

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Bow and Mid Devon	National Grid Reference SS 71902 01487	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Land at NGR 271902 101487 (Land to the north of Bow Mill Lane and west of Godfreys Gardens)		Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: 13/01207/FULL	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery	
OASIS ID: contexto1-162607	Museum Accession no: RAMM 13/64	
Contractor's reference number/code: C1/EVA/13/GGB	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 12 th December 2013	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an archaeological evaluation on an area of land at NGR 271902 101487 (Land to the north of Bow Mill Lane and west of Godfreys Gardens), Bow, Mid Devon. The project was commissioned and funded by Hastoe Homes Ltd. The request for the archaeological works was made by Mr Stephen Reed (Archaeological Officer, Devon County Council Historic Environment Team (HET)) in support of a planning application relating to the erection of 6 affordable dwellings with associated access road, parking areas and drainage. A Brief for the works was compiled by Mr Reed (HES ref. ARCH/DM/MD/20943) in which it was stated:</p> <p><i>"The proposed development site lies in an area of archaeological potential in a landscape where prehistoric activity is recorded in the Historic Environment Record held by this office. While there are no known archaeological sites within the proposed development area, as indicated in the plan submitted to this office, because of the widespread known prehistoric archaeological site in the vicinity any groundworks here associated with the construction of new dwellings and their associated infrastructure have the potential to expose and destroy any archaeological or artefactual material that may be present within the site."</i></p> <p>The first phase of archaeological work comprised a desk-based appraisal of known archaeological and historical data for the Site and environs. This included the examination of the Devon Historic Environment Record (HER), historic map regression based on Ordnance Survey maps and the Tithe Map, with accompanying apportionment.</p> <p>The Site is located to the south-west of the village of Bow (see Figure 1). At the time of the investigation, the Site occupied the southern end of a large field bordered by Bow Mill Lane to the south and the modern housing estate of Godfrey Gardens to the east (Plate 1). The field formed part of a series of medieval strip fields evident on historic mapping with the area characterised as 'medieval strip enclosures based on strip fields' (Devon Historic Landscape Characterisation).</p> <p>Two trenches were excavated by machine across the proposed development impact area. With the agreement of Mr Reed a third trench was not excavated due to the archaeologically sterile nature of the first two trenches.</p> <p>Both trenches measured 20m in length and were excavated to a depth of approximately 2.5m due to the presence of deep colluvium; each trench was stepped to a maximum width of 4.3m to stabilise the edges with the base of Trench 2 measuring 1.8m wide (Plate 2) and the base of Trench 3 measuring 2.8m wide.</p> <p>No archaeological evidence was encountered in either trench and no artefacts were observed. A profile of the stratigraphic sequence was recorded in each trench (Figure 1) demonstrating an identical deposit of brownish red colluvium (sand 70%, clay 20%, silt 10%) above natural bedrock (Plates 3 & 4). In trench 2 the colluvium measured 2.5m deep while in trench 3 it measured 2m deep.</p>		
Recorder: Cheryl Green Context One Archaeological Services Ltd.	Date sent to HER: 28/01/2014	

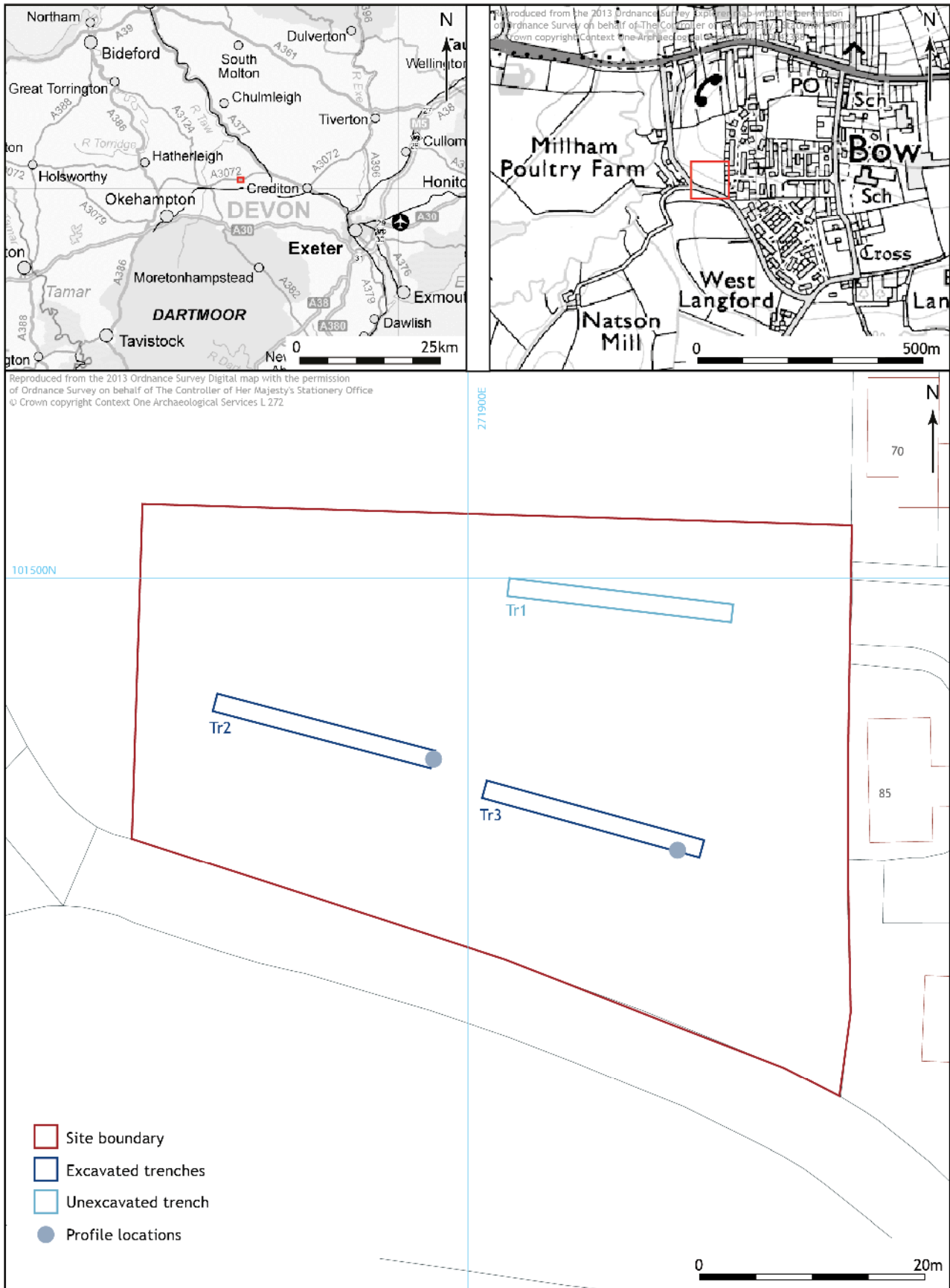


Figure 1: Detailed site setting showing evaluation trenches and profiles



Plate 1. General view of Site with Godfrey Gardens to the east (from W; 1m scale)



Plate 2. Tr 2 (from E; no scale)



Plate 3. Tr 2 profile (from W; 1m scale)



Plate 4. Tr 3 profile (from N; 1m scale)

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