

1 EXETER ROAD, SILVERTON, DEVON

(NGR SS 95522 02874)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

Mid Devon District Council planning reference 10/00324/FULL

Prepared by:
Simon Hughes

On behalf of:
JMS Construction

Document No: ACD394/2/0

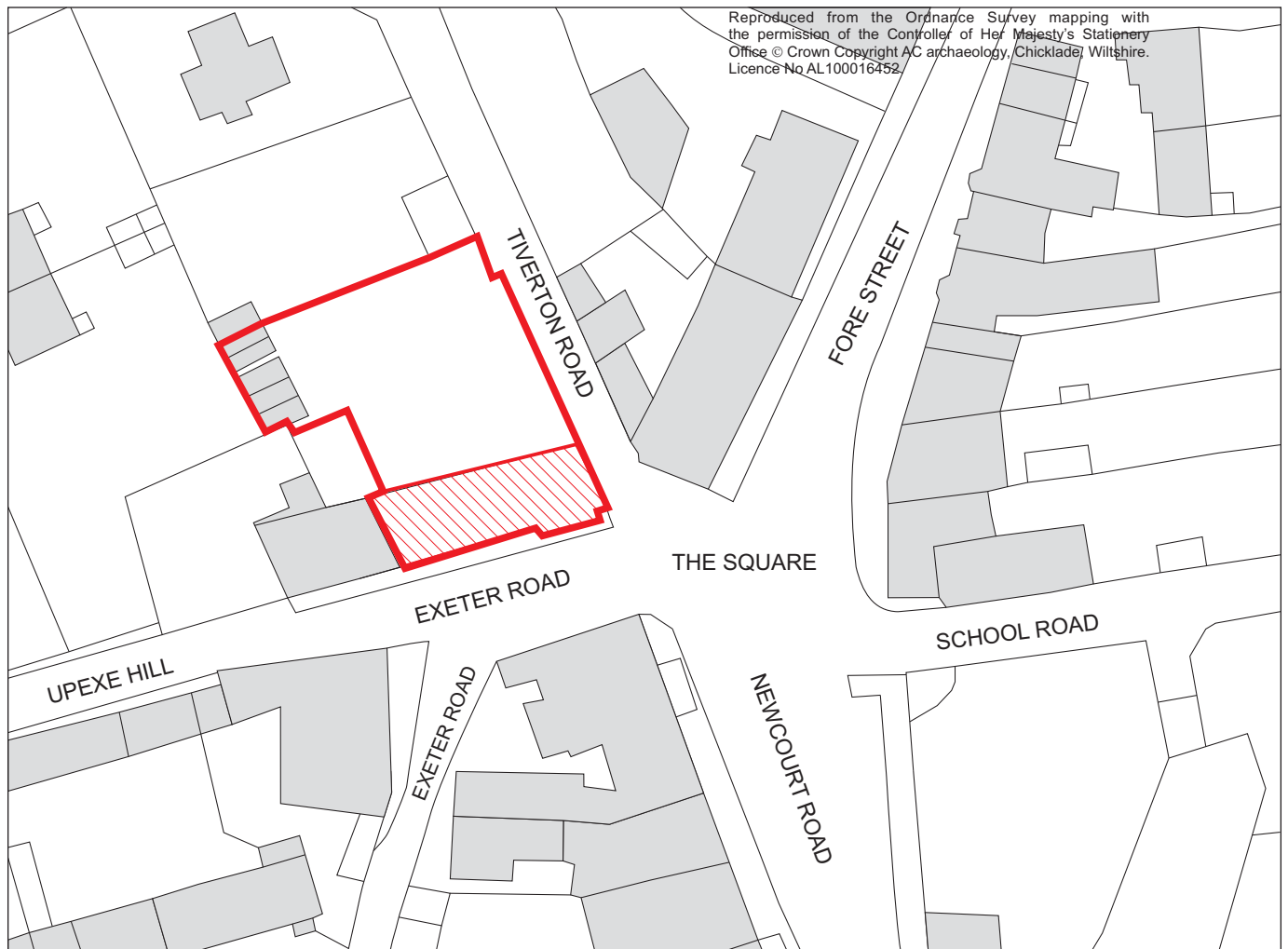
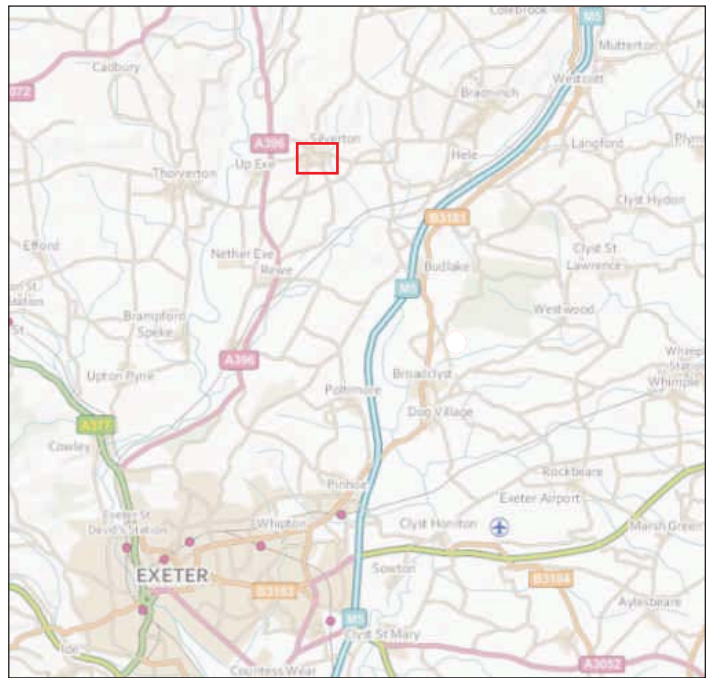
Date: July 2013



archaeology



Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Silverton, Mid Devon	National Grid Reference SS 95522 02874	Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)
Subject: 1 Exeter Road, Silverton, Devon: Results of an archaeological watching brief		Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: 10/00324/FULL	Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	
OASIS ID: 153160	Museum Accession no: temporary ref. number 11/66	
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD394	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 24 November 2011 and 25 January 2012	
<p>Description of works.</p> <p>Introduction (Fig. 1) An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AC archaeology at 1 Exeter Street, Silverton, Devon during groundworks associated with the construction of three dwellings. The work was commissioned by JMS construction, and was required as a condition of planning permission granted by Mid Devon District Council, as advised by the Devon County Historic Environment Service.</p> <p>The site is located at the junction of Exeter Street and Tiverton Road, with the land condition comprising levelled land following the recent demolition of outbuildings to the rear of 1 Exeter Street. It is situated on flat ground at around 82m aOD with the underlying solid geology comprising Permian interbedded sandstone and conglomerates.</p> <p>The site is located within the historic core of Silverton and sited on Exeter Road, which is believed to be the main route out of the village. The antiquity of this route is further supported by the surrounding field system, which appears to be based upon enclosed medieval burgage plots aligned on Fore Street, Exeter Road and Newcourt Road. The Silverton tithe map of 1842 depicts the proposed development site as being occupied by a house, buildings and court. By 1888, the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25-inch map shows that there had been some rationalisation of the outbuildings to the rear with several apparently no longer present and the court more clearly defined. This arrangement was still the case in 1904.</p> <p>Results (Fig. 2; Plates 1-2) Ground works comprised the levelling of the site following demolition with the subsequent excavation of foundation trenches for the new buildings.</p> <p>Following demolition of the outbuildings to the rear of 1 Exeter Road, the remains of the eastern range were partially visible as stone footings (F101) alongside Tiverton Road. Within this range, pebble and later concrete surfaces (F102 and F103-4 respectively) partially survived. At the south end of the range, below the concrete surface was a well (F105). This was rock-cut and measured 1.3m across internally and 5.5m deep. The upper portion comprised 5-6 courses of late 19th century to 20th century machine-made bricks. The remainder of the site was covered with recent levelling and demolition material.</p> <p>The foundation trenches for the houses measured 0.6m wide and between 0.45m and 0.75m deep. These were excavated through 0.15m to 0.45m of mixed modern levelling and demolition material (100) and into the underlying bedrock, which comprised weathered sandstone. A single body sherd from an 18th-century South Somerset lead-glazed earthenware dish was recovered from the levelling layer 100.</p> <p>Comments The site contained no features or deposits that pre-dated the recently demolished outbuildings. The only features exposed were walls, surfaces and a well associated with the 19th-century reordering of the site. The lack of overlying deposits sealing the natural bedrock indicates that the area had been previously terraced.</p>		
Recorder: Simon Hughes, AC archaeology	Date sent to HER: 8 July 2013	



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0 25m
 Scale 1:750@A4

-  Location of site
-  Building retained

PROJECT

1 Exeter Road, Silverton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Site location





PROJECT

1 Exeter Road, Silverton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 2: Site plan





Plate 1: Surface F102, viewed west from east wall of demolished rear range (1m scale)



Plate 2: Well F105, viewed from the east-northeast (1m scale)

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