

## Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Buckland Monachorum, West Devon	<b>National Grid Reference:</b> SX 4901 6666	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological monitoring and recording at Buckland Abbey, Devon.		<b>Photo attached:</b> Y
<b>Planning Application no:</b> n/a	<b>Recipient museum:</b> National Trust	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> oakforda1-159272	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> n/a	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> OA1090	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 03-04/06, 10-13/06/2013	
<p><b>Description of works:</b> An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology in June 2013 at Buckland Abbey, Devon (SX 4901 6666). The site (Fig. 1) lies within the scheduled area to the east of the main Buckland Abbey complex (SM 24846), in an area of high archaeological potential. The work was therefore required by English Heritage (EH), advised by the National Trust Archaeologist (NT).</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during works associated with the construction of a solar array and visitor path lighting (Fig. 2). The initial ground reduction for the solar array consisted of cut-and-fill, 11.5m x 9m extending to a depth of 0.3m, while the service run was 130m long and on average 0.4-0.5m deep.</p> <p><b>Results:</b> The layer sequence revealed by the trenching typically consisted of the following:  0-0.3m      Topsoil  0.3-0.5m    Subsoil  0.5m+      Natural Subsoil</p> <p>Inspection of the exposed area showed no evidence of archaeological activity. It contained a 0.3m thick mid to dark brown silty loam topsoil (1000), overlying a 0.2m thick mid reddish brown silty loam subsoil (1001). A mid yellow silty sand natural (1002) with very frequent shale inclusions was encountered at a depth of 0.5m below current ground level.</p> <p><b>Finds:</b> by John Allan</p> <p>In total there are 13 sherds weighing 195g that are medieval in character. All of these were recovered from the topsoil (1000). They consist of five sherds of North Devon coarseware, with a date range of 13<sup>th</sup>-early 14<sup>th</sup> century; 6 sherds of late medieval granite derived hand-made micaceous ware, including two jars, and 3 sherds of 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century upper greensand derived pottery.</p> <p>The post-medieval pottery, consisting of 6 sherds (total weight 123g) and recovered from the topsoil (1000), consists of a single sherd of early 19<sup>th</sup> century Staffordshire white ware, and a single sherd of 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century South Somerset coarseware. Four sherds of early post-medieval wheel thrown pottery were also present, consisting of two sherds of North Devon gravel tempered (16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century) and two sherds of North Devon gravel free (late 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century).</p> <p><b>Project archive and OASIS entry</b> The site records have been compiled into a fully integrated site archive which is currently held at Oakford Archaeology's offices under project number 1090, pending deposition with the National Trust. A summary of the investigations has been submitted to the on-line archaeological database OASIS</p>		

(Online Access to the Index of archaeological Interventions).

**Recorder:**

MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)

**Date sent to HER:**

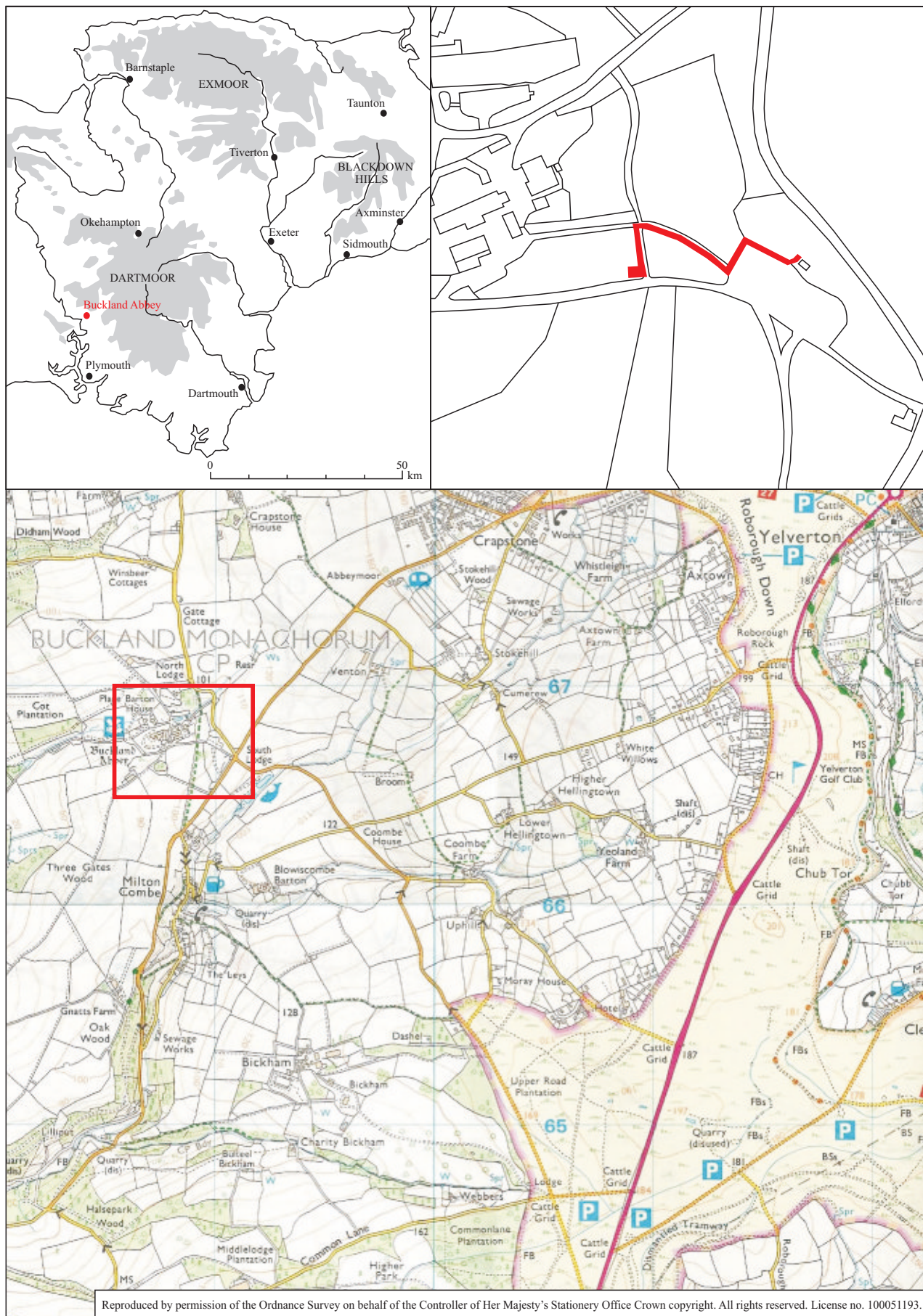


Fig. 1 Location of site

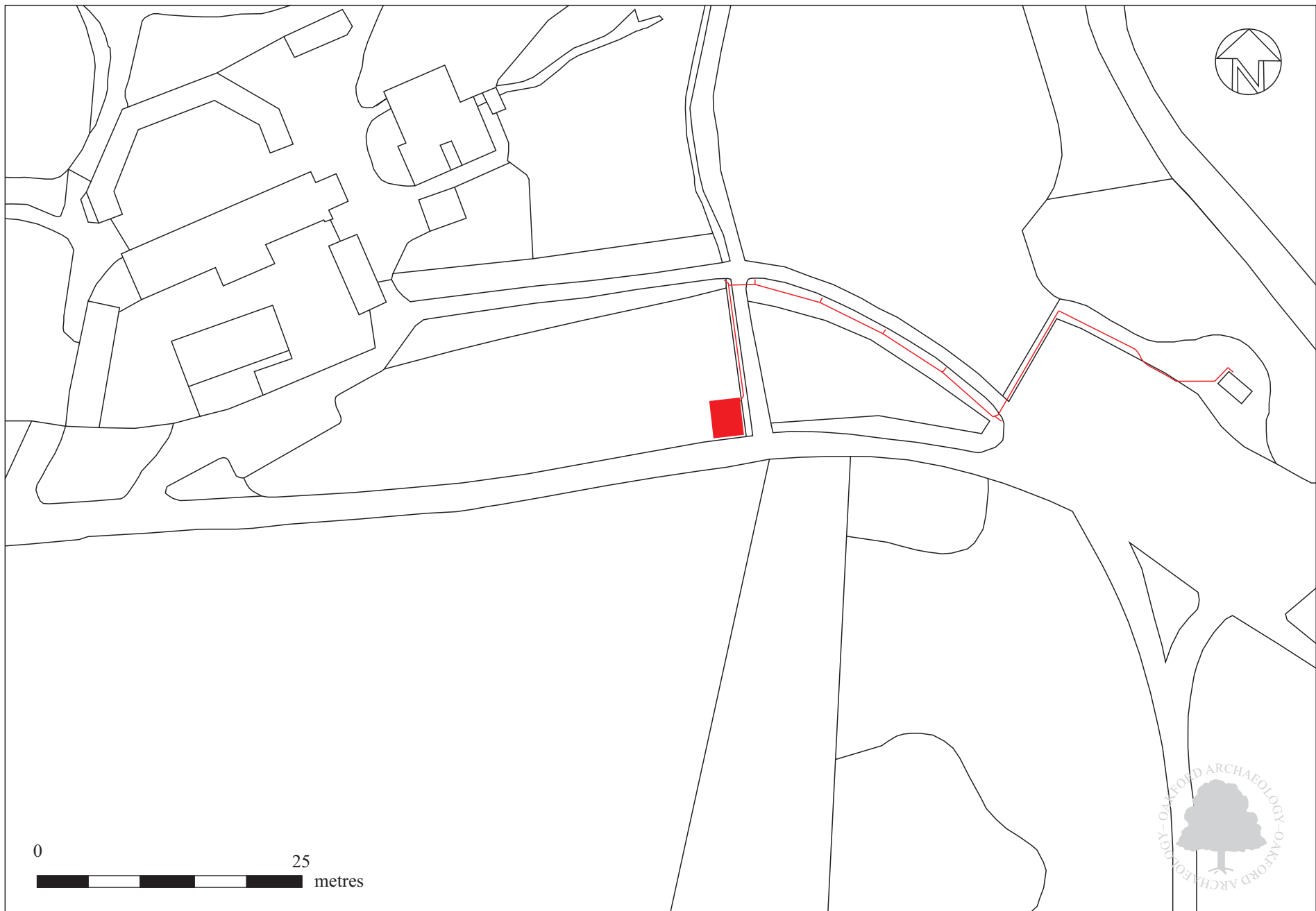


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of development.





Pl. 1 General view of trenching. 2m scale. Looking northeast.



Pl. 2 General view of trenching. 2m scale. Looking east.





Pl. 3 Sample section showing depth of topsoil (100) and subsoil (101). 1m scale. Looking northwest.



Pl. 4 General view of cut-and-fill area. 2m scale. Looking north.