

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Combe Raleigh, East Devon	National Grid Reference: ST 1585 0233	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring and recording at the Church of St Nicholas, Combe Raleigh, Devon.		Photo attached: Y
Faculty no: n/a	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-384508	Museum Accession no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1622	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 04/03, 05/03, 06/03 and 09/03/2020	
<p>Description of works: A watching brief was maintained by Oakford Archaeology in March 2020 on works associated with the provision of a new water supply at the Church of St Nicholas, Combe Raleigh, Devon (ST 1585 0233). The work was required by the Diocese Advisory Committee (DAC), as advised by Sasha Chapman, the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor (DAA).</p> <p>The site (Fig. 1) lies outside the church, a grade II* listed building largely dating to the 15th-century. However, the manor of <i>Otri</i> was held by Alsi or Ailsa prior to 1066. It is possible, therefore, that a church has been on the site since the early 11th century. The building was extensively restored in the 19th century.</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during works associated with the provision of a new water supply from the tower to the road outside the lych gate (Fig. 2, Pls. 1-2). The work involved the excavation of a trench approximately 58.5m long, 0.25m wide and c.0.3-0.6m deep.</p> <p>Results: Inspection of the trench revealed a simple deposit sequence consisting of friable mid reddish brown silty clay (101) at a depth of 0.1m below current ground level. The presence of rare fragments of human bone means that this deposit has been interpreted as a charnel soil. This was sealed by a 0.1m thick layer of tarmac (100).</p> <p>A small collection of archaeological material consisting of 12 sherds of 19th century industrial whitewares and three sherds of 18th-19th century redwares was recovered from the charnel soil (101).</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:

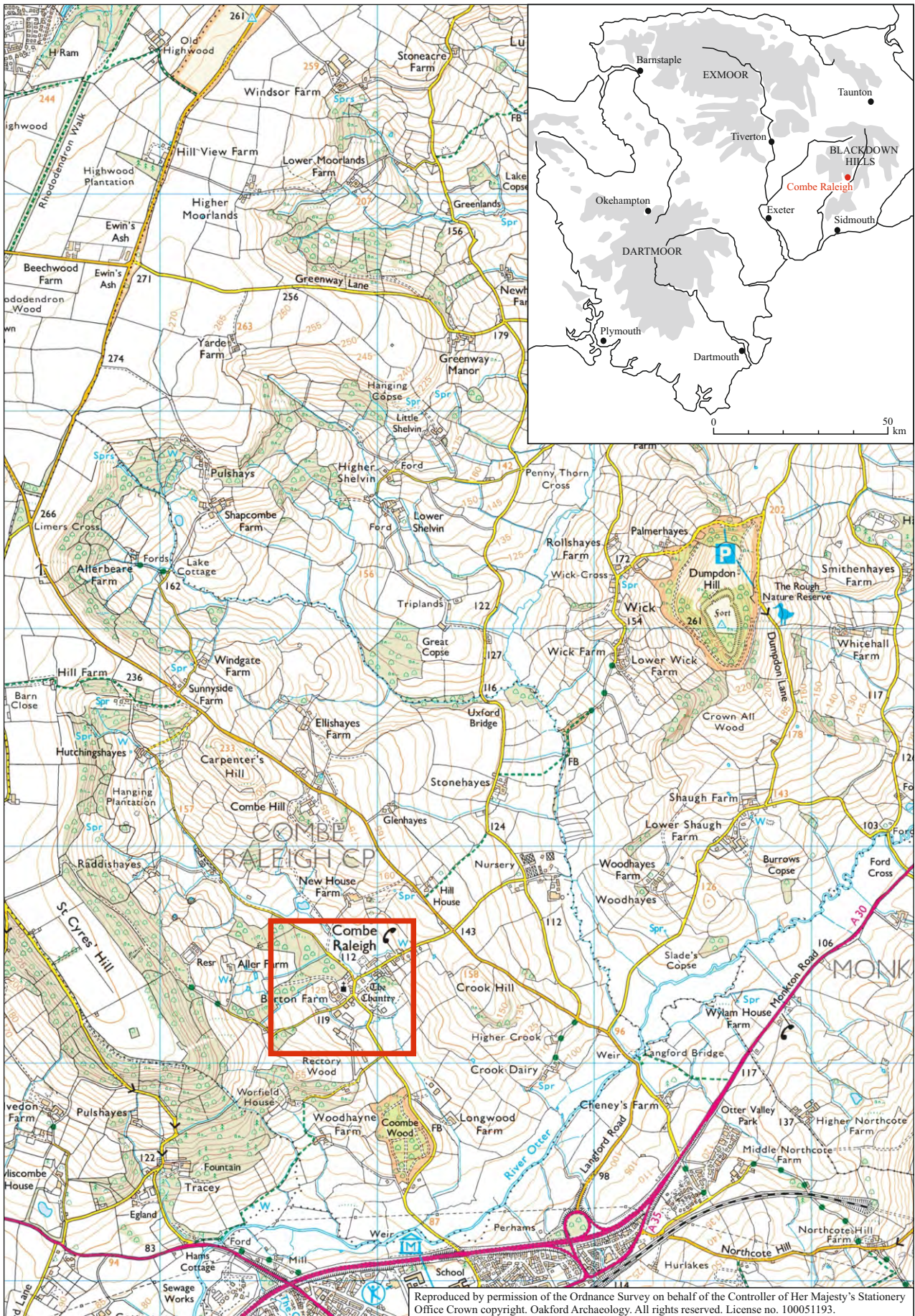


Fig. 1 Location of site.

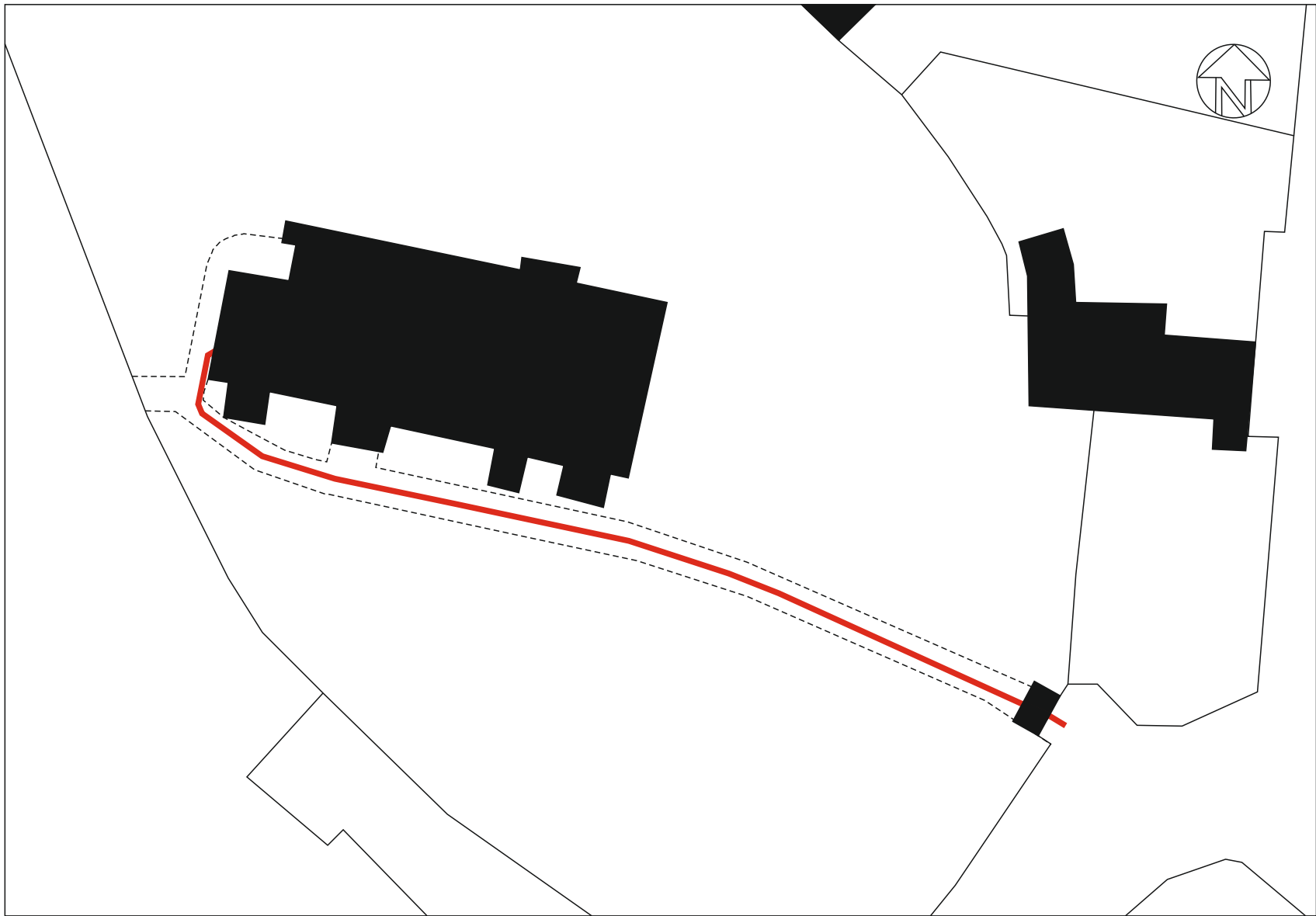


Fig. 2 Plan showing location of observations.



Pl. 1 General view of excavations. Looking northwest.



Pl. 2 General view of projecting foundations of tower. Looking southeast.



Pl. 3 General view of trench showing depth of charnel soil (101). 0.5m scale. Looking west.