

## Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

<b>Civil Parish &amp; District:</b> Willand, Mid Devon	<b>National Grid Reference:</b> ST 0378 1164	<b>Number:</b>
<b>Subject:</b> Archaeological monitoring and recording at Muxbeare Barn, Willand, Devon.		<b>Photo attached:</b> Y
<b>Planning Application no:</b> 16/01162/FULL	<b>Recipient museum:</b> n/a	
<b>OASIS ID:</b> oakforda1-340001	<b>Museum Accession no:</b> n/a	
<b>Contractor's reference number/code:</b> OA1515	<b>Dates fieldwork undertaken:</b> 13-16/08/2018	
<p><b>Description of works:</b> An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology in August 2018 during building work at Muxbeare Barn, Willand, Devon (ST 0378 1164). The site (Fig. 1) is located within the historic core of the hamlet of Muxbeare, a settlement of possible Saxon origin and recorded in the 1086 Domesday survey as '<i>Mochelesberia</i>'. The work was required by Mid Devon District Council (MDDC) as advised by the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during works associated with the conversion of the barn to a dwelling and associated works. The area to the east and south east of the barn was reduced and the eastern boundary, consisting of a simple earth bank, reduced by half. The foul trench leading to the new sceptic tank was also monitored.</p> <p><b>Results:</b> The groundworks (Fig. 2, Pl. 1) exposed a compact mid red clay natural subsoil (102). This was in turn overlain by a 0.3m thick mid reddish-brown sandy clay subsoil (101) underneath a 0.2m thick mid-to-dark brown topsoil (100).</p> <p>The Hedge bank along the eastern boundary of the site comprised an earth core (103) which directly overlay topsoil (100), suggesting the bank is modern in date. The bank core was in turn overlain by a mid-brown silty clay deposit (104) representing the probable result of organic growth and decay on the surface of the bank.</p> <p><b>Conclusion:</b> No deposits, features or dating evidence indicative of archaeological activity was found. The lack of pottery and other artefacts 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> 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>

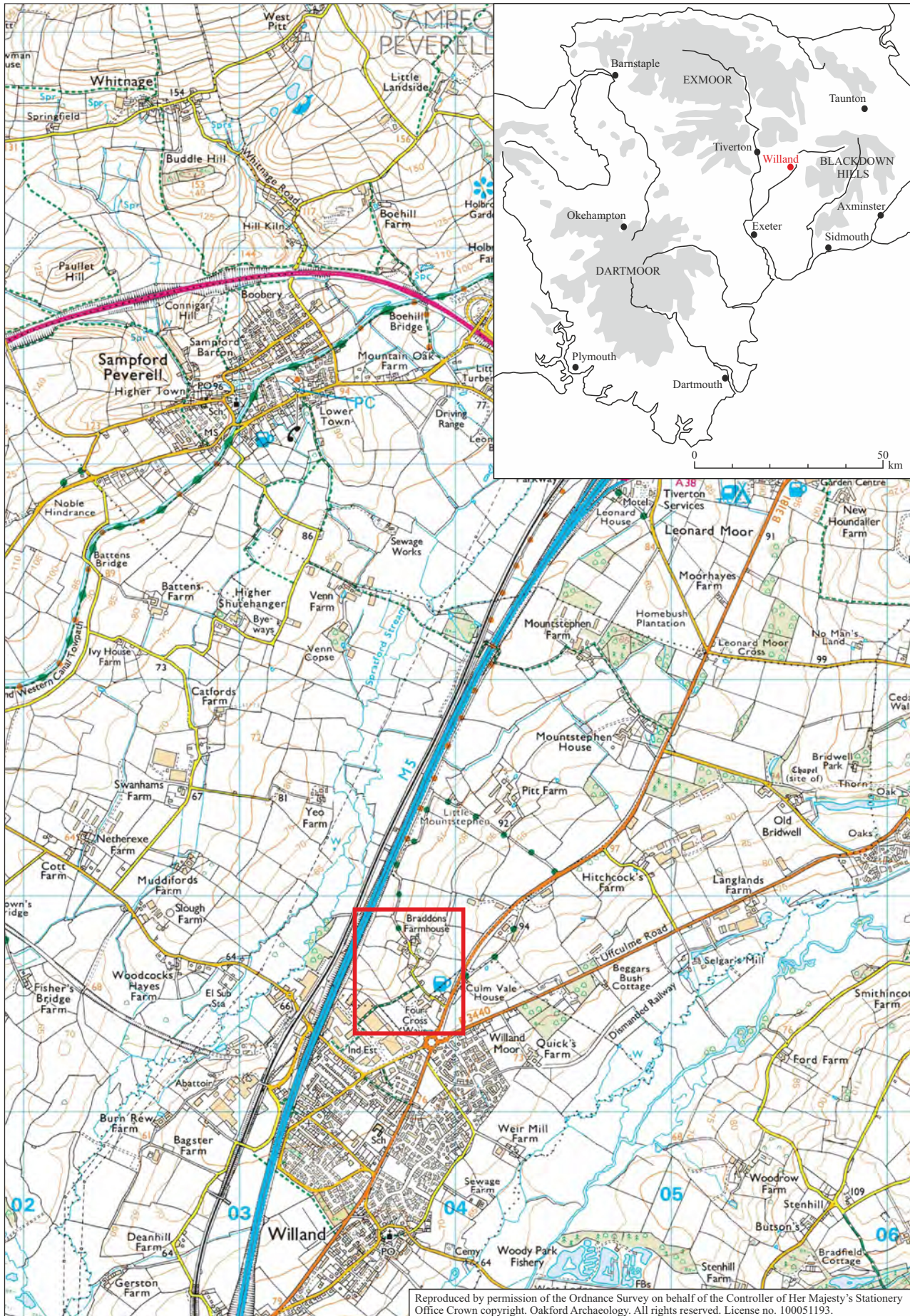


Fig. 1 Location of site.

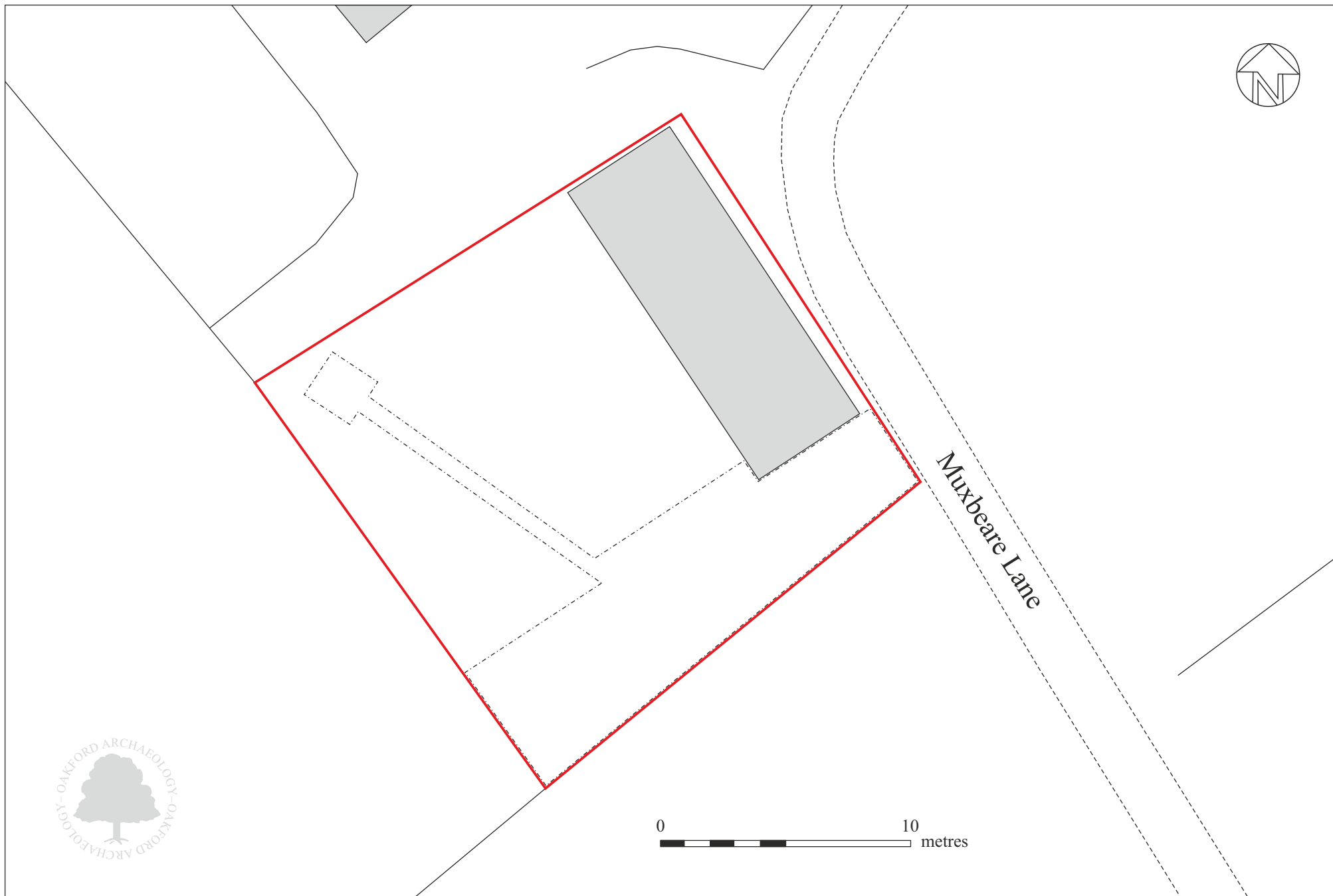


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of observations.



Pl. 1 Section through earth bank along southeast edge of site. 1m scale.  
Looking east.