## Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish: Tiverton	National Grid Reference SS 95732 12904		Number: (Leave blank)	
Subject: Land at 12 Martins Lane, Tiverton, Devon				Plan/Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: 16/01596/PREAPP		Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum		
OASIS ID: contexto1-290327		Museum Accession no: RAMM: 17/46		
Contractor's reference code: C1/EVA/17/MTD		Dates fieldwork undertaken: 28th July 2017		

## Description of works.

Context One Heritage & Archaeology (C1) carried out an archaeological field evaluation through trial trenching to accompany a planning application for the construction of a new dwelling. The project was commissioned and funded by the site owner, Ms M Octigan. The evaluation was requested by Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) on the advice of the Devon Historic Environment Service (HES) as the proposed development lay within an area of archaeological potential within the historic core of Tiverton.

The Site covered *c*. 760 square metres, located *c*. 500m north-west of the centre of Tiverton in a residential neighbourhood. The Site was situated on level ground at an average height of *c*. 79m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The recorded geology for the Site is Tidcombe Sand Member – Sandstone (BGS, 2017). The soils are characterised as freely draining slightly acid and loamy (CSAIS, 2017). The Site currently comprises a lawn area with some tree/vegetation cover. A desk-based appraisal of archaeological and historical data recorded within a 500m radius of the Site and map regression incorporating the Tithe and Ordnance Survey maps indicated that there were numerous recorded heritage assets for the medieval and subsequent periods within the area; the Historic Environment Record also indicated modest evidence for earlier activity including prehistoric and Roman finds. The historic maps indicated that the Site had been a garden area to the rear of buildings since at least 1842 as depicted on the Tithe map of this date.

The archaeological field evaluation consisted of three trenches, each measuring 6m long x 1.6m wide and representing 4% of the proposal area. The trenches were laid out according to a pre-defined trench plan (see **Figure 1**), although Trench 3 had to be moved slightly to the west to avoid a patio. Descriptions of profiles are included below.

The exposed stratigraphic sequences consisted of:

Trench 1,2 & 3 (**Plate 1, 2, 3**)

0- 0.50m Topsoil – Soft reddish black (2.5/1 YR) sandy silty clay with occasional angular sandstone pebbles <0.01m.

0.50m - 0.70m Subsoil – Friable reddish brown (2.5 YR 4/4) silty clay with moderate rounded to angular sandstone pebbles.

>0.70m Natural – Firm red (2.5 YR 5/6) sandy silt with frequent rounded and angular sandstone pebbles.

Despite the proximity of the Site to findspots of material from several periods, no archaeological deposits were exposed nor were any finds observed or recovered. Given the apparent lack of disturbance of the subsoil and natural deposits it would appear that there was no substantial activity prior to it becoming a garden in the earlier 19<sup>th</sup> century.

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:	Date sent to HER
Clare Randall, Context One Archaeological Services Ltd.	09/08/2017

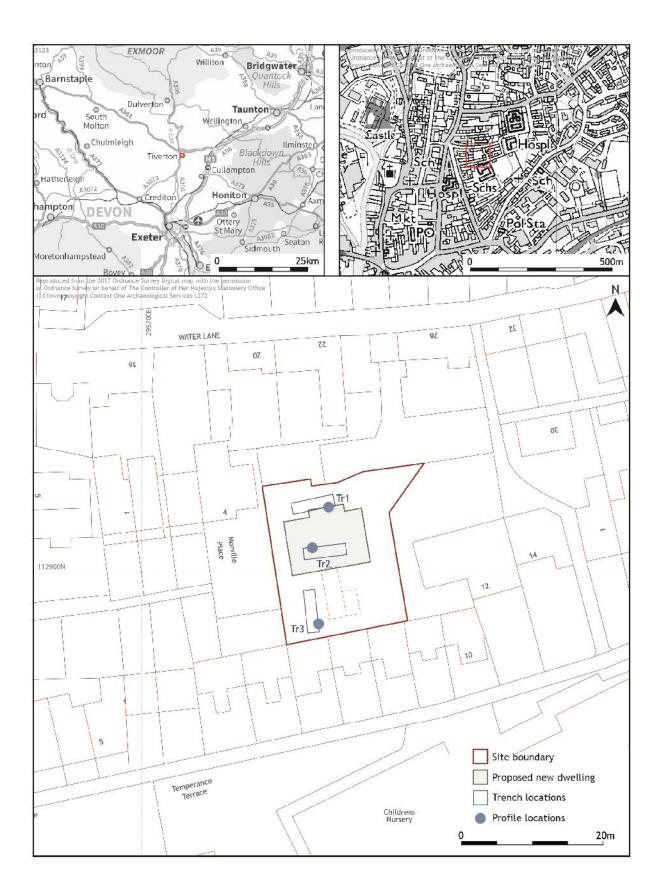




Plate 1. Trench 1 (facing W; 1m scales)



Plate 2 Trench 2 (facing W; 1m scales)



Plate 3 Trench 3 (facing NNW; 1m scales)

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Please email the completed form to: archaeol@devon.gov.uk or post to Historic Environment Service, Devon County Council, Lucombe House, County Hall, Exeter EX2 4QD. Information recorded on this form will be added to the Historic Environment Record, and be made available to researchers.

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