2 ALBION PLACE, SOUTH STREET, SOUTH MOLTON, DEVON

(NGR SS 7140 2567)

Results of archaeological monitoring and recording

North Devon District Council planning ref. 63245 (condition 4)

Prepared by: Laszlo Lichtenstein

On behalf of: Zenal Management Ltd.

Document No: ACD1676/2/0

Date: October 2017



Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: South Molton, North Devon	National Grid Reference SS 7140 2567		Number:	
Subject: 2 Albion Place, South Street, South Molton, archaeological monitoring and recording		, Devon: Results of		Photo attached? Plates 1-2
Planning Application no: 63245		Recipient museum: N/A		
OASIS ID: 297439		Museum Accessio	on no:	N/A
Contractor's reference number/code: ACD1676		Dates fieldwork up 7th to 11th Septem		******

Introduction

Archaeological monitoring and recording was carried out by AC archaeology during groundworks associated with the construction of a dwelling, following the demolition of a fire damaged house at 2 Albion Place, South Street, South Molton, Devon (SS 7140 2567). The site, which was extensively damaged by a fire, forms the end of a short terrace that is bounded to the east by the yard of a recycling facility (Fig.1). Albion Place lies towards the centre of South Molton and to the rear of properties that extend east from South Street.

The principal interest in the site was that it lies close to the historic core of South Molton. To the northeast of the site lies an area that was formerly covered by medieval burgage plots extending south from the properties fronting Broad Street. These were probably set out during the 12th century, as were further plots that extended to the west of South Street. The location of the site, at the rear of plots fronting onto South Street was considered as having the potential to contain small scale industrial activity, ancillary buildings and the deposition of rubbish dating to the medieval and post medieval period.

Results (Fig.1)

Groundworks following the demolition of the fire-damaged building, comprised a bulk reduction of the site followed by the excavation of footings trenches. The depth of the bulk reduction was a maximum of 0.5m at the eastern extent of the site. Footings trenches measured 0.7m wide and a maximum of 1m deep.

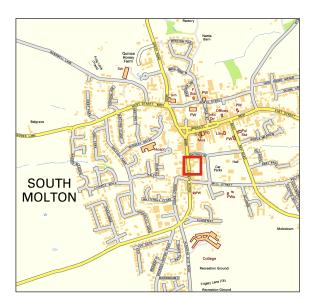
Natural subsoil (context 102) comprised a mid brown grey mudstone and siltstone and was exposed at a depth of between 0.5m and 1m below existing levels. It was overlain by two layers of levelling material (100 and 101) composed of mixed mid grey-brown silty clay with common mudstone and rubble inclusions. Context 101 produced pottery dating from the late 19th to early 20th century (not retained). Towards the southeast corner of the plot, layer 101 was overlain by a concrete base of a former outbuilding. No evidence for remains of earlier structures was evident from the monitored groundworks. No pre-19th century finds were recovered from the overlying layers.

Comments

No features or deposits of archaeological interest were exposed by the groundworks and no pre-modern finds were recovered. The presence of modern levelling, directly overlying natural subsoil across the areas monitored, suggests that the site had been previously stripped or extensively disturbed during the late 19th to early 20th century.

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
Laszlo Lichtenstein, AC Archaeology	October 2017





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Based on drawing prepared by Robinson Jary Architecture

Site boundary

Monitored footing and trenches

2 Albion Place, South Street, South Molton, Devon

Fig. 1: Plan of monitored groundworks and representative section





Plate 1: General site view looking northwest



Plate 2: Representative section showing dumped modern pottery in levelling layer 101, view to the north. (1m scale)



Devon Office

EX5 4LQ

Wiltshire Office

AC archaeology Ltd Unit 4, Halthaies Workshops Bradninch Nr Exeter Devon AC archaeology Ltd Manor Farm Stables Chicklade

Hindon Nr Salisbury Wiltshire SP3 5SU

Telephone/Fax: 01392 882410

Telephone: 01747 820581 Fax: 01747 820440

www.acarchaeology.co.uk