

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Broad Clyst, East Devon	National Grid Reference: SS 97670 00044	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring for electricity cable to the south of the stables, Killerton		Photo attached? Yes
Planning Application no: N/A	Recipient museum: National Trust Archives	
OASIS ID: southwes1-376034	Museum Accession no: N/A	
Contractor's reference number/code: KSE19	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 28 th November and 6 th December 2019	
<p>Description of works:</p> <p>Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of the National Trust (the client) to the south of the stables at Killerton Estate, Broad Clyst, Mid-Devon, Devon (Figure 1) during the installation of an electric cable for new gates. The monitoring was carried out by S. Walls on the 28th November and 6th December 2019. This work was undertaken in accordance with CIFA guidelines and best practice. The soils of the area are well-drained reddish coarse loamy soils over rock of the Bromsgrove Association (SSEW 1983), which overlies sandstone of the Thorverton Sandstone Formation, with superficial deposit of sand with clay and gravel (BGS 2019).</p> <p>Killerton, was first documented in 1242. The name is a compound of the Old English personal name Cwyld+ingtun meaning the 'estate held by Cwyld'. The nearest Domesday manor was Colum, later known as Columbjohn. Killerton House and Park comprises a Grade II*, late 18th century house with associated built assets within a Registered Grade II* ornamental parkland with gardens with a total area of over 100ha. Killerton House was originally built c.1570 by Edward Drewe, described as 'a mansion for his own residence', although it may have been built as a deerpark lodge. Drewe sold the property to John Acland of Columbjohn in 1602. The Acland's kept their primary residence at Columbjohn until Hugh Acland moved the family across to Killerton in 1680, when he made alterations and additions to the house and its associated gardens. The Aclands attempted to re-build the (Wyatt) house c.1775, with the present (Johnson) house built in c.1778. The Acland family donated Killerton to the National Trust, the current owners, in 1944. The site of the monitored works was near to the gateway into the estate, adjacent to Park Lodge (Grade II Listed), constructed c.1825 by C R Cockerell at the same time as a new driveway was created. The new driveway providing a more sinuous access from that shown in 1801 plans of the Estate (see Luc 2012; Wapshott and Webb 2016).</p> <p>A 0.4m wide trench was excavated under archaeological supervision by machine using a toothless grading bucket to a depth of 0.35-0.5m, this being the depth of formation. The stratigraphy of the site comprised of an active dark reddish silt loam topsoil (100), c. 0.3-0.4m thick. The topsoil directly overlies the natural, a firm red sand loam. A modern water pipe and tree stump were noted in the east-run west length of the trench (see Figure 1).</p> <p>A single archaeological feature, a c. 3m wide and 0.1m deep Linear Cut [102] with gently concaved sides and largely flat to slightly concaved base was seen in section, seemingly running parallel with the present road (Figures 1 and 2). Linear [102] was filled with a loose red sand-loam with occasional to common medium sized (>100mm dia.) sub-angular to sub-rounded sandstone fragments. No finds were recovered from the fill, but the feature is likely an earlier version of the current drive, seemingly being diverted, c.1825 when the lodge was constructed.</p> <p>A small size assemblage of finds was recovered from the topsoil, including: 5 sherds (395g) of 19th-20th century clear, green and black bottle glass; 6 sherds (93g) of industrial wares (1x 19th-20th century stoneware and 5x white refined earthenwares); 1 fragment of iron slag (15g); 1 unfrosted brick (3092g); 1 corroded iron pin (45g); 1 plastic pen part (3g); and 1 corroded copper alloy tin base (233g). The brick had no traces of any surviving bond, but is of a comparable fabric, size and weight to examples from the lost Wyatt House (see Bampton 2019), which may suggest it was recycled from this location.</p> <p>Conclusions</p> <p>The only feature of archaeological interest was a single flat based ditch (the former access track to Killerton House?). The location of the roots from a large (oak?) tree near to lodge and the water pipe, were known to the staff undertaking the works. The presence of a brick of similar style to those from the lost late 18th century Wyatt House, may re-reflect re-use of materials in the Stables in c.1780 or in Park Lodge c.1825.</p> <p>Bibliography</p> <p>Bampton, J. 2019: <i>Wyatt House, Killerton, Broadclyst, Devon: Results of an Earthwork Survey and Archaeological Evaluation</i>. SWARCH Report no.190102</p> <p>British Geological Survey 2019: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html</p> <p>LUC (Land Use Consultants) 2012: <i>Killerton Park Parkland Plan</i>.</p> <p>Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p> <p>Wapshott, E. and Webb, P. 2016: <i>The Deerpark, Killerton, Broad Clyst, Devon: Results of a Desk-Based Assessment & Walkover Survey</i>. SWARCH Report no. 160212</p>		
Recorder: S. Walls	Date sent to HER: 10 th January 2020	

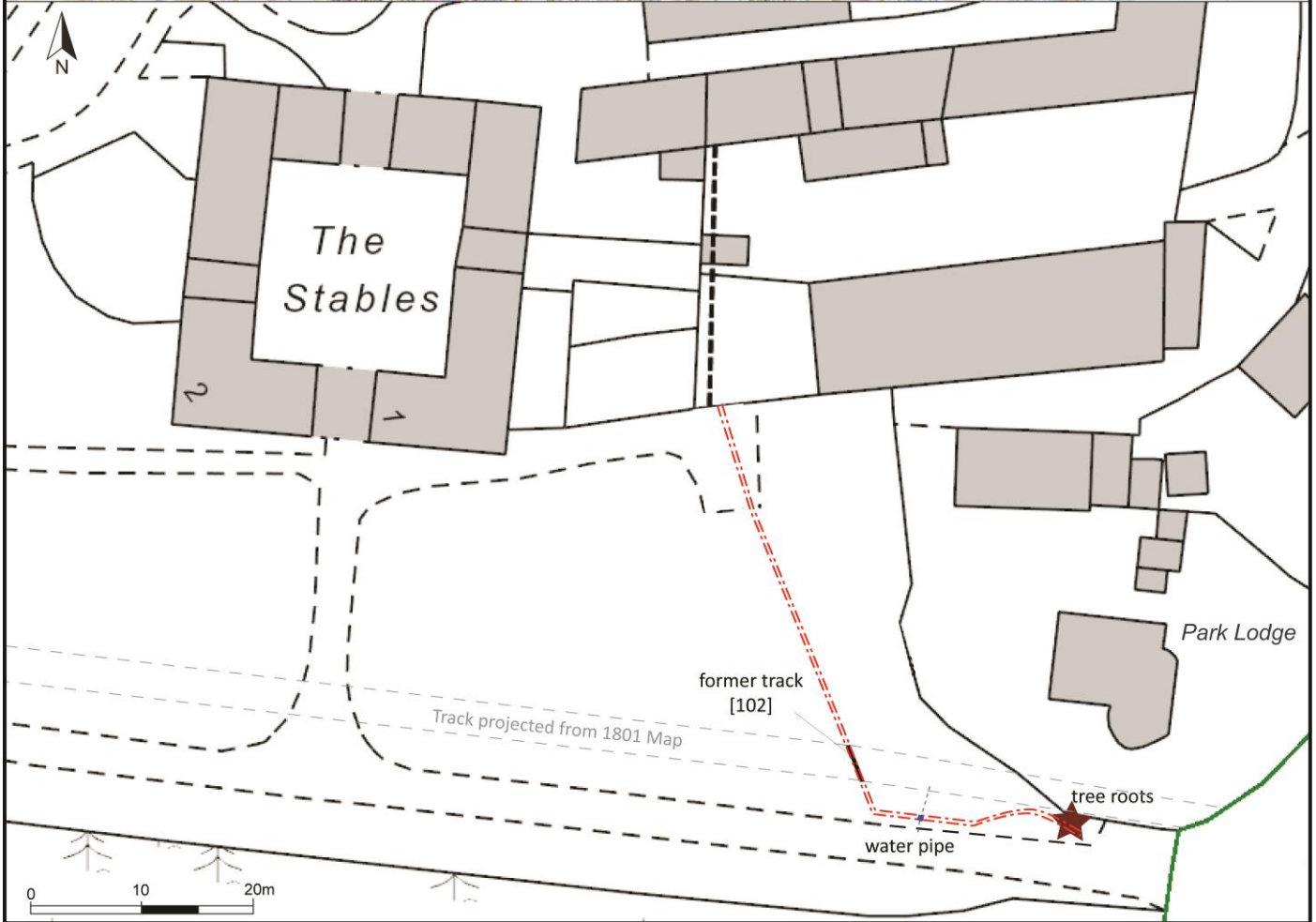
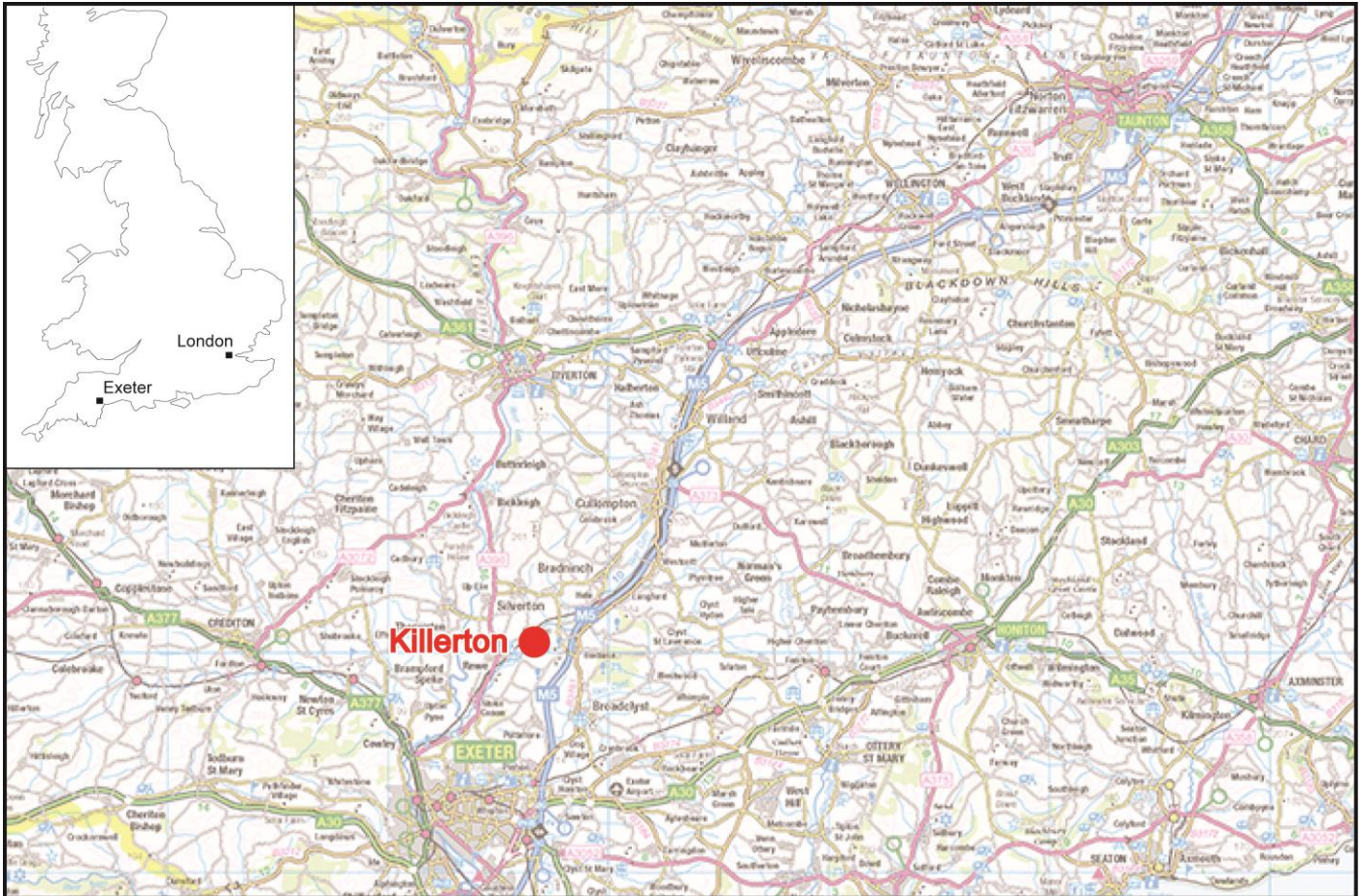


FIGURE 1: SITE PLAN SHOWING LOCATION OF EXCAVATED AREAS



FIGURE 2: NORTHERN PART OF TRACK [102], VIEWED FROM THE EAST (1M SCALE).



FIGURE 2: EAST-WEST PART OF THE TRENCH NEARING FULL EXCAVATION, VIEWED FROM THE EAST (NO SCALE).