

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Staverton, South Hams	National Grid Reference: SX 7753 6448	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording at Abham Orchard, Staverton, Devon.		Photo attached: N
Planning Application no: 50/0052/15/F	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-271347	Museum Reference no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1312	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 28/04 and 26/05/2016	
<p>Background</p> <p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology for Mr & Mrs Marchlewski between April and May 2016 on works associated with the demolition of an existing building and the construction of a new dwelling on land at Abham Orchard, Staverton, Devon (SX 7753 6448). The work was required by South Hams District Council (SHDC), as advised by the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>The site lies in an area of archaeological potential immediately to the east of Abham Cottage, a grade II listed building with 17th century origins. A number of buildings are shown on the 1840's Tithe map and the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance survey maps and may be related to the nearby Abham Cottage. These buildings were demolished by the 1940's.</p> <p>Description of the works</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of the new foundations for the garage and the main house. The works revealed a simple deposit sequence across the whole site.</p> <p>Natural bedrock (103) consisting of shale was exposed at a depth of 1.1m below current ground level. This was overlain by a 0.2m thick mid reddish brown silty clay subsoil (102). This was in turn overlain by a 0.3m thick mid to dark reddish brown silty clay topsoil (101). These deposits were sealed by a 0.65m thick mid brown loamy clay (100) with frequent inclusions of redeposited shale bedrock. This has been interpreted as a modern made ground associated with the construction of the post-war bungalow and the demolition of the structures shown on the 1905 Ordnance Survey map and the landscaping of the site.</p> <p>Conclusion:</p> <p>No features, deposits or dating evidence were found to indicate archaeological activity within the area of the development.</p> <p>OASIS entry</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>		
Recorder: MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)		Date sent to HER:

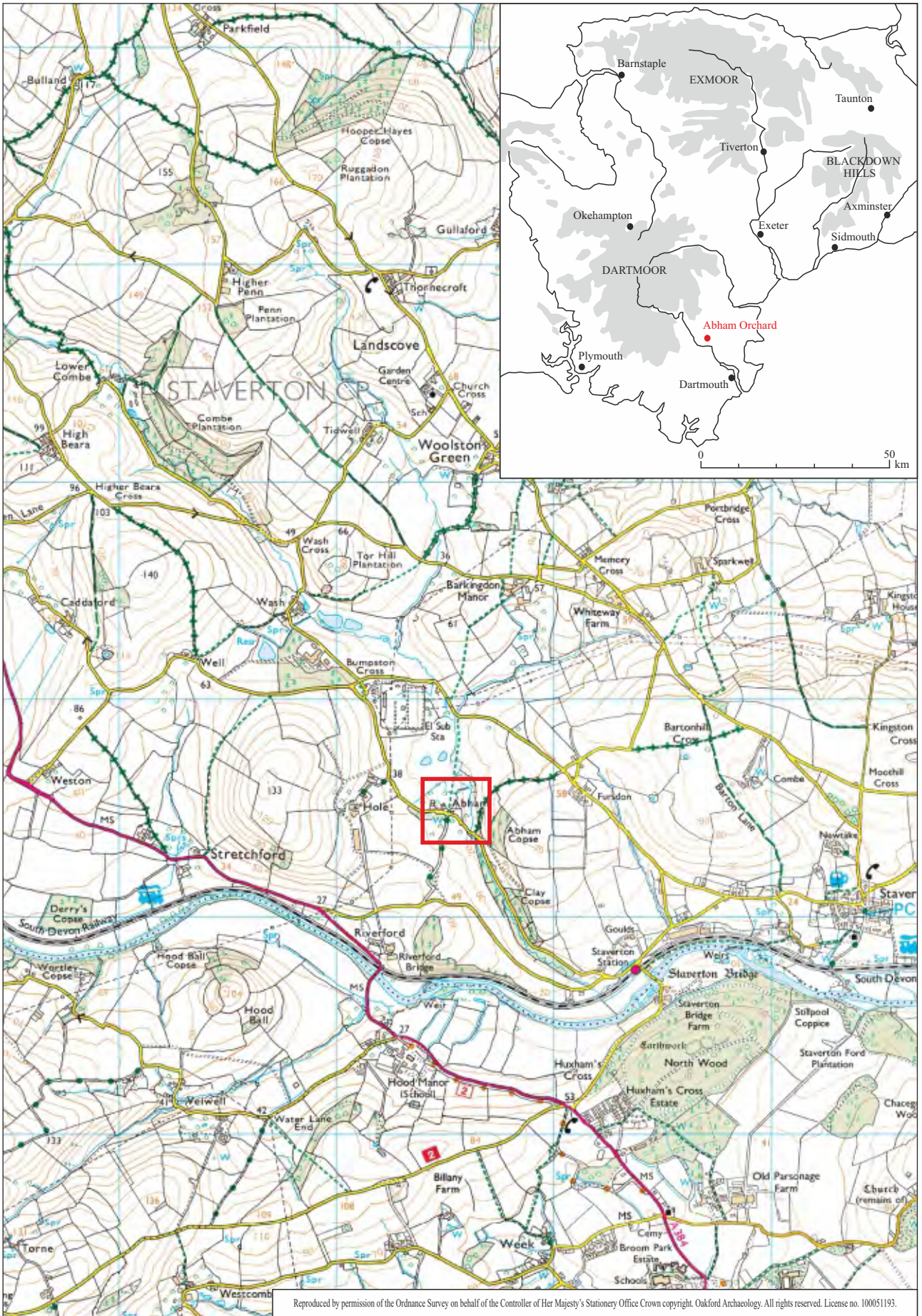


Fig. 1 Location of site.

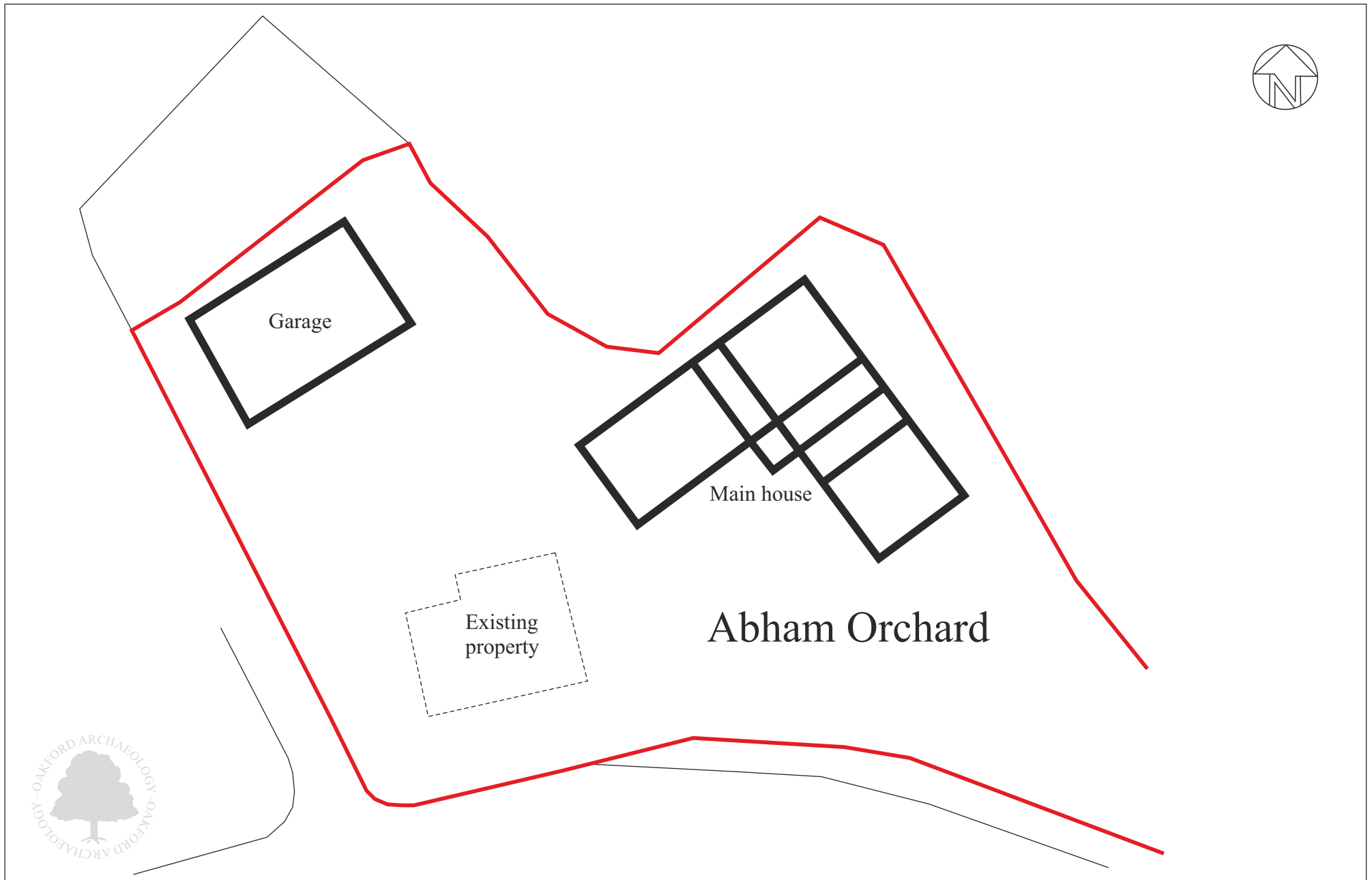


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of observations.