

# Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Kilmington, East Devon	<b>National Grid Reference</b> SY270982	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> proposed site for construction of Baptist Church		<b>Photo attached?</b> YES
<b>Planning Application no:</b> Pre planning Arch/dc/ed/15933	<b>Recipient museum:</b> Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> southwes1-82767	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> 177/2010	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> KBC210	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 25.10.10	
<p><b>Description of works.</b></p> <p>An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by South West Archaeology (SWARCH) at the request of Phillip Bliss of Kilmington Baptist Church (the Client) prior to the proposed construction of a new Baptist Church at the junction of Gammons Hill (A35) and George Lane on the northern edge of the village of Kilmington. The work was carried out by S Walls and L. Bray in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) approved by DCHES.</p> <p>The development site lies immediately adjacent to the route of the Roman Road from Axminster to Honiton. The proposed development therefore had the potential to expose significant archaeological remains of Roman and/or medieval date.</p> <p>On the Kilmington tithe map and apportionment of c.1840 the field is named Ashen Field, belonging to William Tucker (Lord of the Manor) and tenanted by John Frost. The northern boundary of the field was the turnpike road following the line of the Roman road. The incidence of long, narrow fields and orchards nearby suggests that the field may have been formed through the enclosure and amalgamation of medieval plough strips. Beyond the north west corner of the field the course of the Roman road was joined by a route crossing Kilmington Common from the north west.</p> <p>Two evaluation trenches measuring 28mx1.5m east-west and 25mx1.5m north-south were excavated across the footprint of the proposed building (see Fig. 1a). The trenches were opened by a tracked mechanical excavator using a 1.4m wide toothless grading bucket under strict archaeological supervision.</p> <p>The topsoil on the site was 0.4-0.5m deep and consisted of two layers; a 0.2-0.25m thick upper, dark brown, loose silty clay (101) with occasional (5-8mm) sub-angular to sub-rounded chert inclusions, and a lower, mid yellow-brown, soft silty clay (102) containing occasional flecks of charcoal, fragments of brick and rare sub-angular chert inclusions of up to 8mm in size. The natural subsoil (103) consisted of a homogenous orange-grey clayey silt containing frequent to abundant sub-rounded to sub-angular chert inclusions up to 0.1m in size.</p> <p>A number of features were recorded cutting into the natural subsoil of the site all of which were of a post-medieval date. The features included six stone filled linear features are interpreted as field drains. The fill (113) of the most westerly of these field-drains [112] produced a single sherd of South Somerset ware of probable 18<sup>th</sup> century date. Bisecting the centre of the evaluation trenches and running northwest-southeast was the cut of a modern drain [106] servicing the village. This modern service trench cut the truncated remains of machine-cut linear [104] which ran north-south and contained a grey-brown silt-clay fill (105) very similar to the topsoil. This was most likely a modern service trench.</p> <p>A small assemblage of post-medieval finds weighing a total of 0.424 kg was recovered from the topsoil and the surface of the field in the development area. This consisted of 11 sherds of post medieval South Somerset Coarsewares (0.151 kg); 3 sherds of 19<sup>th</sup> century stoneware (0.23 kg); 5 sherds of post medieval white refined earthenware and industrial slipware (0.028kg) including a sherd of Pearlware; 2 sherds of 18<sup>th</sup> century Mottled ware (0.008 kg); 1 sherd of Bristol/Staffordshire Yellow Slip ware and 1 sherd of 18<sup>th</sup> century white salt-glazed stoneware. Other unstratified finds included 3 sherds of glass (0.076kg) and a single fragment of chert (0.008kg) that may have been worked.</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.**

**Recorder:** S. Walls

**Date sent to HER:** 06.10.10

Please email completed form to: [archaeol@devon.gov.uk](mailto: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.

1a

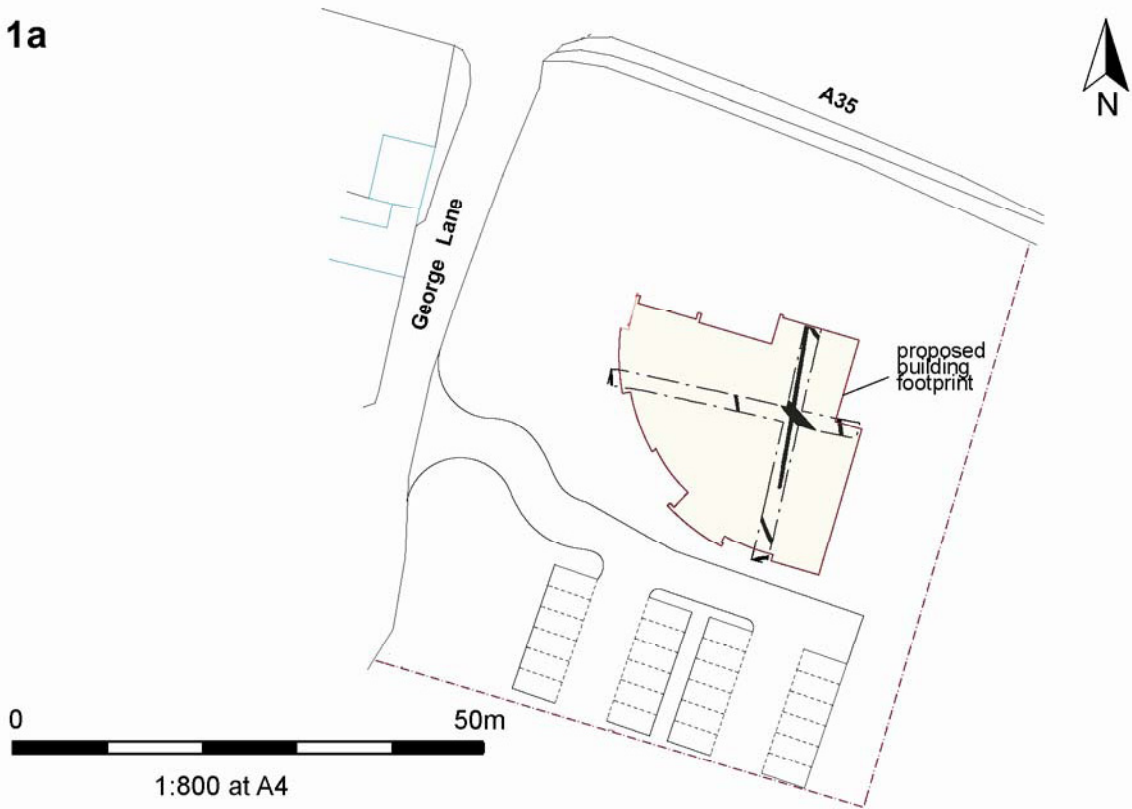


Figure 1a: location of evaluation trenches within the development site

1b

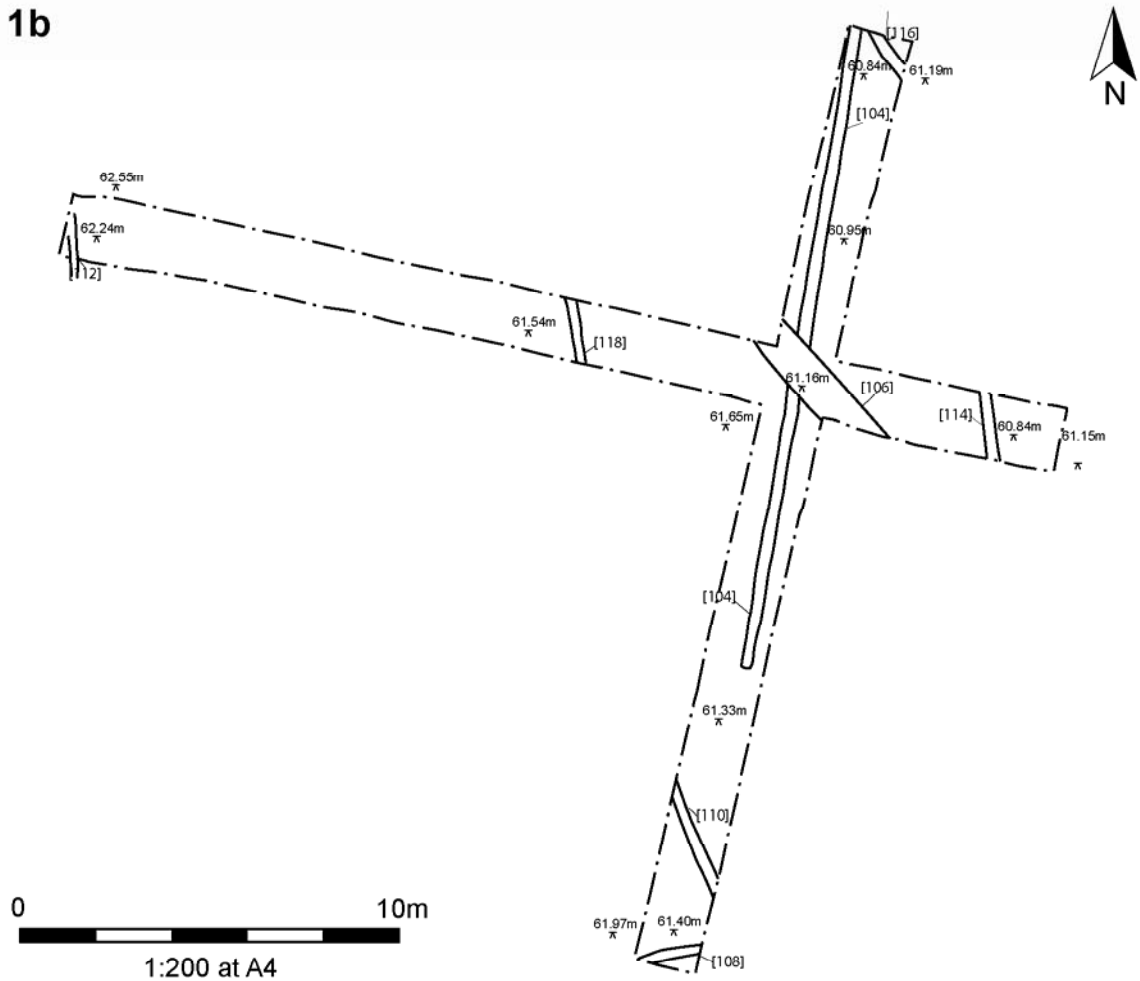


Figure 1a: post excavation plan of the evaluation trenches



Figures:

- 2a. A view of the site from the north prior to excavation.
- 2b. The north-south evaluation trench viewed from the north (2m scales).
- 2c. The east-west evaluation trench viewed from the west (2m scales).