

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Honiton, East Devon	National Grid Reference: SY 1618 9930	Number:
Subject: Archaeological evaluation on land behind Higher Brand Lane, Honiton, Devon.		Photo attached: Y
Planning Application no: 15/2549/FUL	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-248840	Museum Accession no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1321	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 18/04/2016	
<p>Background: An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology for Mr Brian Marshall in April 2016 on land behind Higher Brand Lane, Honiton, Devon (SY 1618 9930). The work was required by East Devon District Council (EDDC) as advised by the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET). The site (Fig. 1) lies to the south of Brands Farm, a historic farmstead shown on the 1840 Tithe map, that appears to have been abandoned by the end of the 19th century. The Tithe map shows an agricultural building south of the farmstead and located within the site boundary. The date and origin of Brands Farm are unknown and it was therefore possible that this settlement may have early origins.</p> <p>Description of works: An evaluation was carried out prior to the start of groundworks. Three trenches, measuring 25m in total, were excavated (Fig. 2), covering the footprint of the proposed development. The layer sequence revealed by the trenching typically consisted of the following:</p> <p>Trench 1 100 0-0.3m dark brown silty clay (topsoil) 101 0.3-0.6m mid reddish brown silty clay (subsoil) 102 0.6m+ light yellowish white clay (natural subsoil)</p> <p>Trench 2 200 0-0.4m mid reddish brown clay (modern made ground) 201 0.4-0.75m dark brown silty clay (topsoil) 202 0.75-1.1m mid reddish brown silty clay (subsoil) 203 1.1m+ light greyish blue clay (natural subsoil)</p> <p>Trench 3 300 0-0.25m dark brown silty clay (topsoil) 301 0.25-0.5m mid greyish brown silty clay with frequent light yellow lime mortar and limestone rubble (demolition deposit) 302 0.5-0.6m mid reddish brown silty clay (subsoil) 303 0.6m+ light greyish blue clay (natural subsoil)</p> <p>Conclusion: The trench evaluation constitutes a thorough examination of the site, with trenches positioned to provide a comprehensive sample of those areas affected by the development. Topsoil and subsoil deposits (up to 0.6m deep) have been confirmed, across the whole of the site, but the total removal of this material within trenches 1 and 2 has failed to reveal any evidence for buried archaeological features or deposits.</p> <p>Trench 3 exposed an extensive demolition deposit covering the entirety of the trench. This is likely the remains of the farm building shown on the 1843 Tithe map and demolished in the late 19th century. The</p>		

removal of this deposit failed to uncover any evidence for underlying archaeological features and deposits.

The lack of pottery and lithics from the remainder of the site, despite examination of spoil heaps, further indicates that the potential for significant archaeological survival is low. This is the only report on these works.

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).

Recorder:

MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)

Date sent to HER:

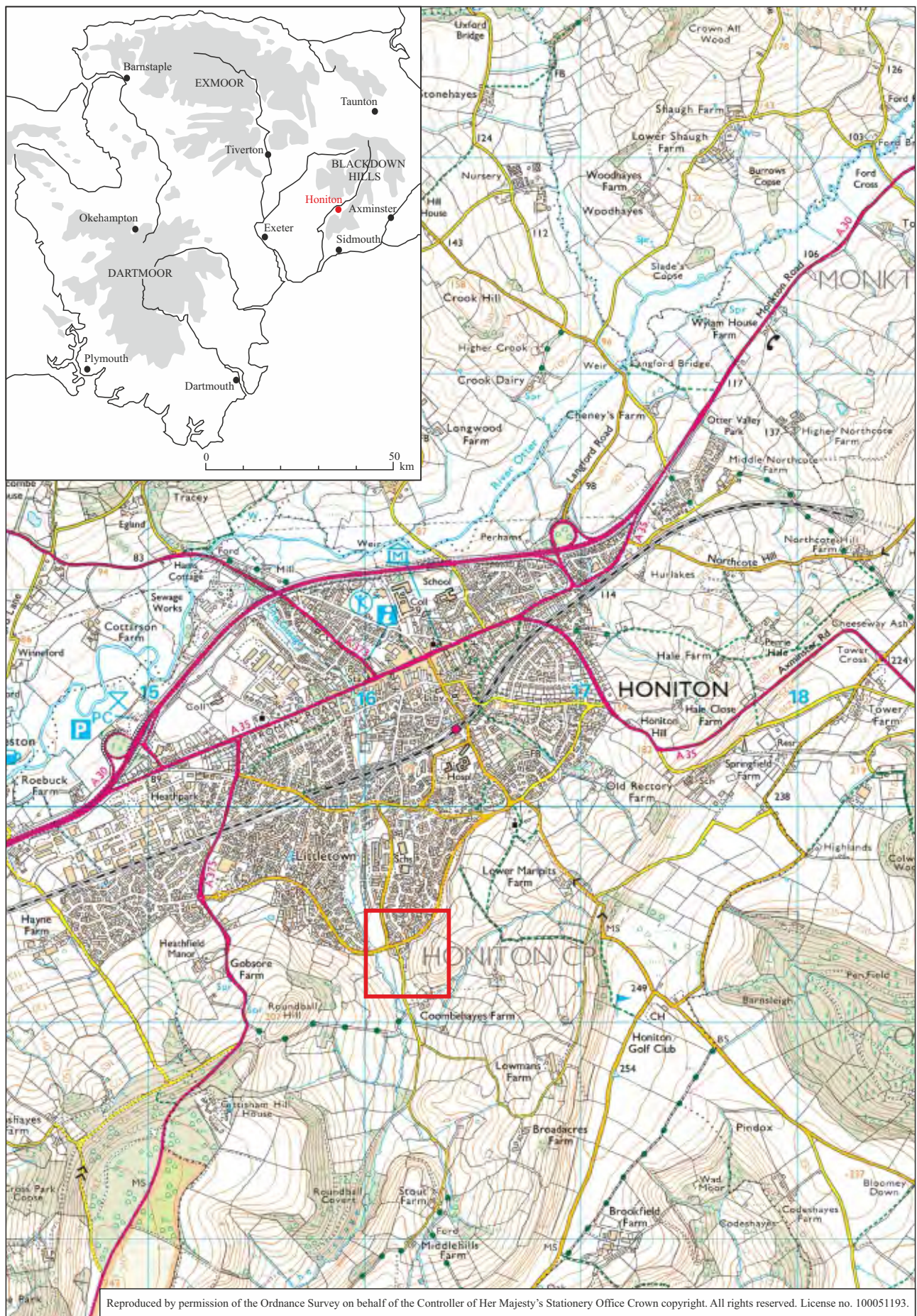


Fig. 1 Location of site.

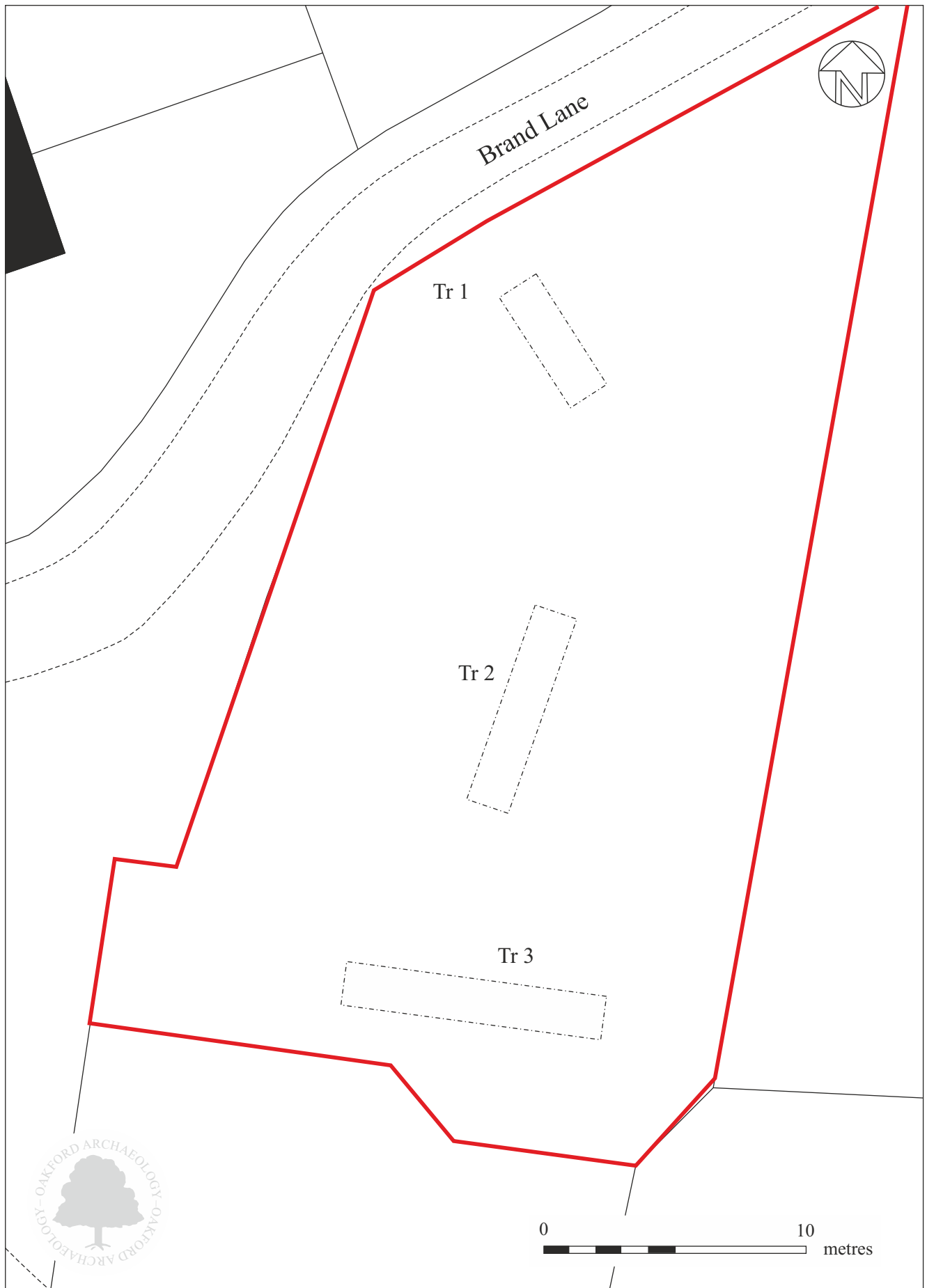


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of trenches.