

Dartmoor National Park Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Holne, South Hams	National Grid Reference: SX 7534 8612	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording at Long Barn, Michelcombe, Devon.		Photo attached: Y
Planning Application no: 0047/16	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-340504	Museum Accession no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1370	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 25/07/2014, 21/04/2017, 02/05/2017 and 06/07/2017	
<p>Description of works: An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology between April 2014 and July 2017 during building work at Long Barn, Michelcombe, Devon (SX 6950 6890). The work is required by the Dartmoor National Park Authority (DNPA).</p> <p>Long Barn (Fig. 1) is a grade II* listed longhouse. The building may originally have been a 16th century open hall house, although the current layout perpetuates that of a 17th century longhouse which was first constructed as a two-room-and-through-passage plan. The building was altered in the 18th-19th centuries. It was therefore considered possible that significant remains or deposits might survive within the footprint of the proposed groundworks.</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during works associated with internal floor reductions and the excavation of internal and external service trenches (Fig. 2, Pls. 1-3).</p> <p>Results: The removal of concrete floors within the former hall and western outshut and the excavation of a service trench exposed no deposits, features or dating evidence indicative of archaeological activity associated with the former longhouse. The work uncovered a simple sequence consisting of a 0.05-0.1m thick concrete floor. This was in turn overlying a mid yellowish-brown silty clay natural subsoil (102) with frequent shillet inclusions.</p> <p>The external works consisted of a 45m long, 0.3m wide and 0.6m deep service trench extending to the northeast of the property, as well as an area of ground reduction immediately to the west of the building. The former uncovered a simple sequence of a mid-to-dark brown clayey silt topsoil (101) lying above a mid-yellowish-brown silty clay natural subsoil (102) with frequent shillet inclusions. The excavations to the west of the building revealed a 0.1m thick concrete slab sitting above a mid-to-dark brown sandy silt made ground (100) containing frequent small to medium size granite rubble. This was in turn overlying the buried topsoil (101) lying above natural subsoil (102).</p> <p>No features, deposits or dating evidence were found within the area affected by the development. This is the only report on the works.</p> <p>This is the only report on these works.</p> <p>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).</p>		

Recorder:

MFR Steinmetzer (Oakford Archaeology)

Date sent to HER:

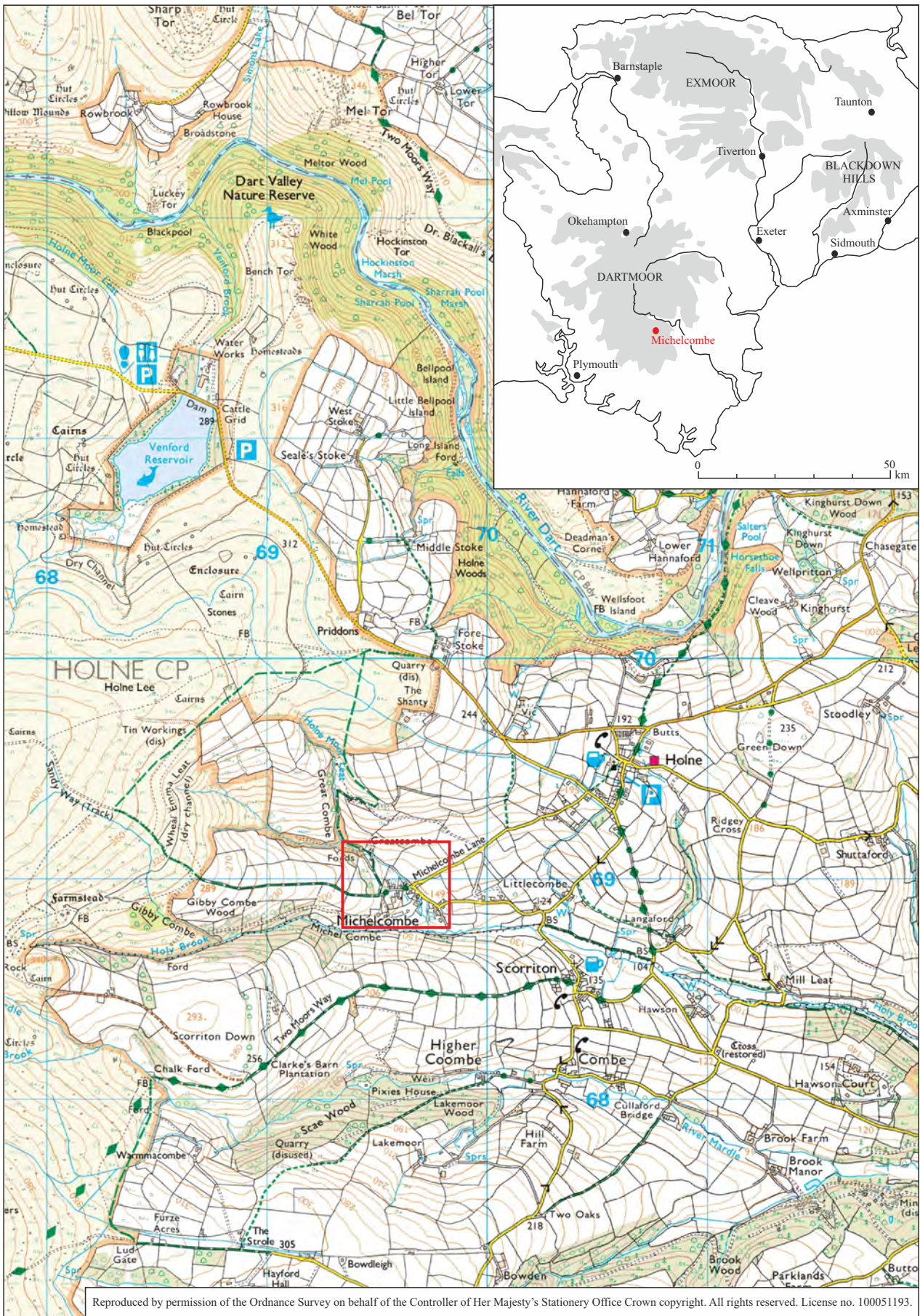


Fig. 1 Location of site.

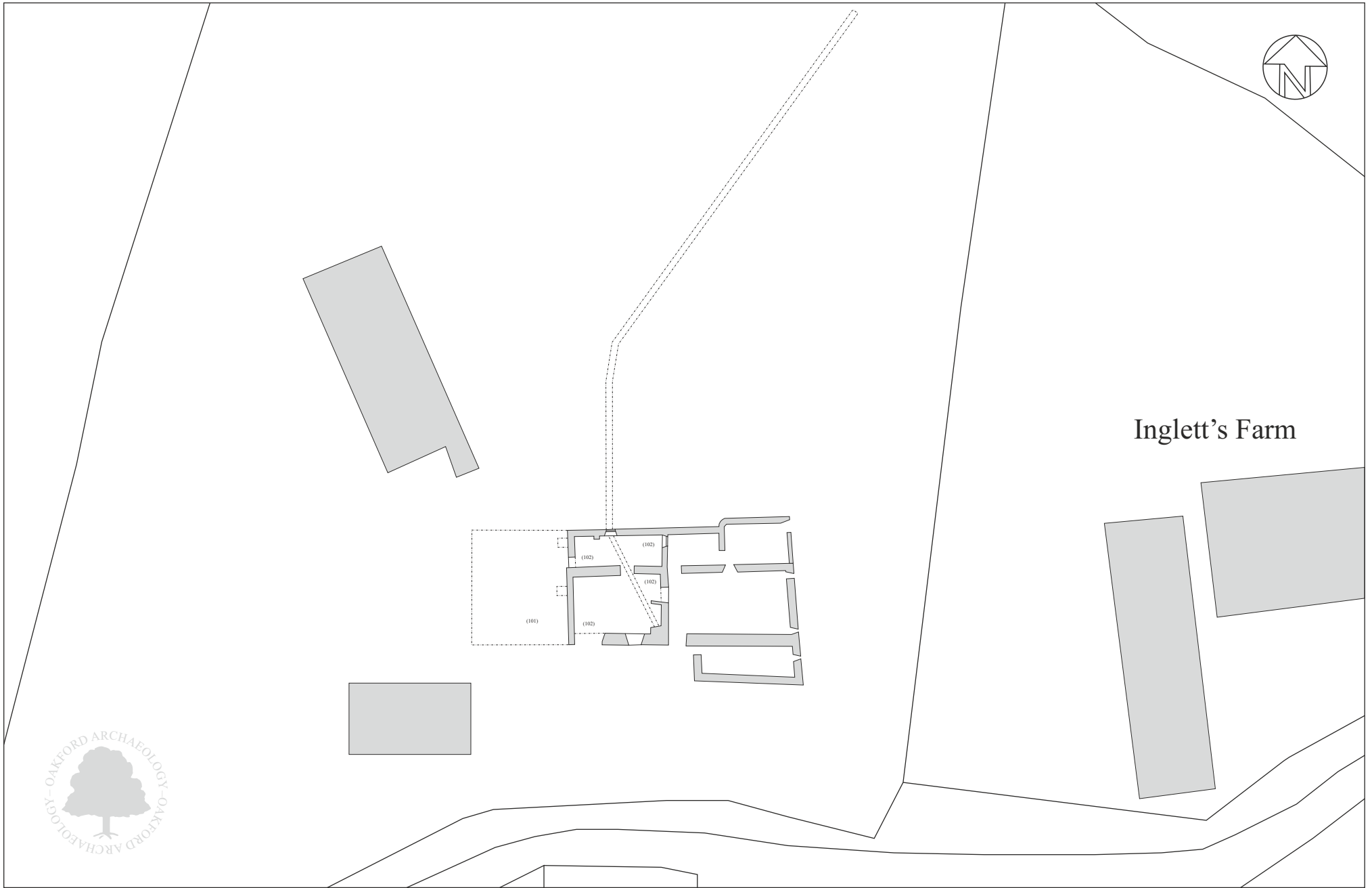


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of observations.



Pl. 1 General view of former hall following removal of concrete floor-slab. 1m scale. Looking east.



Pl. 2 General view of service trench in former hall and western outshut. 1m scale. Looking north.



Pl. 3 General view of trench at rear of building. Looking southwest.