

## Dartmoor National Park Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> North Bovey, Dartmoor	<b>National Grid Reference:</b> SX 7407 8389	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological monitoring and recording at The Ring of Bells, North Bovey, Devon.		<b>Photo attached:</b> Y
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 0209/12	<b>Recipient museum:</b> n/a	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> oakforda1-215708	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> n/a	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> OA1176	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 25-26/03, 28/03 and 31/03/2014	
<p><b>Description of works:</b> An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology in March 2014 during building work at The Ring of Bells Pub, North Bovey, Devon (SX 7407 8389). The site (Fig. 1) lies in the western edge of the historic village of North Bovey. The Inn is a grade II listed building (1168603). The layout perpetuates that of an earlier house which was first constructed as a four-room-and-through-passage plan with an unheated service room between the passage and the lower room in the 15<sup>th</sup>–early 16<sup>th</sup> century. Altered in the 17<sup>th</sup> century the property was modernised in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during works associated with new paving at the front of the building and new service trenches. The ground reduction for the new services extended to a depth of 0.5-0.75m.</p> <p><b>Results:</b> The excavation of the service trenches exposed the remains of two walls fragments (102 and 103) towards the southwest end of the courtyard (Fig. 2). Walls 102 and 103 were composed of large, roughly squared, granite blocks bonded with clay. They probably formed part of the same wall and likely represent the lowest foundation course. The wall is interpreted as the remains of a boundary wall of post-medieval date between the Ring of Bells and adjoining properties to the south. Although not shown on the 1843 Tithe map (Fig. 3), it is possible that the wall is shown by a dashed line on the 1886 and 1905 Ordnance Survey maps (Figs 4-5).</p> <p>To the south of wall 103 the soil profile consisted of an approximately 0.7m thick dark brown humic garden soil overlying gromow, while to the north modern activity had truncated any evidence for earlier surfaces in the area immediately outside the Ring of Bells and no other features, deposits or dating evidence were uncovered.</p> <p><b>Project archive and OASIS entry</b> 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>		
<b>Recorder:</b> MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)		<b>Date sent to HER:</b>



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Fig. 1 Location of site.

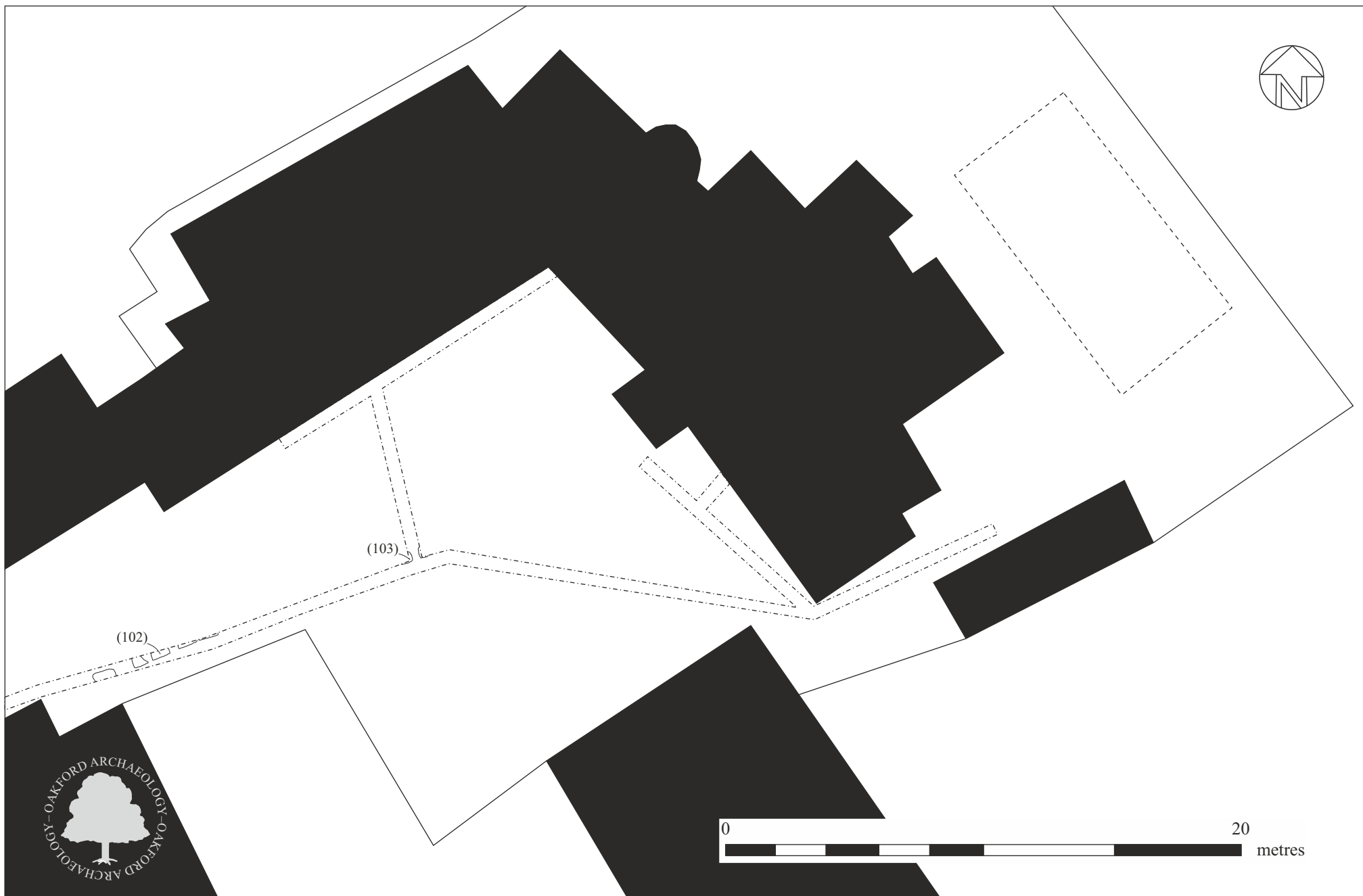


Fig. 2 Location of groundworks (red) with principal feature identified (black).



Fig. 3 Detail from the 1842 North Bovey Tithe map.

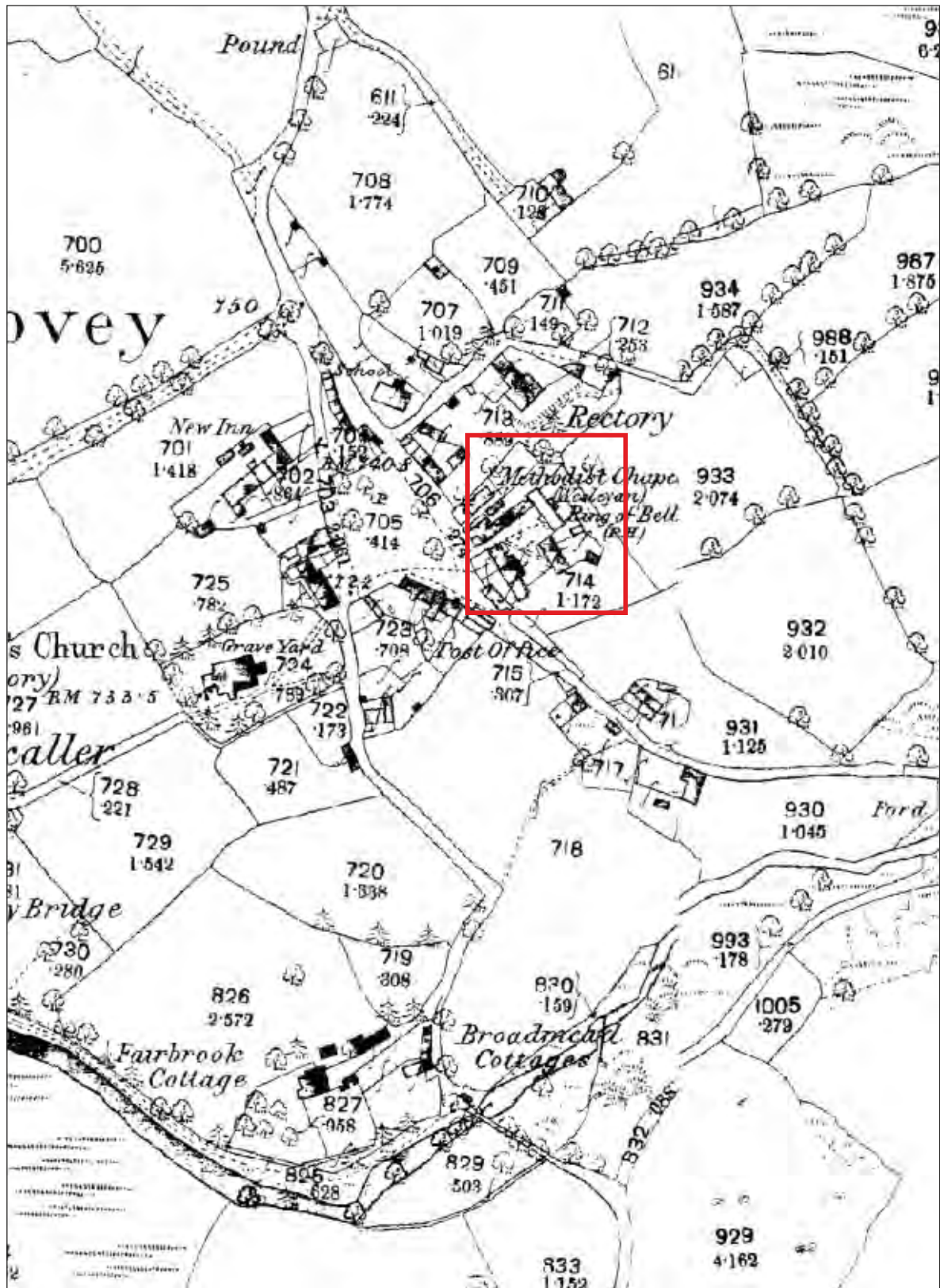


Fig. 4 Detail from the 1886 1st edition Ordnance Survey map.



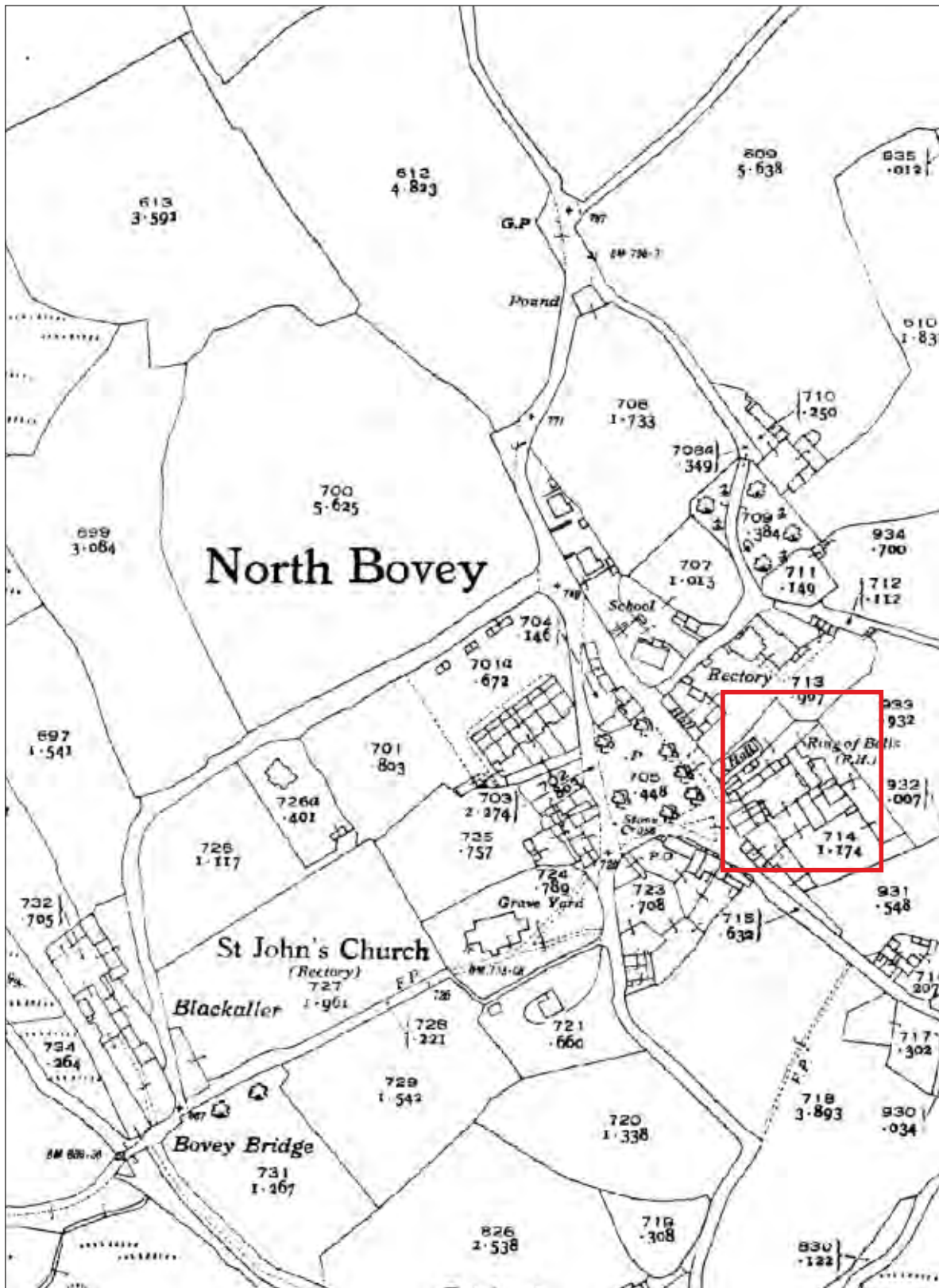


Fig. 6 Detail from the 1936 Ordnance Survey map.



Pl. 1 General view of wall remains 102. 1m scale.  
Looking northeast.



Pl. 2 General view of wall remains 102 showing  
building scar in background. Looking southwest.





Pl. 3 Close-up of wall remains 103. 0.5m scale. Looking northwest.