

## Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Culmstock, Mid Devon	<b>National Grid Reference:</b> ST 1014 1352	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological monitoring and recording at Town Hill Cottage, Culmstock, Devon.		<b>Photo attached:</b> Y
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 18/00562/HOUSE	<b>Recipient museum:</b> n/a	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> oakforda1-353406	<b>Museum Reference no:</b> n/a	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> OA1534	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 01/05/2019	
<p><b>Background</b> An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology for the clients in May 2019 on works associated with the erection of a two-storey extension at Town Hill Cottage, Culmstock, Devon (ST 1014 1352). The work is required by the local planning authority Mid Devon District Council (MDDC), as advised by the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET). The site is located within the historic core of the village of Culmstock, some 90m to the west of the Grade II* Listed 15<sup>th</sup> century parish church of All Saints. The village is first mentioned in an Anglo-Saxon charter of 938AD and the proposed development is therefore located in an area of clear archaeological potential. In addition, early 19<sup>th</sup> century mapping shows development along Town Hill.</p> <p><b>Description of the works</b> A watching brief (Fig. 2, Pls. 1-2) was maintained during the excavation of the new foundations for the extension. The works revealed a simple deposit sequence consisting of a 0.3m thick dark brown black sandy clay topsoil (100) overlying a 0.25m thick mid-reddish-brown sandy clay subsoil (102). This in turn overlay a light to mid-orange yellow sandy clay natural subsoil (102).</p> <p>A very small collection of archaeological material was recovered from the topsoil (100), including 2 sherds of 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century redware coarsewares and 12 sherds of industrial whitewares including cream ware and Staffordshire transfer printed ware.</p> <p><b>Conclusion:</b> No features, deposits or dating evidence were found to indicate archaeological activity within the area of the development. It is possible that the continuous building frontage shown on the 1841 Culmstock Tithe map is in fact a simplification of the building arrangements at the time, as these properties were in fact tithe exempt and there was no need to show them in great detail. Other areas within the row of buildings were not infilled until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. This is the only report on the works.</p> <p><b>OASIS entry</b> Due to the limited nature of the findings a project archive will not be produced. A summary of the investigations has been submitted to the on-line archaeological database OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological InterventionS).</p>		
<b>Recorder:</b> MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)		<b>Date sent to HER:</b>



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Fig. 1 Location of site.



Uffculme Road

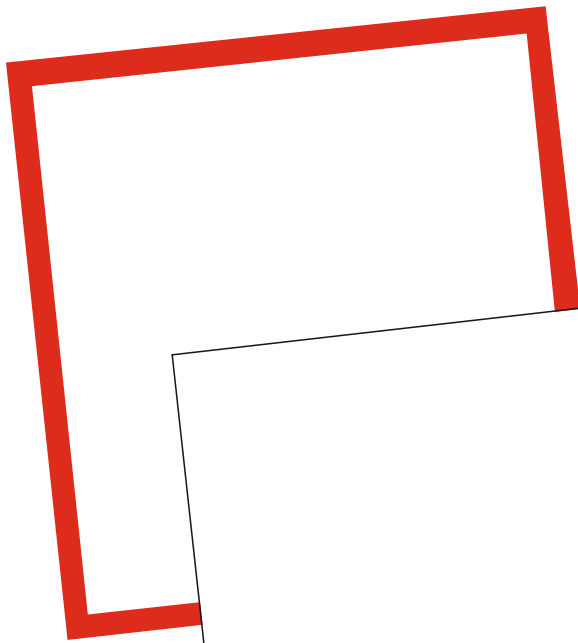


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of observations.



Pl. 1 General view of excavations. 1m scales. Looking north.



Pl. 2 General view of excavations showing extensive garden soil (100). 1m scales. Looking east.