

Somerset County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Glastonbury, Mendip	National Grid Reference: ST 5005 8387	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording at Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset.		Photo attached: Y
Planning Application no: n/a	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-206394	Museum Accession no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1226	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 08/12/2014	
<p>Description of works: An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology in December 2014 at Glastonbury Abbey, Somerset (ST 5005 8387). The site (Fig. 1) lies within the Scheduled area and the work was therefore required by English Heritage (EH). The Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by the Consultant Archaeologist to Glastonbury Abbey (CAGA).</p> <p>The eastern boundary of the estate is defined by the medieval precinct wall, built by Abbot Frome (1420–56). Nothing further is known about the archaeology of this part of the precinct but it is almost certain that much of it is heavily disturbed. Nevertheless it is possible that Dodd Lane, which runs from outside this part of the precinct and extends up the higher land to the east, may be in origin a Roman road (Rahtz and Watts 1993).</p> <p>The work comprised the machine excavation of a single trench (Fig. 2) to install a fence restricting the activities of badgers in the wildlife area near the eastern boundary of the site.</p> <p>Results: The trench (Fig. 2, Pls. 1-2) was c. 15m long, 0.5m wide, 1.2m deep and was dug through disturbed topsoil to a depth of 0.3m. Below this was a deposit consisting of mid yellowish brown silty. This has been interpreted as natural subsoil.</p> <p>A single medieval architectural fragment (see below) was recovered from the topsoil.</p> <p>Finds: by John Allan</p> <p>This was either a mullion or tracery fragment in Doulling stone with a rectangular central section and large roll moulding on each end of the two narrow faces. The slight hollow chamfers show that the long faces have been truncated back, losing the glazing groove. The slight curvature along the long axis suggests this is a tracery fragment from a very large opening and has been subsequently reused.</p> <p>Conclusion: The excavation of a single trench close to the eastern precinct wall demonstrated that the area has been subjected to some historic disturbance. In addition the topsoil contained a single medieval sculptural fragment.</p> <p>Bibliography: Allan, J 2014 'Written Scheme of investigation for archaeological work at Glastonbury Abbey, 2014: Badger fence and two rodding pits. Unpubl. Document. Rahtz, P. and Watts, L. 1993 'Glastonbury Myth and Archaeology'.</p>		

Project archive and OASIS entry

The site records have been compiled into a fully integrated site archive which is currently held at Oakford Archaeology's offices under project number 1226, pending deposition with Glastonbury Abbey. A summary of the investigations has been submitted to the on-line archaeological database OASIS (Online Access to the Index of archaeological InterventionS).

Recorder:

MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)

Date sent to HER:

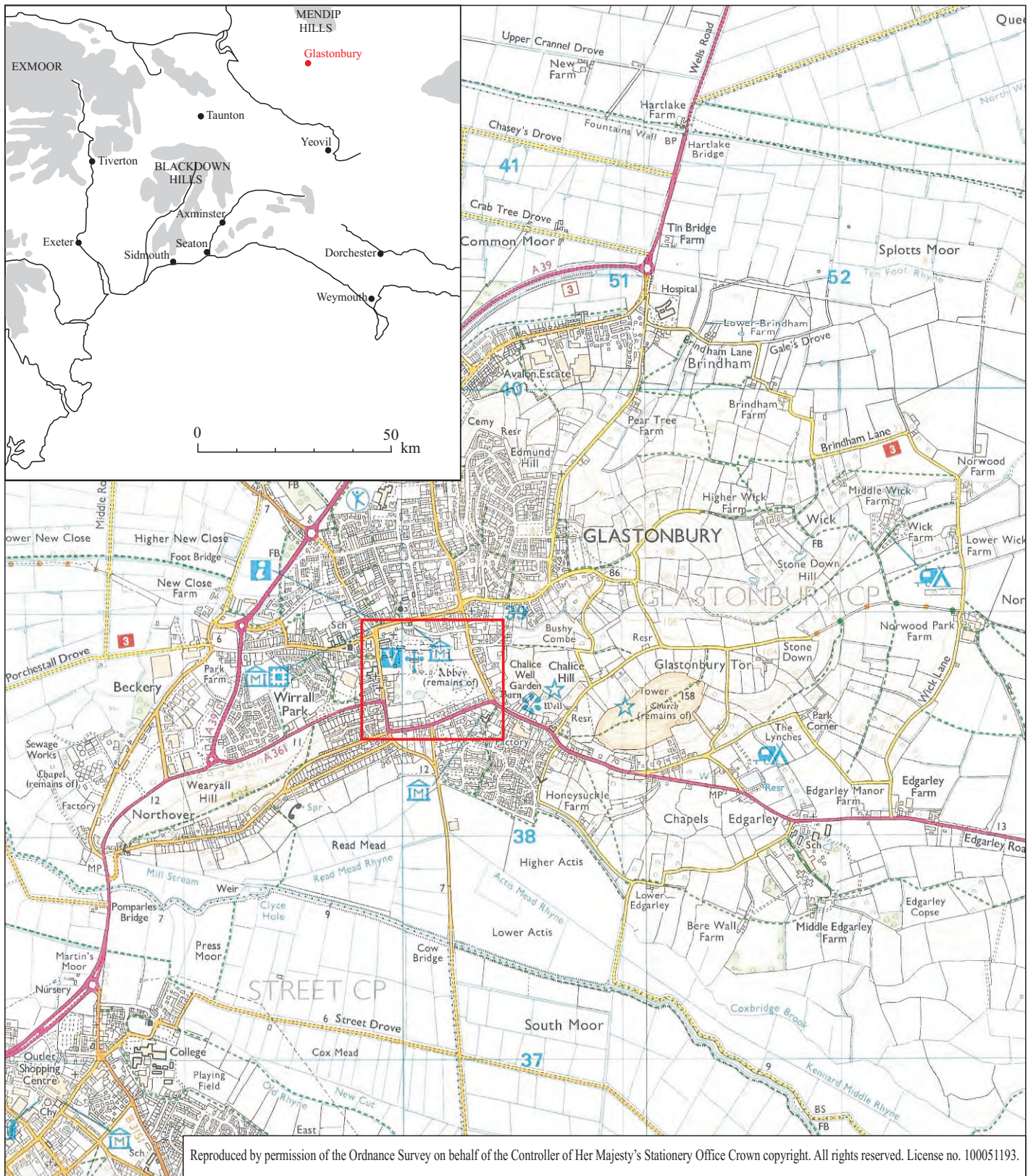


Fig. 1 Location of site.

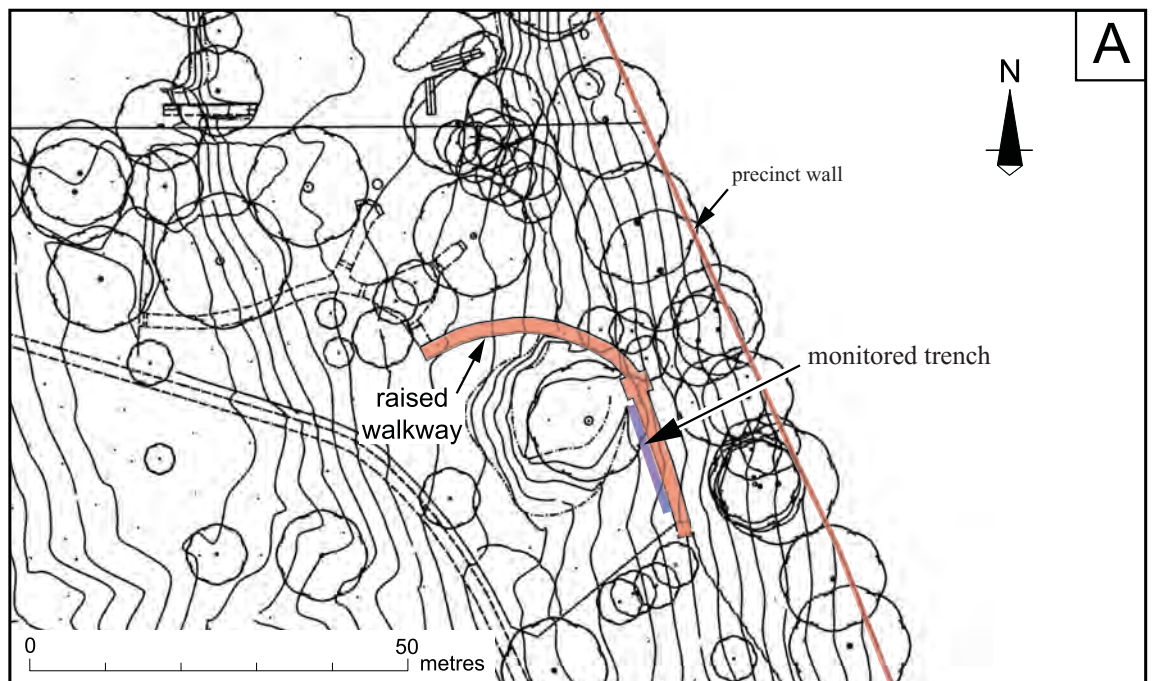
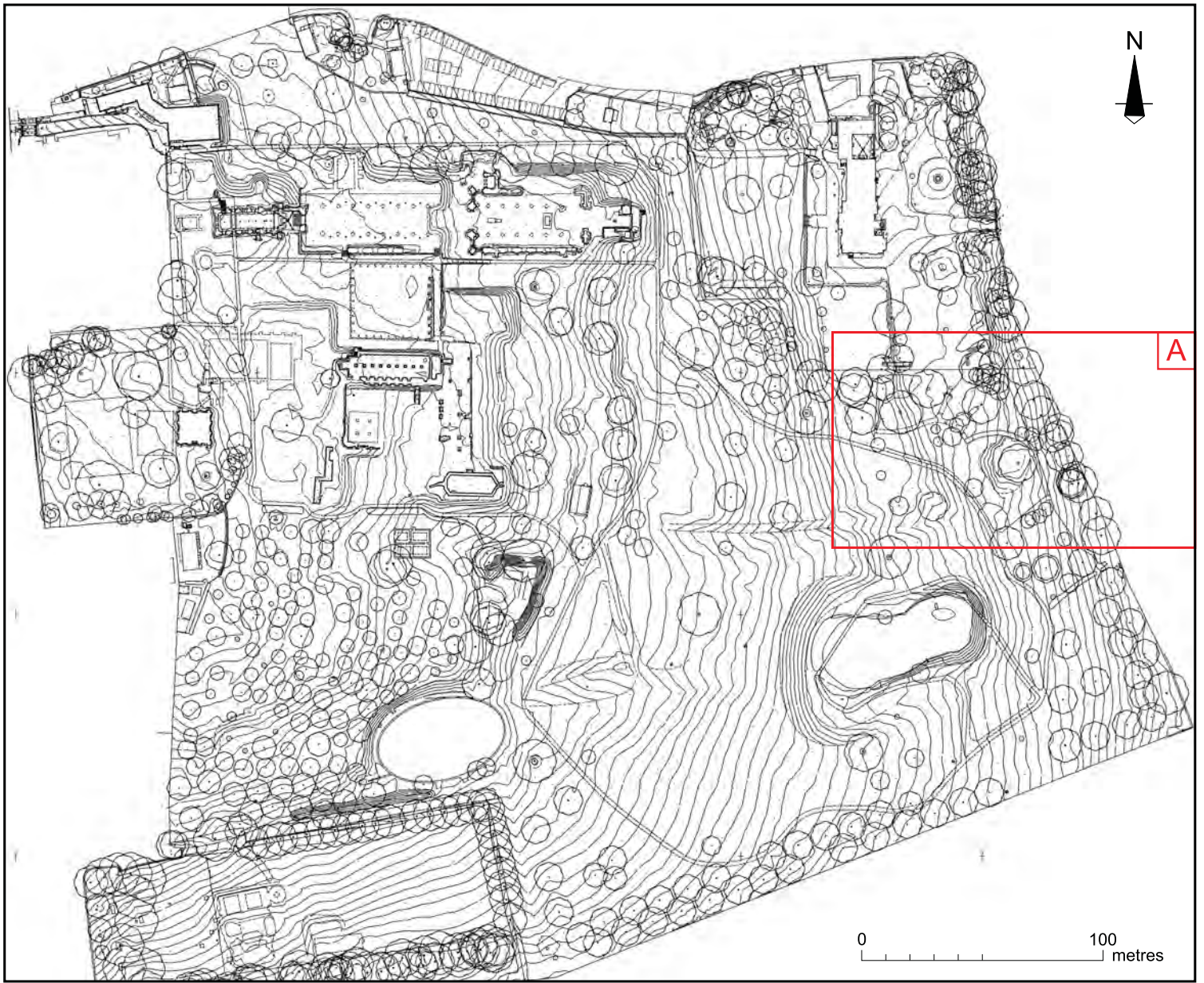


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of observations.



Pl. 1 General view of badger fence trench under excavation. Looking south.



Pl. 2 General view of section. 1m scale. Looking southeast.