Parish: Yarnscombe NGR: SS54992292 Number

Subject:

Archaeological watching brief undertaken as a condition of planning permission 01/0104/2007/LBC Torridge District Council) for construction of a house extension at Cogworthy Manor, Yarnscombe, Barnstaple.

Description:

The site is located on Cogworthy Manor road, 1 mile southwest of Yarnscombe. Cogworthy is a medieval manor site, first documented in 1270. The building, Listed Grade II is a substantial house of the 16th and 17th centuries, with various later changes.

The watching brief comprised the machine excavation of a foundation trench, for a two-storey extension to the part of the house built in the 1960s (Fig 1).

Results:

The foundation trench measured 14.2m long, 8.1m wide and 0.8m deep (Plate 1).

The deposit sequence comprised:

- 0-0.2m deep, mid greyish brown, soft silty clay (garden topsoil)
- 0.2-0.5m deep, mid reddish brown, soft silty clay, containing moderate small, sub-angular shillet (subsoil)
- 0.5-0.8m+ deep, light reddish brown, firm silty clay, containing frequent small subrounded and sub-angular shillet (natural subsoil)

Modern disturbance was revealed near the house, where the natural subsoil was levelled for a gravel path, overlying a pipe trench (Plate 2).

No pre-modern archaeological features were found, though late 18th to early 20th century pottery sherds were recovered from the topsoil. Two sherds of North Devon gravel-tempered ware dating between the late 16th and late 18th century were recovered from the subsoil.

Owner:

Mr C. Carter, Cogworthy Manor, Yarnscombe, Barnstaple EX31 3LS

Ref:

Exeter Archaeology Project no.6098

Date:

18 May 2007

Recorder:

A. West, Exeter Archaeology

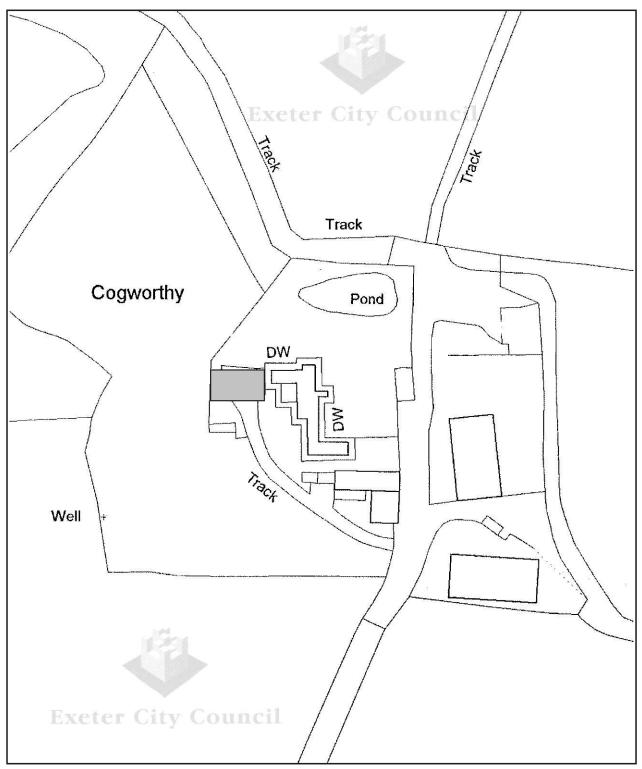


Fig. 1 Location of trench (shaded). Scale 1:1,000. Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. Exeter City Council 100025345.



Plate 1 The trench during excavation. View to east.



Plate 2 The eastern part of site showing north-south aligned pipe trench. View to south.