Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District:	National Grid Ref. SX 6981 9683		Number:		
Subject: Archaeological monitoring of groundwork associated with construction of new dwelling at rear of Cessland House, Spreyton, Devon. Photo attached? N					
Planning Application no: 7934/2005/OKE		Recipient museum: RAM Exeter			
OASIS ID: exeterar1-45437		Museum Accession no: AR.2007.411			
Contractor's reference number/code: Ivor Baker		Dates fieldwork undertaken: 14-07-2008			

Description of works.

An archaeological watching brief was carried out at Cessland House, Spreyton, to monitor and record initial groundworks associated with the construction of a new dwelling. The site lies within the historic core of Spreyton forming part of the rear garden of the current Cessland House and lies within 60m of the parish church (Fig. 1).

Works consisted of the reduction of ground levels across an area of c. 270sqm representing the approximate footprint of the new dwelling. This was carried out to a maximum depth of .0.70m below turf level, and involved stripping of topsoil and sub soil to reveal the natural clay sub-strata beneath.

All works were executed by a wheeled excavator fitted with a 1.8m grading bucket.

The general sequence of deposits was as follows:

 $0-0.\overline{20}m$: dark brown friable silt loam topsoil, with rare, small, pale grey sub-angular shillet fragments < 0.05m. Sherds of glazed 19th and 20^{th} century pottery and glassware were recovered from this layer.

0.20- 0.50m: Slightly greyish mid brown moderately firm silty clay including sparse to moderate, small to medium pale grey shillet fragments < 0.10m. Sherds of glazed 19th and 20th century pottery and glassware were similarly recovered from this layer.

0.50m+ Yellowish light brown moderately compact silty clay, sparsely mottled with pale grey clay, including rare to patchily moderate concentrations of medium to large, pale grey angular and sub angular shillet fragments 0.02-0.20m diameter.

Finds dating from the 19th and 20th century were discarded on site.

The yellowish brown silty clay natural was exposed across the whole area stripped. No archaeological features or deposits were observed.

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
C.Hooper, Exeter Archaeology	23rd October 2008

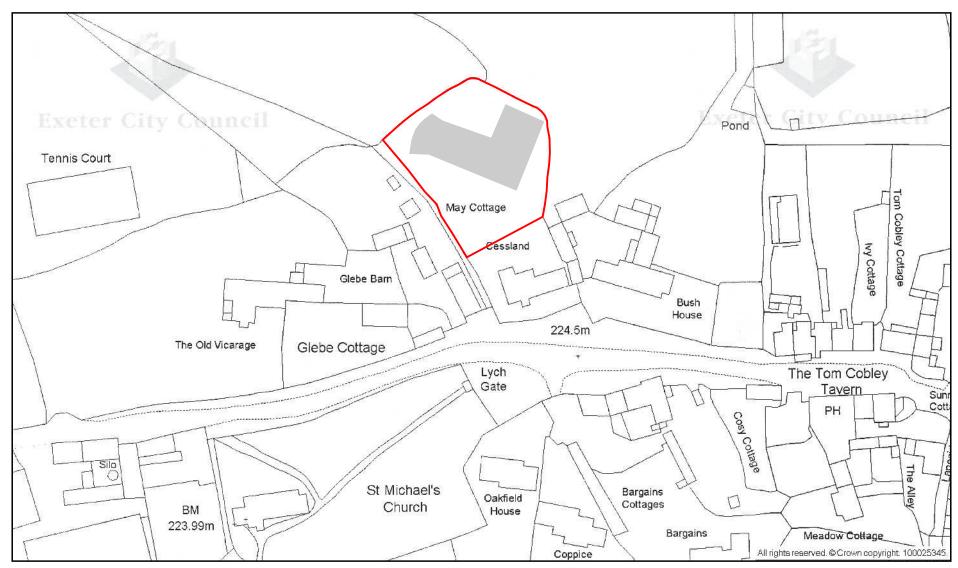


Fig. 1 Location of site and stripped area (shaded). Scale 1:1,250.