

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Holne, South Hams	National Grid Reference: SX 6869 7119	Number:
Subject: Archaeological Watching brief at Venford Dam, Holne, Devon.		Photo attached: N
Planning Application no: 	Recipient museum: Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery	
OASIS ID: Exeterar1-50074	Museum Accession no: AR.2007.417	
Contractor's reference number/code: EA project 6330	Dates fieldwork undertaken: November 2007 – September 2008	
<p>Description of works:</p> <p>The site lies adjacent to part of the Dartmeet Coaxial Field System, a prehistoric field system, which is a designated Scheduled Ancient Monument. It is therefore possible that associated remains or deposits of prehistoric date may survive within the area of the development.</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of four test pits at the NW end of the Dam and the subsequent construction of the auxilliary spillway and the Swincombe mains diversion. This measured 290m x 0.6m (see attached plan), while the area cleared for the spillway measured 20m x 15m on the S side and 40m x 10m on the N side. The initial ground reduction extended to a depth of 0.3m.</p> <p>Results:</p> <p>The layer sequence revealed by the trenching and the subsequent area strip typically consisted of the following:</p> <p>0-0.30m – friable mid to dark brown black sandy loam (topsoil)</p> <p>0.3-0.85m – Mid to dark yellow brown sandy clay (colluvium)</p> <p>0.85+ Granite bedrock (natural subsoil)</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>No features or dating evidence was found to indicate prehistoric or significant later activity within the site.</p>		
Recorder: Marc Steinmetzer Exeter Archaeology		Date sent to HER:

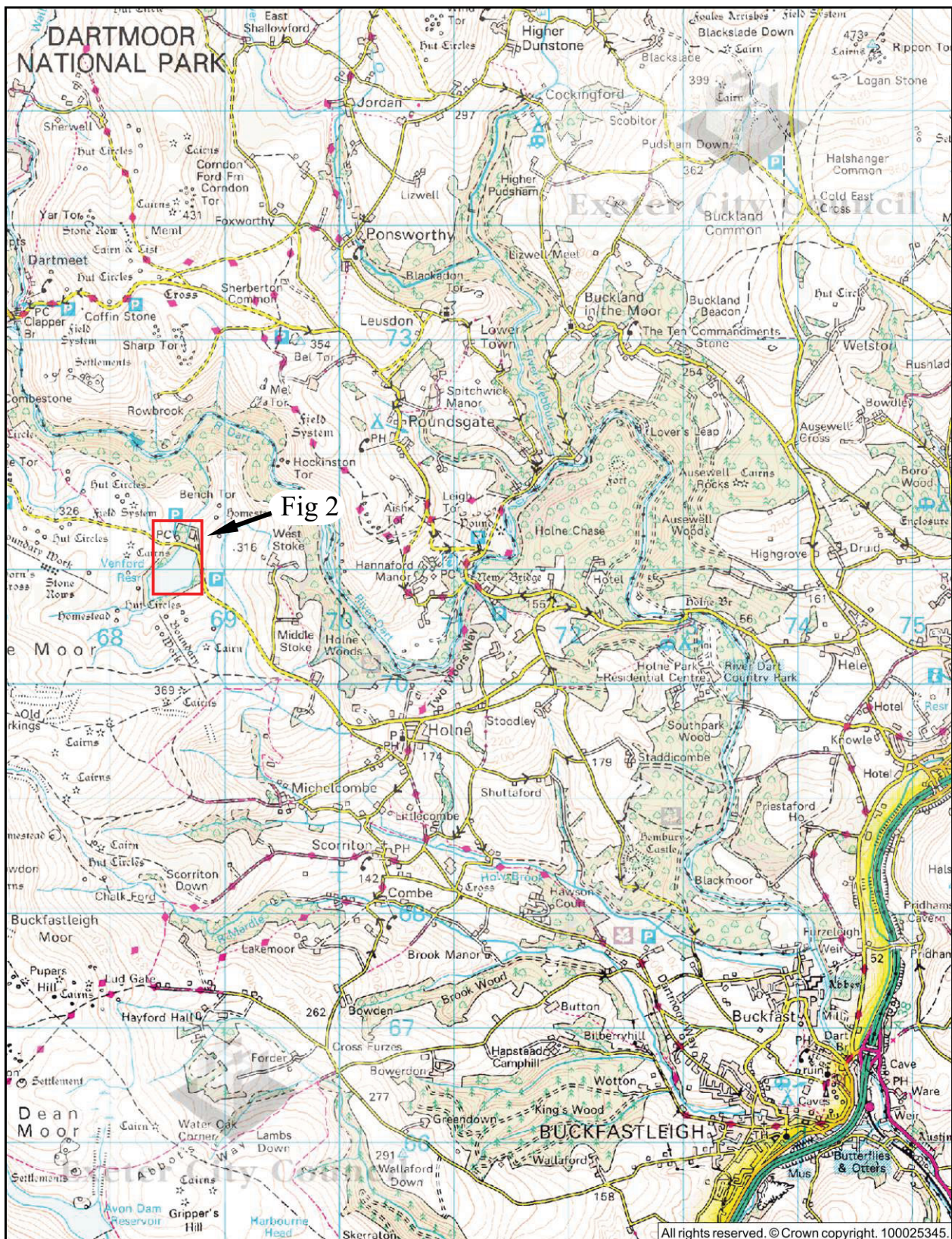


Fig. 1 Site location. Scale 1:50,000.

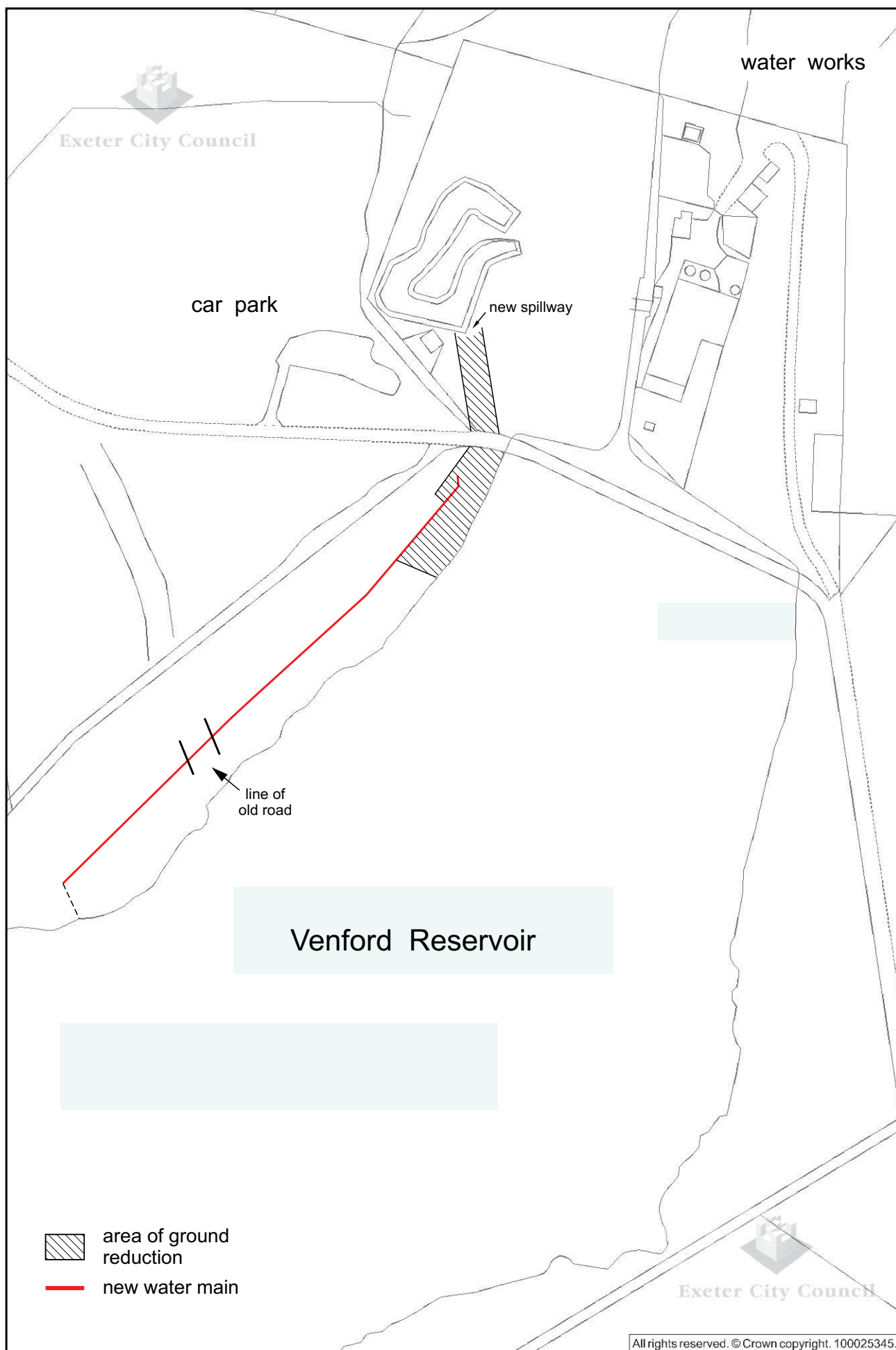


Fig. 2 Location of trenching. Scale 1:2500.