

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Shirwell, North Devon	National Grid Reference: SS 5841 4036	Number:
Subject: Archaeological evaluation on land to the north of Oakford Farm, Shirwell, Devon.		Photo attached: Y
Planning permission no: 73344	Recipient museum: n/a	
OASIS ID: oakforda1-426778	Museum Accession no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: OA1844	Date fieldwork undertaken: 09/08/2021	
<p>Description of works: An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Oakford Archaeology in August 2021 on land to the north of Oakford Farm, Shirwell, Devon (SS 5841 4036). The site (Fig. 1) lies in an area of high archaeological potential to the northwest of a ditched enclosure that has been identified from aerial photography. The cropmark is likely to be prehistoric or Romano- British in date, with features may extending eastward towards the area of the proposed development. The work was therefore required by North Devon District Council (NDDC), as advised by the Devon County Historic Environment Team (DCHET).</p> <p>Description of works: An archaeological evaluation was carried out prior to the start of groundworks. Three trenches measuring 54 metres in total and 1.6m wide, were excavated to a maximum depth of 0.4m (Fig. 1, Pls. 1-7). The trenches revealed a uniform deposit sequence consisting of a yellow grey silty clay natural subsoil. This was sealed underneath a 0.46m thick mid yellowish brown silty clay topsoil.</p> <p>Conclusion: 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 the 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: M Wootton (Oakford Archaeology)		Date sent to HER:

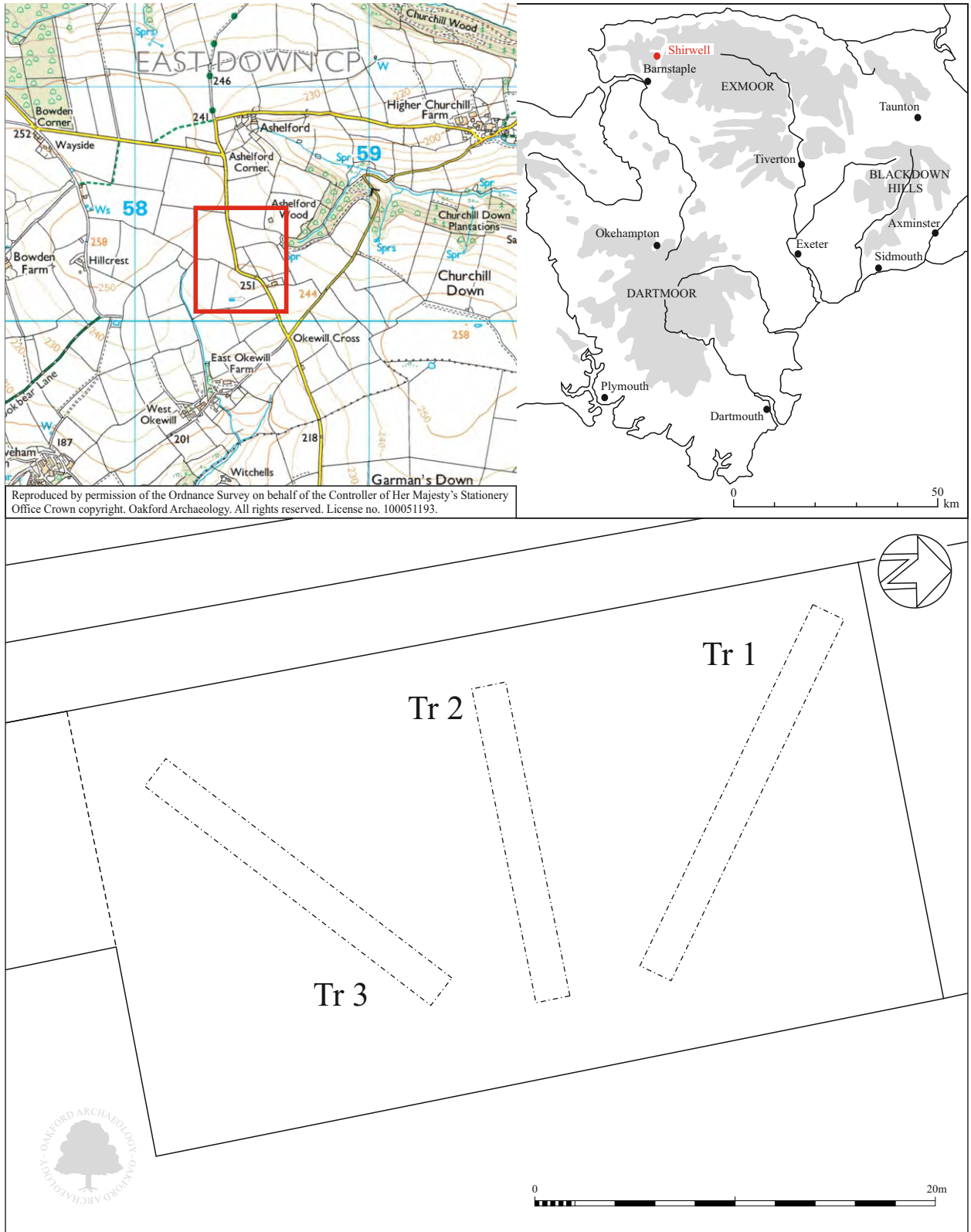


Fig. 1 Location of site.



Pl. 1 General view of site showing Trenches 1-3. Looking northeast.



Pl. 2 General view of Trench 1. 2m scale. Looking southeast.



Pl. 3 Sample section Trench 1. 1m scale. Looking southwest.



Pl. 4 General view of Trench 2. 2m scale. Looking east.



Pl. 5 Sample section Trench 2. 1m scale. Looking south.



Pl. 6 General view of Trench 3. 2m scale. Looking northeast.



Pl. 7 Sample section Trench 3. 1m scale. Looking southeast.