

Dorset County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Castleton, Sherborne	National Grid Reference: ST 6395 1630	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring of a new water main at the Old Castle, Sherborne, Dorset		Photo attached: N
Planning Application no: n/a	Recipient museum: English Heritage	
OASIS ID: exeterar1-56872	Museum Accession no: n/a	
Contractor's reference number/code: EA 6765	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 02, 03 and 09/03/2009	
<p>Description of works: The site lies on the edge of the historic castle of Sherborne. The archaeological significance of the site – a scheduled monument – is acknowledged by all parties and will not be described here. Although it was anticipated that the trenching for the new water main would be relatively shallow and mainly overlying an old water main, it was considered possible that archaeological features and/or deposits might survive along the edge of the trench.</p> <p>A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of the new water main (see attached plan). The service trench was 75m by 0.4m. It was on average 0.6m deep and was cut along its entire length through a layer of landscaping.</p> <p>Results: The layer sequence revealed by the trenching typically consisted of the following: 0-0.2m Modern topsoil 0-0.6m Demolition/landscaping deposit</p> <p>Finds: In total there are 15 sherds weighing 79 g that are medieval in character. They consist of two cooking pot sherds in a chert-tempered fabric, with a date range of the 11th to 13th centuries. The majority are Dorset medieval sandy wares of the 13th or 14th centuries (12 sherds). There is a single 13th or 14th century Dorset white ware jug sherd.</p> <p>There are only two post-medieval sherds (total weight 103 g): a Dorset Holnest-type green-glazed bowl rim (late 16th/17th century), and a 17th century South Somerset vessel body sherd. In addition two late 13th-15th century Dorset sandy ware ridge tile fragments were also found.</p> <p>All the material is unstratified and adds little to what has already been found and published from this site.</p> <p>Conclusion A heavily mixed layer, with a small amount of building rubble, was present throughout the new service trench. This may have resulted from the stripping of the interior and dismantling of elements of the castle following the second siege in 1645.</p>		
Recorder: MFR Steinmetzer Exeter Archaeology		Date sent to HER:

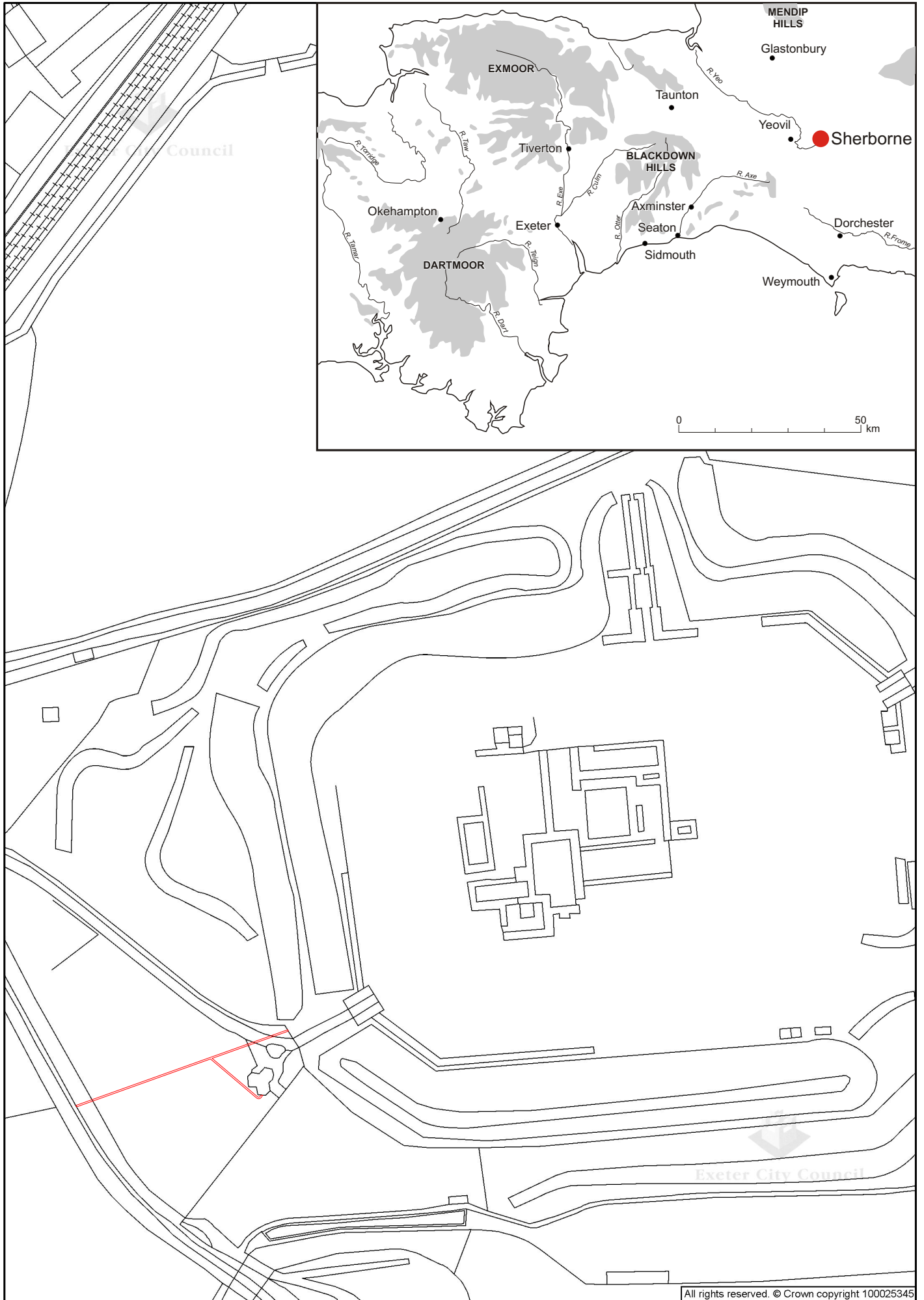


Fig. 1 Location of trenches. Scale 1:1250.