22 Havant Road, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hampshire

Archaeological Recording Action

by Aiji Castle

Site Code: HRH13/205
(SU 7061 1298)
22 Havant Road, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hampshire

Archaeological Recording Action
for Southcott Homes Limited

by Aiji Castle
Thames Valley Archaeological Services Ltd

Site Code HRH 13/205

December 2013
Summary

Site name: 22 Havant Road, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hampshire

Grid reference: SU 7061 1298

Site activity: Archaeological Recording Action

Date and duration of project: 2nd-5th December 2013

Project manager: Steve Ford

Site supervisor: Aiji Castle

Site code: HRH 13/205

Area of site: c. 765sq m.

Summary of results: No features or finds of archaeological interest were uncovered during the stripping of overburden from the site and the site is considered to have no archaeological potential

Location and reference of archive: The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited at Hampshire County Museum in due course.

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Introduction

This report documents the results of an archaeological recording action carried out at 22 Havant Road, Horndean, Waterlooville, Hampshire (SU 7061 1298) (Fig. 1). The work was commissioned by Mr Daryl Holmes of Southcott Homes Ltd, Bramble House, Furzehall Farm, 112 Wickham Road, Fareham, Hampshire PO16 7JH.

Planning permission (21240/002) has been gained from East Hampshire District Council to re-develop the site for six new houses following the demolition of the existing structure. The consent is subject to a condition (12) relating to archaeology.

This is in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government’s National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2012), and the District Council’s policies on archaeology. The field investigation was carried out to a specification approved by Dr Hannah Fluck, Senior Archaeologist, Strategic Environmental Delivery Group at Hampshire County Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by James McNicholl and Aiji Castle between the 2nd and 5th December 2013 and the site code is HRH 13/205. The archive is presently held at Thames Valley Archaeological Services, Reading and will be deposited with Hampshire County Museum Service in due course.

Location, topography and geology

The site is located on the west side of Havant Road, Horndean, Waterlooville, to the rear of number 22, bounded by the A3(M) to the west (Fig. 1.). This area was previously occupied by a single large residential building with associated gardens, that had been recently demolished, although the groundplan and foundations remained. The underlying geology consists of a mix of head, clayey-gravel and Tarrant Chalk member and this was observed during machine excavation (BGS 1998). The site lies on a gentle west-east slope and is approximately 50-55m above Ordnance Datum (Fig. 2).
Archaeological background

The site lies in an area with a range of sites and finds recorded in the Hampshire Archaeology and Historic Building Record. To the north is the site of the medieval settlement of Harmedene first documented in the late 12th century and to the south east is the site of post-medieval Old Bledworth House. A collection of Mesolithic flintwork was discovered at a slightly greater distance to the east.

Recent fieldwork just south of the proposed development has yielded the most significant archaeological evidence in the area (Hopkinson 2013). Excavations there have revealed deposits of Late Iron Age and early Roman date including a number of enclosure ditches, a cremation burial, a medieval pit and possible industrial activity representing one or more occupation sites. It was suggested that a similar range of deposits and an enclosure ditch might continue into the southern area of the development site.

Objectives and methodology

The general objectives of the excavation were to:

- Excavate and record all archaeological deposits and features within areas threatened by the proposed development.
- Produce relative and absolute dating and phasing for deposits and features recorded on the site.
- Establish the character of these deposits in attempt to define functional areas on the site such as industrial, domestic, etc.
- Produce information on the economy and local environment and compare and contrast this with the results of other excavations in the region.

Specific research objectives for the area were;

- Are there additional settlement-related deposits on this site similar to that on the adjacent site? If so, When was the site first occupied? When was the site abandoned? What activities were taking place on the site? How do these deposits relate chronologically to the enclosure complex to the south? If the settlement is used from the Iron Age into Roman times, does this use occur without a break? If the settlement is used into later Roman times does the occupation cease before the end of the Roman period as observed in other regions?

The stripping of the site was undertaken by a 360° type machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, with the exception of the modern building foundations. This was done under constant archaeological supervision.

Results

The site area comprised a rectangular parcel of land of c. 765 sq m which was as striped of overburden as intended (Fig. 3; Pls 1 and 2). During the course of the stripping it became clear that the garden area at the
southern end of the site with the highest potential for archaeological evidence was devoid of features, even though it was not affected by the foundations of the previous structure on site. The stratigraphy here consisted of 0.20m topsoil overlying 0.17m of mid grey-brown clay-silt subsoil. The natural geology was reached at a depth of 0.37m (Fig. 4). Further to the north east, the foundations of the house, associated pond and driveway areas were slightly intrusive, 0.80m at the deepest point. These were overlain by made ground deposits of brick, concrete and demolition rubble. The natural geology was reached across the site and no features were observed; it is possible that these building works truncated any shallow archaeological features (but not substantial ones) that may have existed.

Finds
No finds of an archaeological nature were recovered during the stripping of the site.

Conclusion
Despite the high potential for archaeological deposits being present on this site based upon previous evaluations and excavated areas nearby, the stripped area revealed no features or deposits of an archaeological nature.

References
Figure 1. Location of site within Horndean and Hampshire.
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Figure 2. Detailed location of site.

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Figure 3. Location of strip, compared to neighbouring site.

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Recent Archaeological evaluation (Robinson 2013)
Figure 4. Representative section.

SW corner of strip

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Topsoil

- Grey-brown clay silt subsoil, with occasional flint and occasional chalk (subsoil)
- Light red-brown clay with frequent large flint nodules, mixed with areas of patchy chalk and flint (natural geology)
Plate 1. Site, looking north, Scales: 2m and 1m.

Plate 2. Representative section, looking west, Scales: 1m and 0.5m.

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Plates 1 - 2.
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<thead>
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