographic sources held by the Devon Record Office, West Country Studies Library and the Devon County HER were examined.</p> <p>The Site is situated at the northern periphery of Bicton College, within the Grade I listed Historic Park at Bicton (ref: 1000338) (see Figure 1). At the time of the investigation, the Site was divided into four areas separated by hedges; from the west these comprised allotments (Plate 1), a scrub area with a greenhouse and small building, a grassed area and a garden area with a large glasshouse and car park (Plate 2). The Site is bordered to the north by vegetation and to the west by a path with open fields beyond, to the south by a path separating the Site from the Arboretum and to the east a road separating the Site from the Grade II* Listed walled garden (ref: 1334023) (see COAS report C1/SBR/13/GBD on the historic glasshouses).</p> <p>Eleven trenches were excavated by machine across the proposed development impact area. Trenches 1, 2, 5, 6, 7 and 8 measured 30m by 1.5m, Trench 4 measured 30m by 1.5m, Trench 9 measured 10m by 1.5m, Trenches 10 and 11 measured 30m by 1.8m and Trench 12 measured 20m by 1.8m. Trench 3 was not excavated. No archaeological evidence was encountered in any of the trenches and no artefacts were observed, although a modern field drain was noted in Trench 5 and a few flower bed linings were encountered within the subsoil in Trenches 4 and 7. A profile of the stratigraphic sequence of deposits was recorded in each trench (Figure 1) and these demonstrated that the deposit sequences were similar in Trenches 1 and 2 (Plate 3); in Trenches 4, 5, 6 and 7 (Plate 4); in Trenches 8, 10, 11 and 12 (Plate 5); while in Trench 9 the topsoil directly overlay the natural geology (Plate 6). The stratigraphic sequence consisted of:</p> <p>Trenches 1 & 2:</p> <p>0 – 0.30/0.80m Light greyish brown soft silt topsoil with moderate gravel and small stones</p>		

0.30/0.80 – 1.20/1.40m	Light greyish brown soft silt subsoil with 10-20% gravel and small stones
1.20/1.40 – 1.40/1.70m	Light brownish red compacted silt sand natural with 50-60% small and medium stones
1.40/1.70 – 2.00m+	Light red soft sand natural

Trenches 4, 5, 6, 7:

0 – 0.10/0.50m	Light greyish brown soft silt topsoil with moderate gravel and small stones
0.10/0.50 – 0.30/1.30m	Light yellowish brown firm silt sand subsoil
0.30/1.30 – 1.50m+	Light red soft sand natural

Trench 8, 10, 11, 12:

0 – 0.30m	Mid brown soft silt topsoil
0.30 – 0.60/0.70m	Mid dark brown soft/ friable silt subsoil
0.60/0.70 – 1.20m+	Orangey red soft/ firm sand natural

Trench 9:

0 – 0.50m	Light greyish brown soft silt topsoil with moderate gravel and small stones
0.50 – 0.80m	Light red soft sand natural

A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.

Recorder: Cheryl Green

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd.

Date sent to HER:

26/11/2013

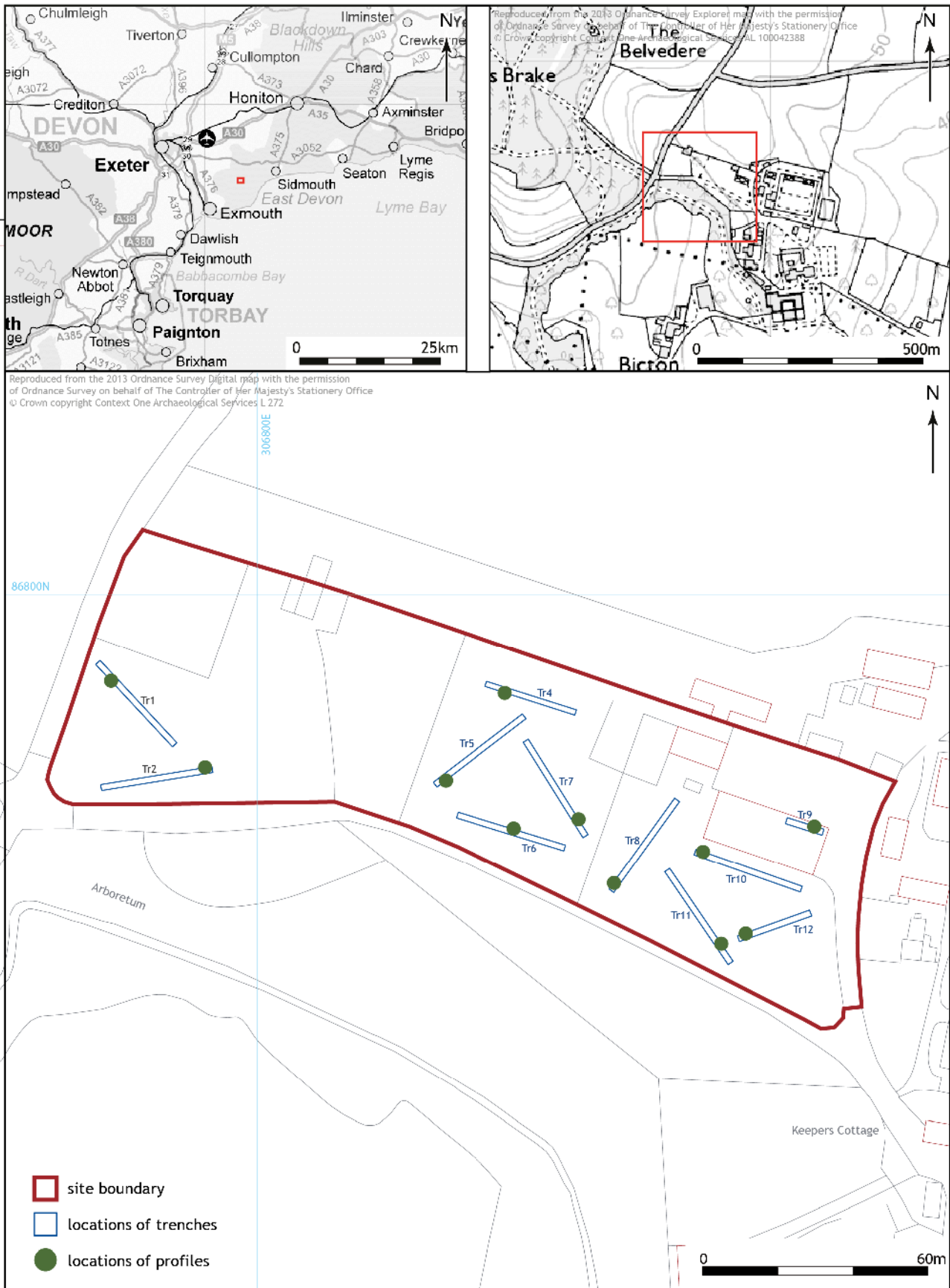


Figure 1: Detailed site setting showing evaluation trenches and profiles



Plate 1. General view of east end of Site (from SE; no scale)



Plate 2. General view of west end of Site (from SEE; no scale)



Plate 3. Tr 1 (from NW; 1m scale)



Plate 4. Tr 5 (from SW; 1m scale)



Plate 5. Tr 10 (from W; 2 x 1m scale)



Plate 6. Trench 12 (from N; 2 x 1m scale)

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