

## Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Rockbeare, East Devon	<b>National Grid Reference:</b> SY 0152 9531	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological monitoring and recording on land behind The Smithy, Rockbeare, Devon.		<b>Photo attached:</b> Y
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 14/0721/FUL	<b>Recipient museum:</b> n/a	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> oakforda1-221383	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> n/a	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> OA1128	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> May – June 2015	
<p><b>Description of works:</b></p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology between May and July 201 during work on land behind The Smithy, Rockbeare, Devon (SY 0152 9531). The site (Fig. 1) lies in an area of archaeological potential to the south of the Roman road between Exeter and Honiton. It was therefore considered possible that groundworks associated with the construction of this development may expose and destroy archaeological deposits or artefactual material present within the area affected by the development and associated with the Roman road or any contemporary road-side development in this area.</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during works associated with the construction of four detached dwellings, garages, attenuation tank and access road (Fig. 2). The excavations for the building foundations measured approximately 50m long, 10m wide and 0.6-1.8m deep. A small area at the entrance of the site, 12.5m long and 4.5m wide, was stripped to a depth of 0.5m. The work associated with the drainage was approximately 205m long, 0.3m wide and on average 1.8-2.5m deep, while the attenuation tank was 12m long, 2.5m wide and 2.5m deep. These works revealed a simple deposit sequence extending across the entire site:</p> <p>0 -0.3m mid reddish brown silty clay (topsoil - 100) 0.3m+ mid orange red clay (natural subsoil - 101)</p> <p><b>Conclusion:</b></p> <p>No deposits, features or dating evidence indicative of archaeological activity was found. The lack of pottery and lithics from the site, despite examination of spoil heaps, further indicates that the site is archaeologically sterile. This is the only report on these works.</p> <p><b>Project archive and OASIS entry</b></p> <p>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>

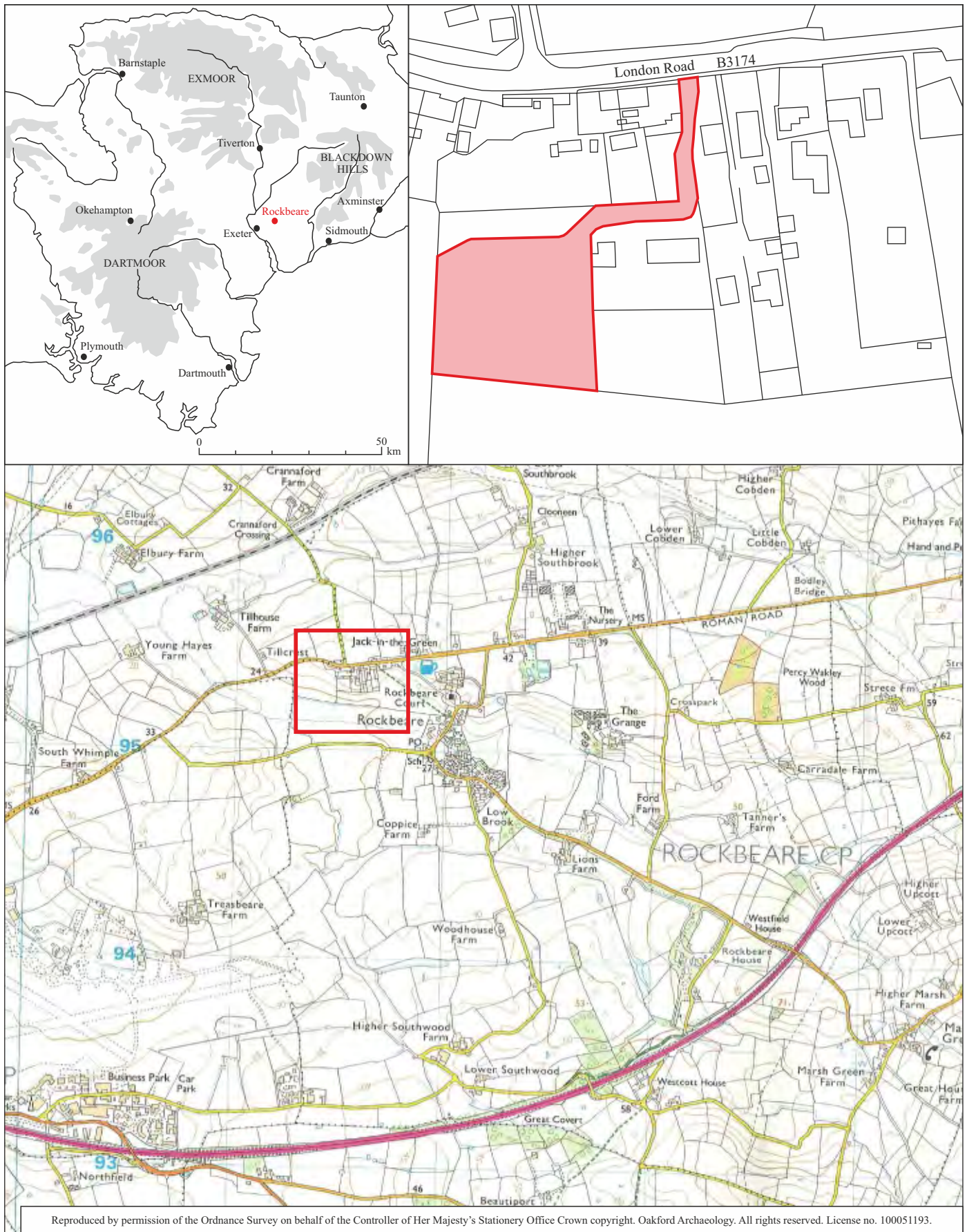


Fig. 1 Location of site.

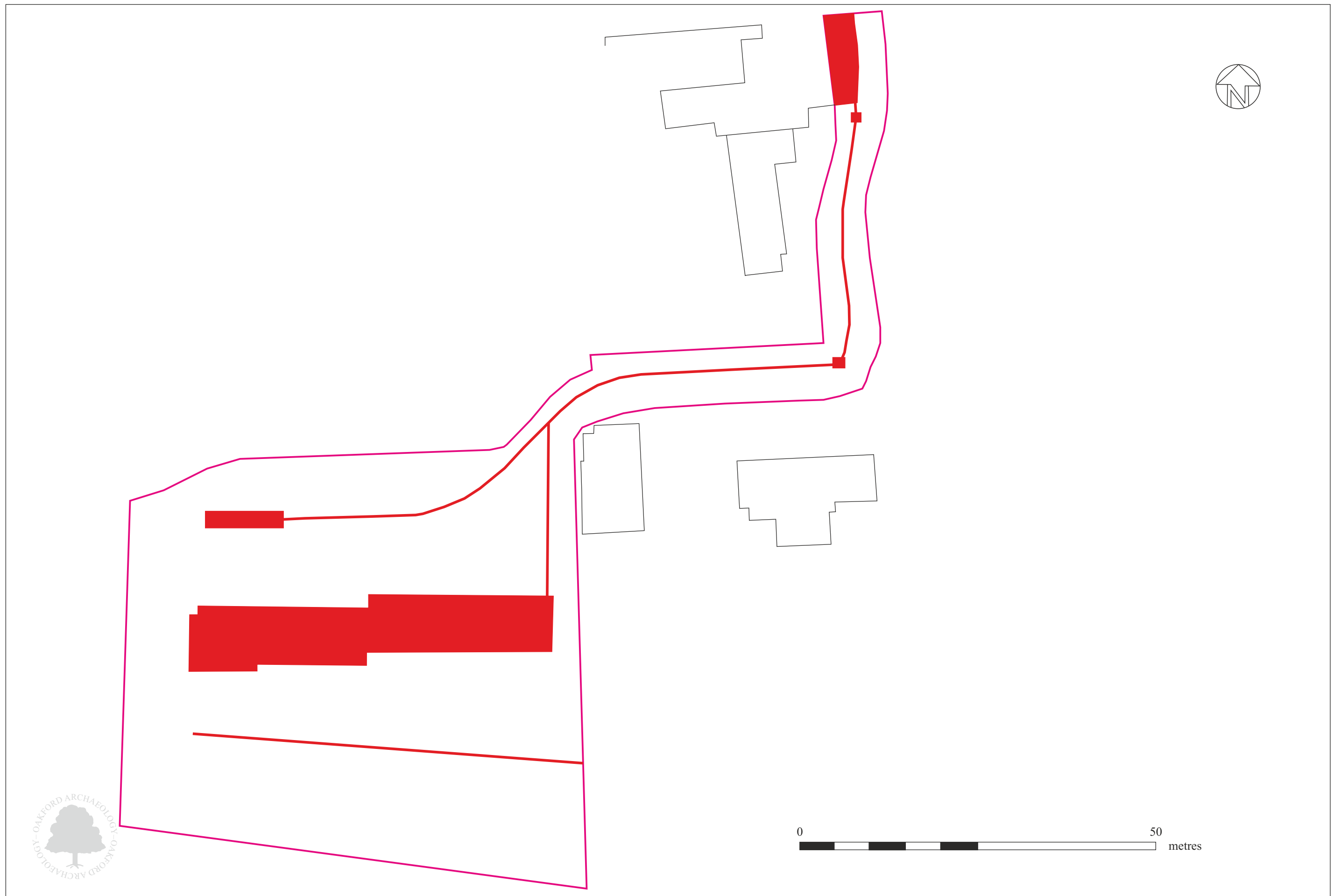


Fig. 2 Location of observations (red).





Pl. 1 General view of building foundations. Looking east.



Pl. 2 General view of access road excavations showing shallow nature of works. Looking north.



Pl. 3 General view of service trenching. Looking south.



Pl. 4 General view of attenuation tank excavations. Looking west.