

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish: Exminster	National Grid Reference Centred on SX 94756 87079	Number: (Leave blank)
Subject: Land behind No 9 Higher Aboveway, Exminster, Devon.		Plan/Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: 15/00410/OUT	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	
OASIS ID: contexto1-246978	Museum Accession no: RAMM: 16/09	
Contractor's reference code: C1/EVA/16/HED	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 6 th May 2016	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out a programme of archaeological works comprising an Archaeological Field Evaluation through trial trenching on Land behind No 9 Higher Aboveway, Exminster, Devon (The 'Site'). The evaluation replaced a planning condition relating to archaeological monitoring and recording placed on planning approval for the proposed construction of a new dwelling. The project was commissioned by Partridge Estate Agents, on behalf of their client, Mrs Hexter.</p> <p>The programme of archaeological works was advised by Mr Stephen Reed (Archaeologist, Devon County Council Historic Environment Team) as the proposed development lies in an area of archaeological potential. A prehistoric enclosure is located in the field to the south, and archaeological works undertaken on the site of the Sentrays Farm development directly east of the Site have identified archaeological deposits dated as prehistoric and AD 8th-10th century, indicating activity in the vicinity during these periods.</p> <p>The first phase of archaeological work constituted a desk-based appraisal of archaeological and historical data recorded within a 250m radius of the Site. The data was assembled in a digitised pack and included map regression incorporating Tithe and Ordnance Survey maps.</p> <p>The archaeological evaluation comprised the excavation of two open cut trenches, measuring 5m x 1.6m (TR1) and 15m x 1.6m (TR2) (Figure 1) using a 360 degree tracked machine equipped with a toothless bucket. The trenches were located over the footprint of the proposed house and garage.</p> <p>The exposed stratigraphic sequences consisted of:</p> <p>Trench 1 (Plate 1) 0 – 0.20m Greyish red (10R 4/2) silty clay - topsoil (101) 0.20m - 0.75m Dark red (10R 3/4) silty clay - subsoil (102) 0.75m – 0.95m Red (10R 4/8) silty clay with sands – Natural (103)</p> <p>Trench 2 (Plate 2) 0 – 0.25m Reddish brown (10R 4/4) silty sand - topsoil (201) 0.25m – 0.50m Reddish brown (10R 3/3) silty clay - subsoil (202) 0.50m – 0.80m Dark red (10R 3/4) silty clay with sand – subsoil (203) 0.80m – 0.90m Red (10R 4/6) soft silty clay with sands – Natural (204)</p> <p>No archaeological features or deposits were exposed nor were any finds observed or recovered.</p> <p>Given the direct interface between the topsoil, subsoil and natural it is likely that no archaeology was present in the areas tested, although it is possible that previous landscaping activity has removed any remains that may have been present.</p> <p>A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.</p>		

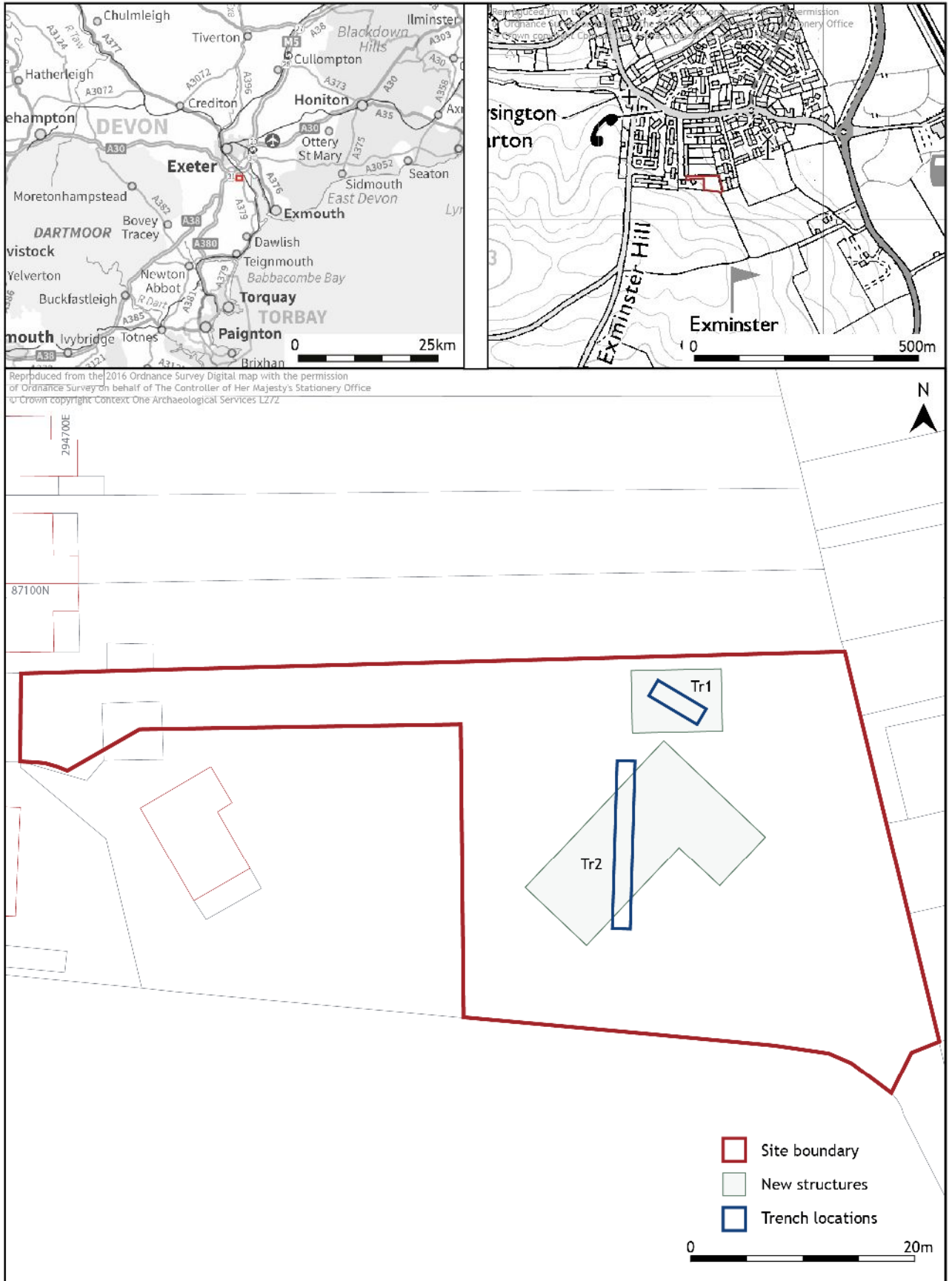


Figure 1. Site, trench and proposed development location



Plate 1. Trench 1 (from NW; 1m scales)



Plate 2. Trench 2 (from S; 1m scales)

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