

Dartmoor National Park Authority Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Widecombe-in-the-Moor, Teignbridge	National Grid Reference: SX 7134 7644	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording at Southcombe Barn, Widecombe-in-the-Moor, Devon.		Photo attached: Y
Planning permission: 0217/20	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-413512	Museum Accession no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1759	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 16-18/03/2022	
<p>Description of works: An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology in March 2022 at Southcombe Barn, Widecombe-in-the-Moor, Devon (SX 7134 7644). The site (Fig. 1) lies in an area of high archaeological potential close to Southcombe Farmhouse, a Grade II Listed farmhouse dating to the 16th century. The work was therefore required by the Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA).</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during works associated with the installation of a new concrete floor within the northern part of the barn (Fig. 2, Pls. 1-2). The work involved internal ground reduction to a depth of 0.5m.</p> <p>Results: The works exposed a mid orangey brown sandy silt with degraded granite (101) at a depth of 0.3m below floor level. Interpreted as growan natural subsoil this was truncated by a NE-SW aligned stone drain (102). This was 0.8m wide, 0.47m high and extended over a distance of at least 5.5m within the barn. Consisting of roughly dressed granite rubble walls and slabs, the base of the drain was composed of the growan subsoil. One of the slabs had a carefully dressed underside and had been squared at the edges. In addition, the presence of white lime mortar suggests that this piece has been re-used, perhaps re-used during the remodelling of the farmhouse in the early 19th century. The sequence was sealed underneath a 0.3m thick layer of mid to dark brown silt (100) containing large quantities of humic material and consistent with its former use as an open-fronted livestock barn.</p> <p>Finds by John Allan</p> <p>A small collection of archaeological material was recovered from the external works. This consisted of three sherds of South Somerset-ware (18th-19th century), a single basal sherd from a Bristol stoneware vessel (19th century), three sherds of Bovey Tracey coarseware (19th-20th century), three sherds of black glazed ridgetile (early 19th century) and 81 sherds of miscellaneous industrial white-, yellow- and creamwares, including transfer print (after 1780), including one sherd with a maker's stamp "Spode 5", and a further sherd which features a printed maker's mark "FLM ALFOLDI PORCELAN HUNGARY" beside a coat of arms. The non-ceramic finds consisted of two sherds of English green bottle glass (early 19th -20th century), an iron door strap with a speared end and a very degraded metal spoon.</p> <p>Project archive and OASIS entry Due to the limited nature of the findings a project archive will not be produced. A summary of the investigations has been submitted to the on-line archaeological database OASIS (Online AccesS to the Index of archaeological InterventionS).</p>		
Recorder: M Wootton and MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)		Date sent to HER:

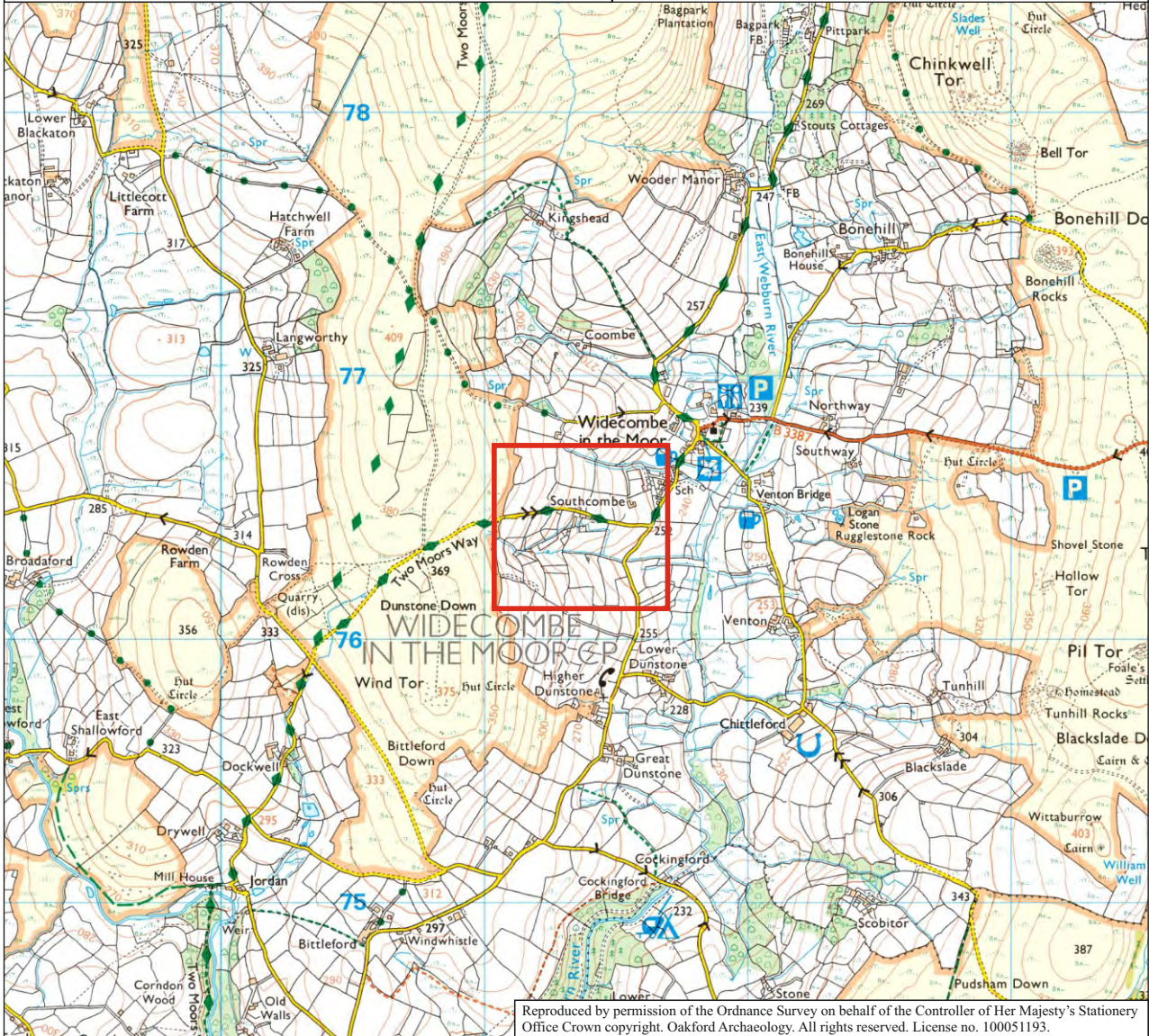
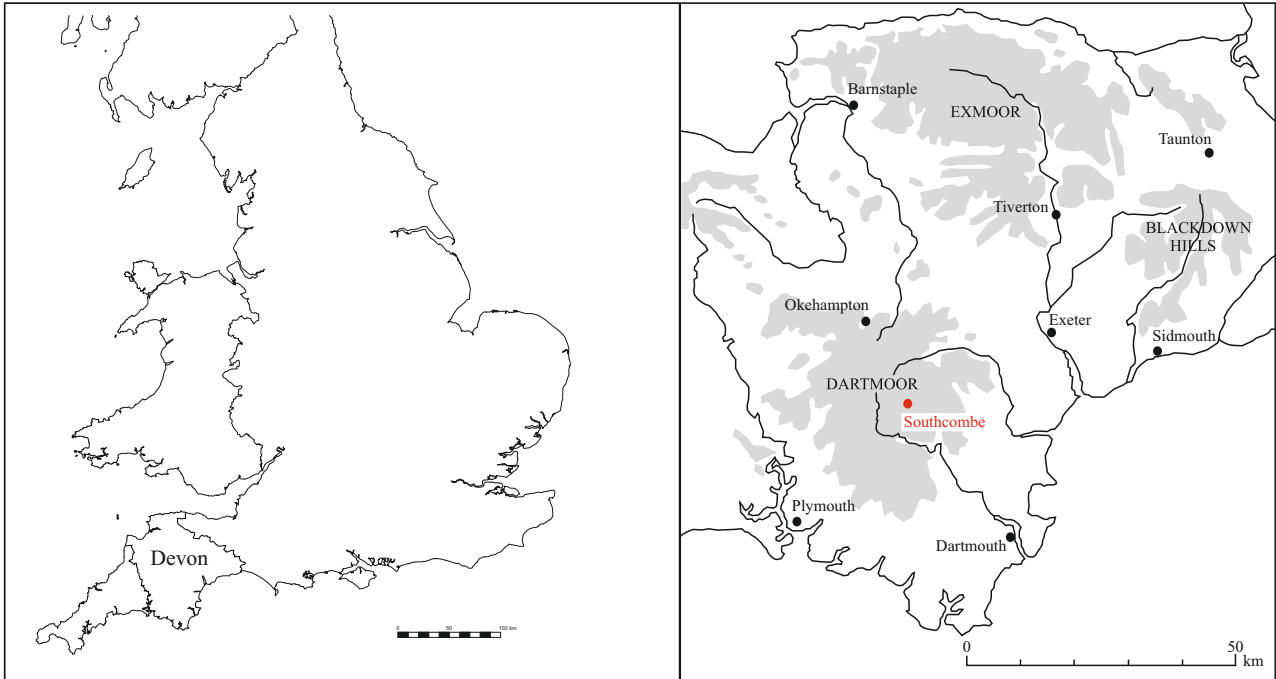


Fig. 1 Location of site.

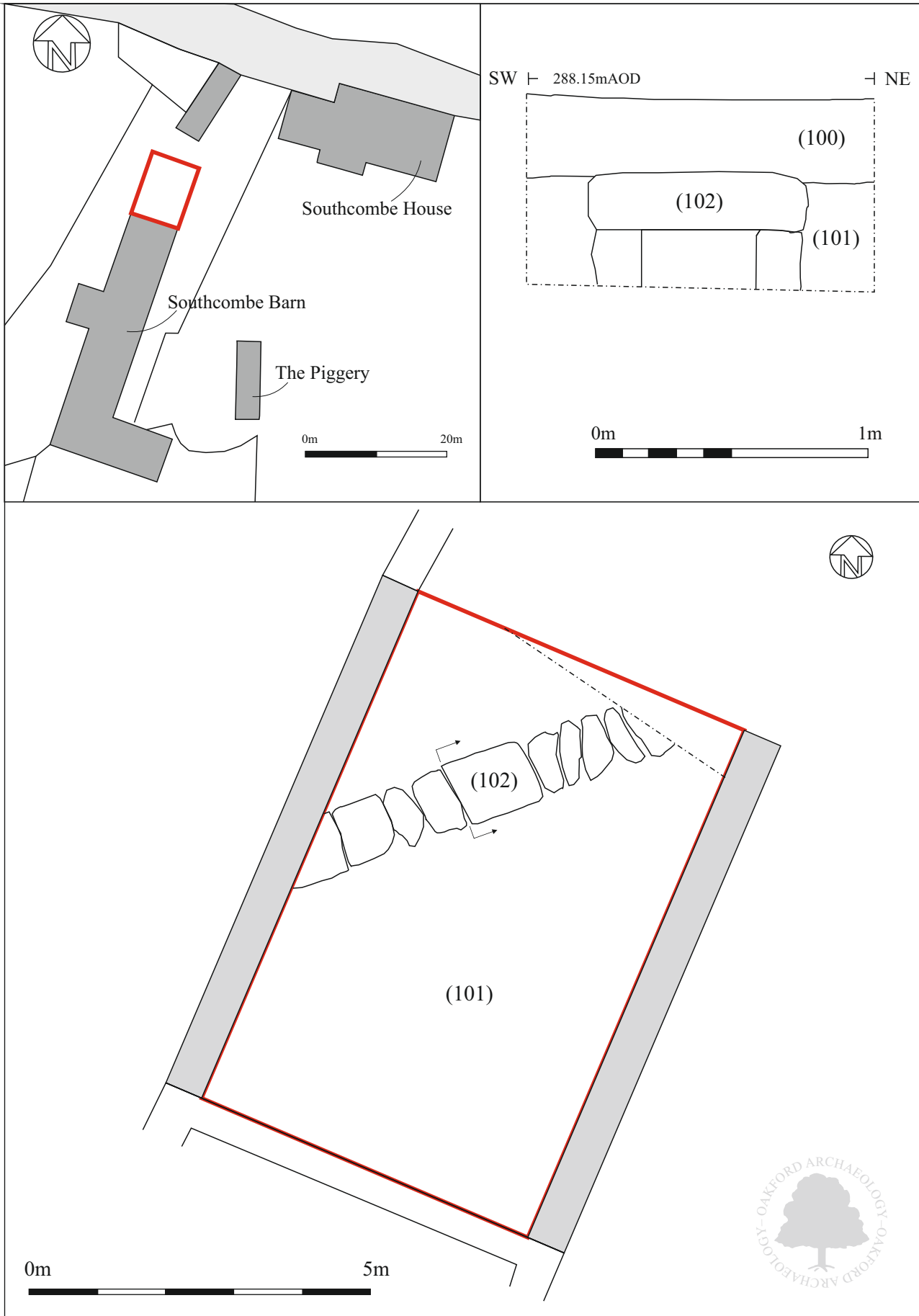


Fig. 2 Detailed plan and section of Culvert 102 within the site showing scale and orientation.



Pl. 1 General view of Southcombe Barn. Looking southwest.



Pl. 2 General view of drain 102. 1m scale. Looking west.

