MOHUNS OTTERY, LUPPIT, HONITON, DEVON

(NGR ST 18909 05601)

Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

East Devon District Council Planning Reference 20/0947/FUL

Prepared by: Naomi Kysh

Document No: ACD2298/2/0

Date: April 2021



Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Luppitt, East Devon	National Grid Reference ST 18909 05601		Number: (Leave blank for HES to fill in)		
Subject: Land at Mohuns Ottery, Luppitt, Honiton, Devon: Results of archaeological monitoring and recording Photo attached? Plates					Plates 1-2
Planning Application no: 20/0947/FUL	Recipient museum: N/A				
OASIS ID: 397727		Museum Accession no: N/A			
Contractor's reference number/code:		Dates fieldwork undertaken:			
ACD2298		15 September 2020			

Description of works.

Archaeological monitoring and recording (controlled watching brief) during groundworks associated with construction of a new swimming pool and plant/pool room was undertaken by AC archaeology on land at Mohuns Ottery, Luppitt, Honiton (Fig. 1). The archaeological work was required as a condition of planning consent given by East Devon District Council, as advised by the Devon County Council Historic Environment Team. The work was commissioned by the site landowner.

Mohuns Ottery is set within agricultural land some 2.3km to the southeast of Luppitt. It comprises an historic farmstead, with associated converted cider barn, shippon and outbuildings enclosed within walled grounds accessed from the south via a gatehouse. The new swimming pool is located to the north of the shippon (Plate 1). It is situated on flat ground at around 150m above Ordnance Datum and on ground that slopes down towards the River Otter to the southeast. Its underlying solid geology comprises breccia of the mudstone of the Branscombe Mudstone Formation, which is beneath clay, sand and gravel head deposits (British Geological Survey Online Viewer).

Mohuns Ottery is a medieval manor and is listed as 'Otri' in the Domesday Book of 1086. The current arrangement is based on a Tudor manor built by Sir Peter Carew. Although the current Grade-II listed farmstead (National Heritage List for England reference 1147733) was built following a fire in the 19th century, surviving elements of the mid-16th century manor consist of the Grade-II* listed gatehouse (NHLE 1098265) and Grade-II listed cider house (NHLE 1168093). The cider house, which was also largely rebuilt around 1868 following the fire, retains 16th century fabric of the former manor, with this considered to have been a kitchen block (Devon County Council Historic Environment Record reference MDV104105). The proposed site of the new swimming pool is to the west of the cider house and extends to the north of the shippon; an L-shaped range that dates to the 19th century (MDV104110). Situated within non-titheable land, Mohuns Ottery is not depicted on the 1843 Luppitt parish tithe map, i.e. prior to the fire. The 1888 First-Edition Ordnance Survey map shows the site following the rebuild. To the north of the cider house the map shows a now absent building, the site of which partially overlays the extent of the proposed associated works.

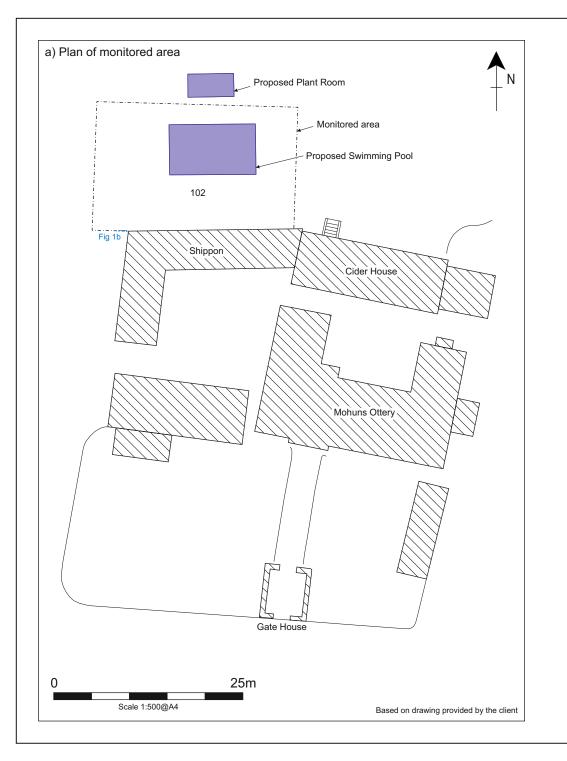
Results.

The site archaeologist was present for the groundworks which was conducted by tracked machine and comprised the digging of the area for the footprint for the new swimming pool (Plate 2). The majority of the overlying deposit was composed of modern made ground of clay which contained pieces of plastic. The exposed natural subsoil was exposed at a depth of 0.55m below ground surface and was composed of purplish red clay.

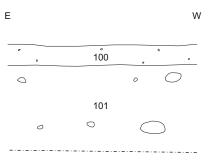
No features, deposits or finds of archaeological interest were exposed during the watching brief.

This report comprises the archive for the project.

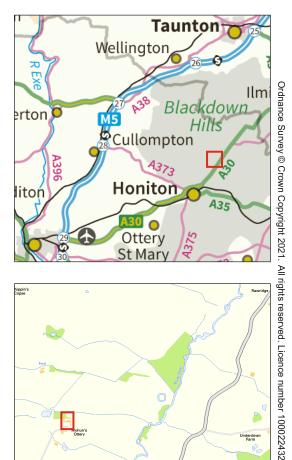
Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
Naomi Kysh, AC archaeology	6 April 2021

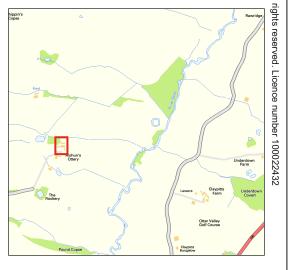


b) Representative section









Land at Mohuns Ottery, Luppitt, Honiton, Devon

Fig. 1: Site location, plan of monitored area and representative section





Plate 1: General view of the site, looking northwest



Plate 2: General view of groundworks in progress, looking west



Devon Office

Wiltshire Office

AC archaeology Ltd
Unit 4, Halthaies Workshops
Bradninch

AC archaeology Ltd
Manor Farm Stables
Chicklade

Nr Exeter Hindon
Devon Nr Salisbury
EX5 4LQ Wiltshire
SP3 5SU

Telephone/Fax: 01392 882410 Telephone: 01747 820581

Fax: 01747 820440

www.acarchaeology.co.uk