

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

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| Civil Parish & District: Kilmington, East Devon | National Grid Reference: SY2732797959 | Number: |
| Subject: Land at Lussac, Whitford Road, Kilmington, Devon: Results of an archaeological watching brief | | Photo attached: Plates 1 and 2 |
| Planning Application no: 09/2122/FUL | Recipient museum: Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter | |
| OASIS ID: 75023 | Museum Accession no: 55/2010 | |
| Contractor's site code: ACD151 | Date fieldwork undertaken: 29th March 2010 | |
| <p>Introduction</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by AC archaeology as a condition of planning permission during groundworks associated with the construction of a two-story rear extension. The work was commissioned by Terry Hutchings, Architect, on behalf of the site owner, Mr Tavender.</p> <p>The site is located within the historic core of the village immediately to the south of the parish church of St Giles (Fig. 1). A house and garden at Lussac is depicted on the Kilmington parish tithe map of 1838. The site is situated at around 52m OD and the underlying solid geology comprises Upper Greensand, beneath alluvial gravels and clays.</p> <p>Results (Plan and sections Fig 2a-c; Plates 1 and 2)</p> <p>Groundworks comprised the hand-excavation of a foundation trench to the rear of the existing house, which was a total of 14.5m long, 0.7m wide and a maximum of 0.87m deep.</p> <p>The trench was excavated into natural subsoil (context 101), which comprised a light reddish-grey silty clay with abundant chert gravel inclusions. This was present at a maximum depth of 0.48m below current ground level. The trench contained two linear features (F102 and F104), both of which cut into the natural subsoil</p> <p>Linear feature F102 was located towards the northern end of the trench. This was approximately NW to SE aligned, 0.37m wide and 0.19m deep, with moderately steep sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 2b) It contained a dark greyish-brown clayey silt fill (103) and no finds were recovered.</p> <p>Linear feature F104 was located towards the southern end of the trench. This was approximately N-S aligned, 0.31m wide and 0.19m deep, with moderately steep sloping sides and a concave base (Fig. 2c). It contained a mid grey silty clay fill (105) and no finds were recovered.</p> <p>Fill 105 was overlain by two dumped deposits, comprising a mid grey silty clay (context 106 on Fig. 2c) under a mid brown clayey silt (107), containing patches of re-deposited clay natural subsoil. Layer 107 was cut by a footings construction cut (F108) which contained a roughly faced, randomly-coursed and lime mortared remnant stone footing (109) from a recently demolished extension. F108 was backfilled with a mid reddish-brown silty clay (110), which was overlain by a mixed dark brown make-up layer of silty clay (111) containing abundant flecks of crushed lime mortar. Layer 111 was below a chert stone cobbled surface (112), which was partially sealed by topsoil (100).</p> <p>Two sherds of 19th century industrial whiteware pottery were recovered from layer 111. One sherd of 19th century whiteware and three sherds of lead-glazed and slip-decorated earthenwares were recovered from topsoil 100.</p> <p>Comments</p> <p>The watching brief established that two small undated probable ditches were the earliest features recorded on site. Ditch F104 pre-dated the dumped layers, footings and subsequent external surface that are associated with the recently demolished extension building. The composition of the ditch fill as similar to the overlying layers suggests that it was perhaps infilled when the extension was constructed. The similar fill composition of ditch F102 to the overlying topsoil also suggests a relatively recent date.</p> <p>It is likely that the two ditches are small garden drainage features of post-medieval or later date. No earlier archaeological features, deposits or finds were present.</p> | | |
| Recorder: Simon Hughes, AC archaeology | | Date sent to HER: 9 June 2010 |