



making sense of heritage

Proposed Ambulance Operations Centre Skypark, Clyst Honiton, Devon

Archaeological Watching Brief Report



Ref: 100860.02
November 2013

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: East Devon	National Grid Reference 299617 94227	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: Archaeological monitoring of land at the Ambulance Operations Centre, Exeter Skypark, Clyst Honiton, Devon.		Photo attached? N
Planning Application no: 13/0602/MFUL	Recipient museum: RAMM	
OASIS ID: wessexar1-163778	Museum Accession no: 13/48	
Contractor's reference number/code: 100860	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 08/2013 – 10/2013	
<p>Description of works. A programme of archaeological monitoring, comprising watching brief and test pit excavation, was carried out by Wessex Archaeology (WA) on land at the Ambulance Operations Centre, Exeter Skypark (Exeter Airport), Clyst Honiton, Devon (299617 94227). The archaeological mitigation was required as part of the planning permission issued to the Client by East Devon District Council (Planning Reference 13/0602/MFUL) for groundworks associated with the construction of an Ambulance Operations Centre with associated parking area, service yard, landscaping, attenuation pond, and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>Method. Archaeological monitoring was maintained throughout the topsoil strip of the development site and during the excavation of fifteen foundation pits associated with the construction of the Ambulance Operations Centre. Seven test pits 2m in length and between 0.6m and 1.8m wide (total length 14m) were excavated in the locations shown on the attached plan, using a 360° mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under constant archaeological supervision. Standard WA recording procedures were followed and a digital photographic archive produced.</p> <p>Results. The stratigraphy across the Site, as recorded during the archaeological monitoring, was relatively consistent. A mid grey brown silty clay loam topsoil with an average thickness of 0.20m, overlay a red tinged grey brown silt loam subsoil 0.15-0.30m deep. The natural geology recorded in all trenches was mixed mid red sands and gravels.</p> <p>No archaeological features were located during the excavation of the geotechnical test pits. Test pits 1-5 were blank, demonstrating only the stratigraphy described above, test pit 6 cut through a modern service road comprised of tarmac above rubble foundations, test pit 7 contained a modern cut feature possibly related to the construction of the runway to the south.</p> <p>The topsoil strip and foundation pits did not expose any archaeological features or deposits.</p> <p>Discussion. The aims and objectives of the archaeological monitoring were achieved. The test pits and exposed substrata were recorded appropriately and assessed.</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>		
Recorder: S Reynolds	Date sent to HER: 07-11-2013	

Please email completed form to: archaeol@devon.gov.uk or post to County Archaeology Service, Environment Directorate, Matford Lane Offices, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QW. Information recorded on this form will be added to the Historic Environment Record, and made available to all researchers. Any plans or photographs embedded within or attached to this form remain the copyright © of the recorder, and must not be reproduced in any publication without the explicit consent of the copyright holder.



salisbury rochester sheffield edinburgh



Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk



Wessex Archaeology Ltd is a company limited by guarantee registered in England, company number 1712772. It is also a Charity registered in England and Wales, number 287786; and in Scotland, Scottish Charity number SC042630. Our registered office is at Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB.