

## List entry Summary

**This monument is scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended as it appears to the Secretary of State to be of national importance**

**Name:** **Linear round barrow cemetery at Castle Park, Alphington**

**List entry Number:** 1012347

Location

The monument may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

<b>County</b>	<b>District</b>	<b>District Type</b>	<b>Parish</b>
Devon	Teignbridge	District Authority	Exminster

**Date first scheduled:** 31-Jul-1991

## Legacy System Information

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

**Legacy System:** RSM

**UID:** 10625

## List entry Description

Summary of Monument

Reasons for Designation

**Round barrow cemeteries date to the Bronze Age (c.2000-700 BC).** They comprise closely-spaced groups of up to 30 round barrows - rubble or earthen mounds covering single or multiple burials. Most cemeteries developed over a considerable period of time, often many centuries, and in some cases acted as a focus for burials as late as the early medieval period. They exhibit considerable diversity of burial rite, plan and form, frequently including several different types of round barrow, occasionally associated with earlier long barrows. Where large scale investigation has been undertaken around them, contemporary or later "flat" burials between the barrow mounds have often been revealed. Round barrow cemeteries occur across most of lowland Britain, with a marked concentration in Wessex. In some cases, they are clustered around other important contemporary monuments such as henges. Often occupying prominent locations, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape, whilst their diversity and their longevity as a monument type provide important information on the variety of beliefs and social organisation amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving or partly-surviving examples are considered worthy of protection.

**This example at Castle Park is particularly significant in that it is unparalleled in Devon and extends the known national distribution of linear round barrow cemeteries.**

## History

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Details

**This round barrow cemetery lies 200m west of Matford Barton, near the brow of a slope which descends southwards to Matford Brook. It consists of a group of at least nine barrows in linear arrangement, extending for some 150m westwards from the largest, easternmost barrow.**

**Apart from the largest barrow the cemetery is a flat site, its extent having been revealed by aerial photography. The eastern barrow is 44m by 40m in diameter and 1.5m in height. Aerial photographs show that it has a perimeter ditch and a central circular feature approximately 10m in diameter. This central feature is thought to be a burial. When ploughed, the soil is**

noticeably more stony over this area than elsewhere in the field. The other eight barrows are visible from aerial photographs, but cannot be traced visibly at ground level; they appear as a closely, but irregularly spaced linear group of ring ditches from c.4m to - c.16m in diameter. The public footpath along the northern field boundary is not included in the scheduling.

MAP EXTRACT The site of the monument is shown on the attached map extract. It includes a 2 metre boundary around the archaeological features, considered to be essential for the monument's support and preservation.

Selected Sources

1. **Other Reference** - Title: Devon County SMR SX 98 NW-011 - Type: SMR

National Grid Reference: SX 92119 89196

Map

