

THE FORMER QUINCE HONEY FARM, NORTH ROAD,  
SOUTH MOLTON, DEVON

(NGR SS 71144 26207)

Results of historic building recording

North Devon Council planning reference 70614, conditions 2  
and 8, and planning reference 70620, condition 2

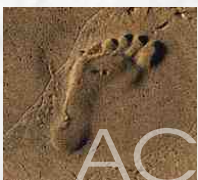
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Prepared by:  
Debra Costen  
and  
Andrew Passmore

On behalf of:  
Wedgewood Groundworks

Document No: ACD2208/2/1

Date: June 2020



AC archaeology

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Client	Wedgewood Groundworks
Report Number	ACD2208/2/1
Date	19 June 2020
Status	Version 2
Report Authors	Debra Costen and Andrew Passmore
Contributions	-
Checked by	Paul Rainbird
Approved by	Andrew Passmore

## **Acknowledgements**

The document was commissioned by Wedgewood Groundworks, and managed on their behalf by Ian Friend, and for AC archaeology by Andrew Passmore. Historical research was carried out by Debra Costen, the site recording was carried out by Andrew Passmore and Holly Gillingham, and the report illustrations were prepared by Leon Cauchois and Sarnia Blackmore. Thanks are also due to the staff of the Devon Heritage Centre for their assistance.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of AC archaeology and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

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## Summary

*An historic building record was prepared by AC archaeology in February 2020, on behalf of Wedgewood Groundworks, prior to redevelopment of the former Quince Honey Farm, North Road, South Molton, Devon, EX36 3AZ (SS 71144 26207). The building is Grade II Listed, and has its origins as the South Molton Union Workhouse, constructed in 1837.*

*The workhouse was South Molton's third, but the first purpose-built, workhouse, and was designed generally in accordance with Samuel Kempthorne's 'Workhouse for 200 Paupers (Adapted for the less pauperised districts)'. This plan was however itself adapted to include elements from his standard 200 pauper design, and seems to have been constructed to house more than the usual 212 inmates. That capacity was never reached. Elements of the original building survived relatively intact (e.g. in the south range) whilst others have been altered and/or rebuilt. The original layout can be deduced, including evidence for segregation of inmates.*

*Following a fire in 1892 the north range was rebuilt in 1895; it appears to have contained mainly sick and infirmary facilities, perhaps with the main dining room.*

*Little significant change to the building occurred during ownership by Devon County Council in the second quarter of the 20th century, but a new isolation block was constructed (and then expanded) to the north of the main complex.*

*Under NHS tenure in the third quarter of the 20th century changes to make the building less institutional took place, including replacement of many of the windows. Part of the building was demolished and a new house constructed at the southwest corner.*

*The building became the Quince honey Farm in 1970 and the main complex was significantly altered, both internally and externally, to allow the manufacturing of honey to take place, and for the creation of a visitor centre, including a first-floor walkway to allow manufacturing below to be observed, along with a café.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION (Fig. 1)

- 1.1 This document presents the results of historic building recording carried out by AC archaeology in February 2020, prior to redevelopment of the former Quince Honey Farm, North Road, South Molton, Devon, EX36 3AZ (SS 71144 26207; Fig. 1). The investigations were commissioned by Wedgewood Groundworks, and were required under conditions 2 and 8 of the grant of planning permission (North Devon Council reference 70614) for 'renovation & restoration of the former South Molton Workhouse to form 10x new dwellings, 4x New Build 3 bed houses & 1x 2 bedroom Bungalow', and condition 2 of the grant of Listed Building Consent (North Devon Council reference 70620) for 'Listed building application for renovation & restoration of the former South Molton workhouse to form 10x new dwellings and demolition of the former isolation unit to provide 1x 2 bedroom Bungalow (amended description)'. Guidance on the scope of works was provided by the Devon County Historic Environment Team in their consultation response to the Listed Building Consent application; no formal site-specific brief was provided.

1.2 The Quince Honey Farm has relocated to new premises to the north of South Molton, and to avoid confusion apart from in relation to the former use the property is hereafter referred to as the site.

1.3 The site is located towards the northwest side of North Molton (outside the historic core of the town and the South Molton Conservation Area). It is bounded by North Road to the east and by largely modern developments on all other sides; fields to the north and west are currently being developed, in phases, for residential development. It is situated at a height of 150m above Ordnance Datum on the southeast side of a small hilltop. The natural topography is a gentle slope down to the southeast. The underlying geology consists of Carboniferous mudstone and siltstone, as well as sandstone, all of the Crackington Formation; there are no overlying superficial deposits (British Geological Survey online viewer 2020).

### **Designations**

1.4 The site has its origins as the South Molton Workhouse, which is a Grade II Listed building under the name *Beach House* (Sic; National Heritage List for England entry 1317783; Devon Historic Environment Record (HER) entry MDV51878). It has the following description prepared in 1986 when the building was designated:

*C.1840. Formerly a Poor Law Workhouse. Central block 2 storeys, cement rendered. Slate roof. Gable over centre 3 sashes. 7 sashes in all. Central pedimented doorcase with pilasters. Two and three storey ranges behind.*

1.5 A detached early 20th-century isolation block, and the now-detached original south range, are considered to be curtilage Listed.

## **2. AIMS AND METHODOLOGY**

2.1 The scheme will involve internal and external alterations to the buildings which have the potential to remove historic elements of the structures (such as partitions and fixtures and fittings including windows). Modern extensions, and a number of structurally unsound historic elements of the building, will be demolished. The aim of the investigation was therefore, in accordance with paragraph 199 of the *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF; Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2019), to prepare an historic building record of the former workhouse building, and associated later isolation block, prior to work commencing.

2.2 All works were undertaken in accordance with an Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by AC archaeology and submitted with the planning application (Passmore 2020), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (revised 2019), and the AC archaeology *General Site Recording Manual, Version 2*.

2.3 The survey followed an initial programme of desk-based research to enhance the published history of the building set out in a Heritage Statement that was prepared by K Metcalfe Heritage to support the planning and Listed Building Consent applications (Metcalfe 2019). This included the following relevant sources:

- The Devon Historic Environment Record;
- Historic England's National Heritage List for England;
- Published and unpublished sources at the Devon Heritage Centre; and
- Other data available online including academic research on workhouses.

**2.4** The historic building recording was undertaken in accordance with the guidance set out in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice* (Historic England 2016), and undertaken to level 3. It built upon the assessment of the building, including the identified phasing of different elements, set out in the Heritage Statement prepared by K Metcalfe Heritage. It took place on the 5th and 6th of February 2020.

**2.5** The recording comprised the following:

- A written description of the buildings and their context in relation to each other and demolished parts of the workhouse. This was prepared digitally in a format suitable for direct inclusion within this report;
- A colour digital photographic record including general views of the buildings and their context in the wider property, detailed external and internal views (of the principal historic spaces), and a record of individual (or groups of) historic fixtures and fittings; and
- As existing architect's drawings plans were annotated and updated to show the location of observed historic fabric and fixtures and fittings, along with information on the phasing and development of the buildings.

**2.6** The recording considered the following:

- Date/period of initial build and subsequent alterations;
- Materials and method of construction (and differences in material and construction techniques/architectural styles in each identified phase);
- Fenestration and the design of elevations and elements of the building in relation to the function of internal spaces;
- Internal arrangements including evidence for alterations;
- Original fixtures and fittings;
- Subsequent fixtures and fittings, and evidence for change of use; and
- Ephemeral evidence of occupation and use, for instance any evidence of historic graffiti or signage.

### **3. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND (Figs 2-5)**

**3.1** Following the enacting of the New Poor Law in 1834 the South Molton Poor Law Union was created in 1835 and covered 29 parishes in north Devon; their workhouse was constructed in 1837-38. Prior to that date there had been two earlier workhouses within, and serving, South Molton: the first dating from the 1735 in North Street, and the second in the old vicarage in Parsonage Lane (<http://www.workhouses.org.uk/SouthMolton/>).

**3.2** Although not directly attributed to the architect, the design is heavily influenced by Sampson Kempthorne's 1835 'Workhouse for 200 Paupers (Adapted for the less pauperised districts)' comprising a T-shaped entrance block containing administrative buildings and children's rooms (facing south onto an entrance driveway from North Road) and cross wings behind, with additional perimeter buildings and walls defining four exercise blocks. The design allowed for the segregation of males and females, and also adults from children (see Newman 2010, appendix 3 for ground-floor plans of Kempthorne's standard and adapted 200-pauper designs and a perspective view of his adapted plan).

- 3.3** The workhouse building is first depicted on the South Molton tithe map of 1844 where it is annotated as 'Union' (Fig. 2). It is shown as a large cruciform-shaped building with additional full wings on the east and south sides, and partial wings and boundary walls on the other sides. The eastern wing has a larger projection on its east side. The entrance driveway from North Road is recorded with a large turning circle in front of the main entrance in the south wing.
- 3.4** The workhouse building and grounds are set within three plots recorded in the 1839 apportionment as 'Union Workhouse' (Plot 1210), 'Union Gardens' (Plot 1209) and one (on the opposite side of the road to its entrance) just named as 'Plot' (Plot 1209a). The landowner was the Union and the occupier is recorded as William Tanner. Piggot's 1844 directory of Devon records the governor of the Union Workhouse as Robert Jewell and the matron as Margaretta Jewel (Piggot 1844). In Shaws' *Union Officers' Manual* of 1846, Robert Jewel is still recorded as the master, Jas. Cole of South Molton is recorded as the officer. The list states that the workhouse was built to house 200 inmates (Cunningham Glen 1844, 31). In 1851 there were 133 inmates, but by 1871 this had dropped to 85.
- 3.5** The First Edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch map of 1889 depicts a number of changes to the workhouse building since 1844 (Fig. 3). Based on the recorded architecture of the building this mainly represents more accurate mapping by the Ordnance Survey, but this may also reflect the pressure from central authorities to provide more suitable facilities. For example, from the 1860s all workhouses were required to create specialised blocks for the sick (Newman 2014, 129). The main differences are that (original) passageways are shown in the centre of the east and west wings with connecting walkways to the rear of the south entrance block. There are small additions to the north elevation of the central block, extensions at the western end of the south range (outside the boundary wall of the southwest yard), and what appear to be extensive extensions and alterations to the east range.
- 3.6** In 1892 a fire, started by a broken oil lamp, caused extensive damage and killed two inmates. A local newspaper report (reproduced in Metcalfe 2018) described the fire as being within a three-storey block, with the kitchen and men's dining room on the ground floor, men's and women's sick wards separated by a nurse's room on the first floor, and infirm and lying-in wards on the top floor. The fire started in a nurse's room at one end of the building. The damaged central north wing was demolished in 1895 and subsequently rebuilt.
- 3.7** By 1904, when the Second Edition 25-inch Ordnance Survey map was published, there had been some minor changes to the existing building (Fig. 4). In addition to the rebuilding of the central north wing after the 1892 fire, which is now extended slightly further north beyond the boundary wall of the northern yards, there was an extension to the west end of the south range, and alterations to the north and south ends of the east range. At around this time the number of inmates had dropped to numbers in the 50s and 60s.
- 3.8** The website <http://www.workhouses.org.uk/SouthMolton/> has published a number of contemporary descriptions of the workhouse, including an account given by Mr W. Branthwaite, Commissioner of the Board of Control, after his visit on 26 September 1917. It included the following extracts describing the building:

*This is quite a nice, little workhouse, in a good condition, bright with well kept gardens, and generally well found. The buildings are fairly old, but are well constructed and have been comfortably furnished with many modern conveniences. The body of the house will hold some 30 to 40, and the infirmary 12, of each sex, possible space for some 85 to 100 inmates. At the time of my visit there were 16 men and 25 women in residence – a total of 41.*

*The buildings are so arranged that a complete block containing a day room, dormitory, yard, washhouse and bathroom, can be assigned to feeble-minded cases on both sides of the Institution. These blocks are similar in design, and will each hold ten patients, i.e. ten males and ten females – 20 in all. The day room on the female side is decently lighted and has a wood floor covered by matting but that on the male side is not so satisfactory in these respects.*

*Patients would feed in the general dining room, a sufficient number of tables being assigned to them, and six cases would be treated in the Infirmary.*

*The house is lighted with gas, supplied with water from the town mains, and the drainage is connected with the town system. The kitchen arrangements are good, and steam cookers are fitted. There is a small church connected with the workhouse, service being held every Sunday afternoon.*

- 3.9** The Local Government Act of 1929 passed responsibility of the workhouse to Devon County Council who used it for the provision of care for the sick and infirm, homeless and poor. The isolation block is first recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1938 6-inch map (not illustrated) as an H-shaped building with a detached structure to the northwest. Later 1940s Royal Air Force aerial photographs show that this block had been partially demolished and extended to both the east and west (<http://map.devon.gov.uk/dccviewer>). These sources indicate that the building has its origins under the ownership of Devon County Council. The aerial photography also shows that the north range had been extended further to the north beyond the original boundary wall.
- 3.10** Following the establishment of the National Health Service in 1948, the Workhouse became known as Beech House, and in 1950-1956 a number of alterations to the building are recorded, including plastering over the rough stone walls, the replacement of 'prison style windows' with large steel casement windows and updated bathrooms. Residents comprised 44 men and 25 women, who were freed from the restrictions of the earlier institution (<http://www.workhouses.org.uk/SouthMolton/>). An aerial photograph of the 1960s reproduced by Metcalfe shows some more significant changes to the building. New fully- and part-glazed verandas had been added to the central range, within the southern yards. The southeast yard was fully gravelled whilst the southwest yard was part gravelled and part grassed reflecting its original layout. Buildings at the southwest corner of the complex had been demolished and replaced with a new house, presumably for a warden replacing the accommodation within the central range (Fig. 5).
- 3.11** Beech House closed following the construction of a purpose-built residential care home by Devon County Council, and in 1978 the property was purchased by George Wallace and became the Quince Honey Farm, a popular tourist attraction. The Honey Farm has since relocated to a new site c. 2km to the north. Changes during this use included replacement of the gardens with a car park, replacement of buildings at the northwest and southeast corners of the workhouse, and construction of buildings within the northeast yard.



## 4. DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDINGS (Figs 6-7; Plates 1-24)

### Introduction

- 4.1 Although the building has been altered, the plan form of the former workhouse can still be determined, and its original layout has determined the terminology used in the description of the building – a south range containing the original entrance, the central range originally containing the men's and women's day rooms and dormitories (or wards), the east range, and the north range that was rebuilt following the 1892 fire.

### The exterior of the south range

- 4.2 This was the main entrance and contained some of the administrative functions and some of the accommodation for children (Plates 1 and 2). Its principal elevation faces south onto the entrance driveway from North Road. The walls are rendered stonework. The central section survives intact and is two storeyed over a basement with a slightly projecting central bay. To the east there is a single-storey block, then a detached taller single-storey 1970s or 1980s toilet block. Original buildings, along with the early extensions, to the west have been demolished, with only a length of stone wall representing an internal partition surviving.
- 4.3 The south elevation of the central section is symmetrical with pairs of six-over-six pane hornless sash windows on each floor of the side bays, and a central doorway with pedimented porch flanked by six-over-six pane hornless sash windows to either side. On the first floor there are three six-over-six pane hornless sash windows above these openings. The door is four panelled with upper glazing, and set back from the façade; it has a small four-pane light over. In the gable there is a sign '1 North Road 1837'. The block has a pitched slate roof with end gables and a further gable over the central bay.
- 4.4 The west elevation of the central section displays a scar of the pitched roof of the demolished lower block to the west, along with scars of its north and south walls (Plate 3). The masonry is mostly brickwork, from a central chimney stack (that is visible in a photograph reproduced at <http://www.workhouses.org.uk/SouthMolton/>). There is a door to the north with brick jambs and a blocked fireplace opening to the south, again with brick jambs and with an arched head. Both have concrete block infilling. Above the roofline there are the remains of a first-floor sash window.
- 4.5 The north elevation of the central section is divided into two parts by the remains of the link to the central block. The western part contains no historic features and a fire escape door, with associated steps, has been inserted at first-floor level. At ground-floor level the eastern part has a four-panel door with a three-panel window above in an arched headed opening, along with a smaller two-light casement window. On the first floor another fire escape door has been inserted leading to an external flight of steps.
- 4.6 The link to the central block has been partially demolished allowing access between the southeast and southwest yards. The north side of the southern section, attached to the south range, has modern walls of concrete block. On the west side there is a metal-framed 2-pane window at ground-floor level and a pair of smaller windows at the first-floor level (one with surviving four panes); a third window opening has been infilled using concrete blocks. On the east side is a similar small four-pane window at the first-floor level, below which is a scar of a flat-roofed porch that would have predated the fire escape.

- 4.7** The east section of the south range is lower and set back from the façade of the central section, but again has a pitched slate roof. A door leads into a central passage; it is a modern plank design, and is approached by concrete steps and may therefore be a modern (?mid 20th-century) insertion. There are three eight-pane metal casements windows, two lighting the room to the right of the door, and one to the left. The north elevation incorporates two doorways, with the eastern opening dating to the 1970s. The other is fitted with a four-panel door. There is a single two-light window each with four-panes one of which is side opening, lighting the eastern room. Maps record two 20th-century extensions on the north side, within the yard; the scar of the later, eastern extension is visible on the building and in the surface of the yard.

#### **The exterior of the toilet block**

- 4.8** The 1970s or 1980s toilet block at the southeast corner has a rendered finish over concrete blocks, and is also under a pitched slate roof (Plate 1). The building is detached from the adjacent earlier blocks. There are single side-opening wooden casement windows in the north and south elevations, four of the same windows and a pair of doorways in the east elevation, and four of the same windows in the west elevation with a central door to a passage. The doors are smaller recent replacements in wider openings.

#### **The interior of the south range**

##### The ground floor

- 4.9** The main front door leads onto the central room where there are modern stairs up to the first floor and below down to the basement. Fixtures and fittings comprise some floorboards, which in part are painted in a Victorian tile design (Plate 4), shutters to the west window opening and some adjacent cornice and dado rail detailing; otherwise, the finish is entirely modern. There is a central doorway to the link to the north, and at the north end doorways into the adjacent rooms. The eastern doorway is a recent insertion replacing a doorway immediately to the south. This partition is constructed of a mixture of stone, brick and a modern timber frame (Plate 5).
- 4.10** The west room has original fittings comprising shutters to the windows, tall skirting boards, a dado rail, a picture rail, and a cornice. There is a blocked fireplace with a tiled hearth in the north wall. The walls are finished with lath and plaster. The east room has been stripped of finishes and stone masonry is generally exposed. There is a former small fireplace in the east wall with a brick chimney stack and a slate hearth. The north window is in a full height splayed reveal displaying an arch below associated with the basement (see below). The doorway at the north end of the east wall is another recent insertion, and along with the door to the west seems to have been added to create a corridor within the room.
- 4.11** In the next room is an early staircase to the basement, that is defined by a timber-framed partition. All other fittings, including the doorway in the partition are modern. In the east wall there is a doorway into the adjacent passage, last used as a store. The final room is currently entered from the modern doorway from the yard to the north. All the finishes are modern.
- 4.12** The remains of the link block in this range have been divided into two rooms with plasterboard partitions, containing a large toilet and a slightly smaller kitchen. In the latter there is a scar of a former staircase up to the first floor.

#### The first floor

- 4.13** There is a first floor over the central block only and this is currently almost entirely a single space, with a pair of smaller rooms at the west end (Plate 6). These are modern additions with plasterboard partitions. Other than the roof (see below) the only fittings are the wooden floorboards. There is a blocked fireplace in the east wall, and a photograph showing a chimney stack at the west end (reproduced at (<http://www.workhouses.org.uk/SouthMolton/>)) indicates there was another fireplace at this level, probably indicating that this floor was divided into two spaces. The link also had first-floor accommodation, now a single space; formerly it contained the staircase from the ground floor. There were probably other rooms, perhaps, given the small closely-set windows, a series of toilets/washing rooms.
- 4.14** The roof structure over the main section is partly exposed, and consists of six bays divided by queen post trusses. The upper parts of the queen post along with the purlins, which are supported on cleats, are hidden above the ceiling. The bases of the queen posts are bolted to the tie beams. Additional bracing is provided by angled struts within the bays.

#### The basement

- 4.15** The basement only extends under the central section along with the south part of the link where there was a staircase; it is fully finished with a flagstone floor. The west end is a single original space, but an original stone partition wall has been removed, and the room narrowed with a new partition added next to the 1970s stairs. To the east is a central spine wall. The lath and plaster ceiling of the west room has been removed. In the central section the rooms have brick arched ceilings (Plate 7), whilst the eastern pair of rooms have flat ceilings. In the northeast room many of the joists have been repaired. The two rooms on the northeast side of the basement have coal chutes from the yard, whilst the western room has a single coal chute. The link section also has a coal chute in the west wall, and the remnants of York stone slabs in the east wall, which along with scars in the south wall represent evidence for the staircase down from the floor above. In the later 20th century a second opening has been made in the south wall, presumably prior to the removal of the primary partition to allow access to the west room. There are two windows, now blocked, in the south wall that formerly lit the west room. The southeast room has an opening fitted with a pair of side-opening plank windows fitted with vents above.

#### **The interior of the toilet block**

- 4.16** The building has a mirrored plan with male and female toilets to either side of a central passage; only the northern female toilets were inspected. Access is via corridors (incorporating end cupboards at the north and south ends of the building). These lead into an open plan area with cubicles along one side and wash basins on the other. All of the fittings are of late 20th-century date. Architect's plans show the male toilets has less cubicles, replaced by hand basins, with urinals on the opposite wall.

#### **The exterior of the central range**

- 4.17** The original south exterior is almost largely obscured by 1970s two-storey extensions into the southern yards (Plate 8). The latter have concrete block lower walls laid between vertical rolled steel joists (RSJs) that support corrugated sheet cladding. These extensions have been added to either side of the link to the south range.
- 4.18** The link has been heavily altered internally, including the removal of masonry at the junction of the central range (i.e. within the 1970s extensions). Single opposing ground-floor eight-pane casements survive, along with another pair of altered window openings to the north. On the first floor there is another pair of openings above the

casements, but the frames have been removed. The south elevation has a finish of cladding incorporating double doors on the ground floor.

- 4.19** On the ground floor the original south elevation of the central range, which has a rendered finish, incorporates a mixture of tall eight-pane and 10-pane metal-framed casement windows (at the west and east ends respectively) and smaller six-panel metal-framed casements towards the centre, with the former top and side opening, and the latter top opening; all have slightly arched heads. On the west side of the central link the smaller windows and adjacent masonry have been removed and replaced by a larger opening, and one of the larger window openings in the adjacent room to the west has been converted into a doorway. The end pairs of rooms are divided by passageways providing access to these rooms from the yards, as well as direct access between the yards. These passages project out very slightly from the lines of the north and south elevations; the masonry at the end of the southeast passage has been removed. In the 1970s an additional passage was created at the east end of the west room; this has been cut through, and removed evidence for, a pair of window openings.
- 4.20** The arrangement of the fenestration on the first floor largely respects the positions of openings on the ground floor. The end rooms again have eight-pane metal-framed casements, but the other central rooms have six-over-six pane hornless sash windows. The first floor of the extension (including the original link) is currently an open walkway, with access from the first floor. Doorways have been created within earlier openings in the end pair of rooms and from the central corridor and the corridor above the eastern passage.
- 4.21** In the west elevation there is a single four-pane ground-floor window, possibly of early 20th-century date, set within a former doorway.
- 4.22** The north elevation can be divided into two sections by the attached 1895 north range; there is also a number of extensions, mainly at ground-floor level. As on the south elevation the primary windows have slightly arched openings. The west room retains two eight-pane casement windows on the ground floor and three on the first floor; two window openings on the ground floor have been converted into doorways (including one perhaps in the 1920s), and one window opening on the first floor has been converted into a fire escape. Beyond the passage the next ground-floor room has a 10-pane metal-framed casement, adjacent to which is a small projecting chimney stack. The room above has a pair of smaller two-pane casement windows to either side of the stack.
- 4.23** The north wall of the next ground-floor room has been removed and the space extended into one of a group of ground-floor extensions (Plate 9). Above, there is a pair of six-over-six pane hornless sash windows on the first floor and a pair of three-over-six pane hornless sash windows on the second floor. The western extension is a boiler house, and has early (?1895) origins with primary brickwork visible on the west side, incorporating a window; probable contemporary masonry may survive on the east side below a lower early roofline. The original boiler house seems to be contemporary with the extension northwards of the room to the east. In the later 20th century a further flat-roofed rendered brick extension was added to the north. Subsequent to this addition, the boiler house was rebuilt and extended in rendered brick under a taller pitched roof; the latter has collapsed and been removed.
- 4.24** To the east of the north range the north elevation of the central block has the same arrangement of fenestration as the south elevation but at ground-floor level, this is

mainly obscured by a modern covered walkway (Plate 10). Associated with this walkway is a new doorway in one of the central rooms. Towards the east end there is a small single-storey store, accessed internally. At first and second-floor levels the central section has a pair of six-over-six pane hornless sash windows and a pair of three-over-six pane hornless sash windows respectively, then to the east there is a single surviving six-over-six pane hornless sash followed by casement windows. The opening in the corridor over the ground-floor passage is shallower, as is the opening next to the sash window; blocking is visible internally.

### **The interior of the central range**

#### The ground floor

- 4.25** The 1970s extensions on the south side are open spaces with contemporary concrete surfaces. However, the extreme eastern end retains an earlier floor and the scar of a brick base to an earlier extension. The ground floor of the link to the south range now forms part of this space, with new openings in the side walls, and the same concrete floor. In the east wall between two original window openings there is the remains of a brick fireplace, with a later concrete and ceramic hearth. An associated rendered chimney stack is visible externally but within the 1970s extension. The first-floor joists and boards are almost all entirely later 20th-century replacements.
- 4.26** The ground floor of the original central range is divided into a series of rooms, described from west to east. The end room now includes an integral passage at the east end. The east wall incorporates projecting masonry of a chimney stack, and the floor retains evidence for a fireplace hearth. The room has a modern ceiling with a hatch, and part concrete floor.
- 4.27** The next space is a former original passage, with a staircase to the first floor (Plate 11). The partitions are brick and the floor is tiled over the original flagstones. The stairs are stone with slender rectangular metal balusters and handrail. There are tongue and groove panels to an understairs cupboard. The next room has been converted into a processing plant and has a modern concrete floor incorporating a trough, and with a freestanding vat. The first-floor structure has been removed and partially replaced. There is a blocked opening in the north wall behind the external stack.
- 4.28** The doorway from this room into the central space is a modern insertion. This room also forms part of the processing plant and has a tiled floor, but some slabs survive along the east wall along with some bricks probably for a hearth (Plate 12). The room continues into both extensions wrapping around the end of the north range. All the fittings are modern.
- 4.29** The central space is a narrow corridor providing access between adjacent rooms as well as originally from the southern link to the north range. There are scars of a former staircase to the first floor on the rear on the east wall. The first-floor structure has been replaced. The doorways to the adjacent rooms are original. At the north end the corridor now terminates in a short link, and a doorway to the main part of the north range has been blocked. There is an additional doorway in the link into the northeast yard; this has an ovolo moulded frame.
- 4.30** The next room to the east has modern finishes but retains the projecting base of a central chimney stack in the west wall. The pair of windows in the north wall are side opening two-pane casements, with five fixed small panes above; they are fitted with external security bars (Plate 13). There is a modern doorway into the next room,

which has no historic fixtures or fittings. A central door leads to the eastern passage; the original staircase within this space has been removed.

- 4.31** The final room is a larger space of similar proportions to the west room. All the finishes are recent and include a wide staircase to the first floor. However, there is a blocked fireplace in a slightly projecting chimney stack in the west wall. Inserted 1970s doorways lead into a modern store on the north side of the room, and into the east range.

The first floor

- 4.32** The first floor is now entered from the modern staircase in the east ground-floor room. Almost all the original floors in this range have been removed and replaced with a wide corridor along the north side of the building (Plate 14). This allowed visitors to look down into the rooms below. New openings in the partitions replace, where present, original doorways central to the walls. There is a primary space at the east end originally accessible from the adjacent room by a central doorway, but is now entered through a doorway (in a former window opening) from the 1970s extension to the south. The original door is a four-panel type within a plain frame. The room has a recent partition dividing a toilet from a store containing electrical equipment; other than the door described above all fittings are modern.
- 4.33** In the next room, which mainly contains the staircase up from the floor below, there are no other features other than the door described above. The next space is above the ground-floor passage, and has a pair of two-pane bottom opening windows in the north wall. One has a panelled reveal, which may be secondary.
- 4.34** The partition between the two rooms west of the passage has been almost entirely removed. The original eastern room is featureless, but the western room has a more ornate finish with shutters and architraves to the windows, skirting boards, picture rail and cornice. Only the latter three survive in any quantity. There is a large fireplace in the west wall and half a central ventilation rose is exposed in the ceiling. The opening to the north is modern, with the blocked original southern opening having an architrave with a round headed recess.
- 4.35** The next room is a central corridor that would originally have contained staircases from the ground floor and up to the second floor; both have been removed. A doorway leads into the link to the south range (now enclosed within the 1970s extensions). Within the link there are no historic fixtures and fittings. An arched opening also leads to a narrow link into the north range.
- 4.36** As on the east side of the range, the partition between the two rooms west of the corridor has been almost entirely removed. The original east room has a small blocked fireplace in the east wall (Plate 15), and half a central ventilation rose is exposed in the ceiling. Finishes surviving on the east wall comprise wallpaper, a picture rail and an ovolo moulded cornice. In the western room a toilet, now removed, had been inserted into the western window opening in the north wall.
- 4.37** The next space is another corridor, and the partition with the room to the east has been partially divided by a plasterboard wall. One window in the north elevation is fixed, the other is a replacement side-opening casement with tiled reveals. The final west room is largely featureless but there is a projecting chimney stack with blocked fireplace in the east wall. There is also a recess in the west wall.

#### The roof of the central range

- 4.38** As partially exposed in the south range, the lower section of the roof structure is visible below historic ceilings. It is of the same design as in the south range with queen post trusses with additional braces within the bays.

#### The second floor

- 4.39** Due to the removal of the staircase (and an unsafe fire escape route), there is no access to the second floor over the central part of the building. This floor contains a pair of rooms, one either side of the landing with a further smaller room above the link to the north range. A fire escape door has been added into the north elevation.

#### **The exterior of the east range**

- 4.40** The south elevation has been altered with a large glazed opening including a central door on the ground floor. There is an earlier, central three-pane top and side opening metal-framed casement window at first-floor level. The ground-floor opening was formerly the entrance to the Quince Honey Farm but has its origins in the earlier Beech House care home.

- 4.41** The east elevation is in two parts, a main two-storey section, with a single-storey section to the north (Plate 16). The central bay, which projects forward of the main south section has large-paned 1970s windows on both floors. There are three casement windows at first floor level as in the south elevation. The north bay has arched headed chapel window of two-lights fitted with leaded glass including a part opening section. A small single storey extension has been added in front of this bay. In the west elevation there is a large modern single-pane window set within a larger opening at first-floor level.

- 4.42** The north section comprises multiple elements of different phases. The earliest element is a small block, constructed of stone, at the northeast corner. This incorporates a wooden two-pane part glazed door, and a pair of wooden windows in the east wall; it has a pitched slate roof. To the southwest is a rebuilt and extended section comprising (externally) two single-storey ranges aligned east-west with a central recessed doorway, along with a link to the chapel containing a six-pane casement window. The north and south walls incorporate small three-pane casement windows. The masonry extends slightly to the north where there is a four-pane fixed window with top-opening single light over. The return to the west has a six-pane side opening wooden casement window. The western section is a 1970s rebuild in brick of an earlier narrow range. It has a fully pitched roof, with a lower store to the north. The latter has a pair of two-pane top opening casements in the north elevation. The west elevation is staggered with the north part slightly narrower. This has two blocked wide openings, whilst the other part has four large one-pane casement windows and a pair of double doors.

#### **The interior of the east range**

- 4.43** The southern section is a single open space formerly used as a reception area to the Quince Honey Farm (Plate 17). All of the doorways are 1970s insertions. It has a modern floor and ceiling. Against the north wall there is the scar of a removed 1970s (or earlier) staircase to the first floor. The chapel window is a replacement within a deeper brick filled opening with plaster reveals.
- 4.44** The first floor of the southern section is a later 20th-century addition, with a contemporary wooden floor and finishes. The floor cuts across the chapel window opening. In the west wall there is exposed stone masonry with a brick chimney stack that would have served fireplaces in one of the end rooms in the central range and/or

the chapel; the latter seems more likely. Also within this wall there is a vertical break on the line of the join with the north wall of the central range. The stonework to the north is constructed of more randomly laid smaller blocks than the coursed masonry of the other ranges.

- 4.45** The north, single-storey section of this range is a single open space last used as a kitchen and café (Plate 18). The plan form and roof shape indicate that historic stone walls and other probably smaller partitions have been removed. Where visible the south, west and internal east walls of the 1970s rebuild are lined with concrete blocks. The latter backs into the stone wall of the earlier room to the southeast. The space has modern finishes including concrete and brick floors and plaster and tiled walls; all kitchen fittings have been removed. The western section has collars and hip rafters visible, but no other roof timbers of any part of the building are exposed.

#### **The west range**

- 4.46** The remains of this range are attached to the northwest corner of the central range. The lower part of the west wall, incorporating a brick-blocked window opening, and part return to the north are constructed of stone; the former has been heightened, and the remainder of the latter has been rebuilt, both using concrete blocks. The building is currently open fronted with a steel frame supporting the roof. It is now connected to the central range by a two-storey link constructed of brick with steps up to a pair of cubicles and a fire escape door on the first floor. It has metal-framed casement windows at ground-floor level and at first-floor level on its west side.

#### **The exterior of the north range**

- 4.47** The north range is a tall, two-storeyed block under a pitched roof (Plates 10, 19 and 20). It has two main sections and a narrower link to the central range; the latter is three storeyed and has been described internally in relation to the central range above. In the east elevation of this link on the ground floor there is a doorway with two-pane lights over, a two-over-two pane horned sash window at the first-floor level and a six-pane casement window at the second-floor level.
- 4.48** The east elevation of the main section has, on the ground floor, a series of double and single width casement windows mostly under arched heads, but the southern pair are under a single long flat moulded wooden lintel. The north opening has been partially converted into a door. On the first floor, four of the five windows are single width with two-over-two pane horned sashes and six-pane casement lights above; the sixth is a double width window of similar overall design but where surviving with more panes to the sashes. There are large ceramic vent tiles at the first-floor level. At the north end there is a scar of a yard wall, now removed, projecting out to the east. There is a brick chimney stack in the gable above the north wall of this section.
- 4.49** The north section is slightly lower than the main section, and the roof has dormers extending over two of the first-floor windows. The elevation is staggered with a narrower southern element. Within the northern element is a large-ground floor opening forming a passage through the range. At first-floor level there are three windows, one in the southern element and two at a higher level in the northern element. They are of the same design as in the south section. Above the wall between the two elements is a brick chimney stack.
- 4.50** The north elevation is set into the hillside with stone masonry visible at ground-floor level and drilled bricks above at first-floor level. The latter may be a rebuild associated with a large central inserted opening, raised up from the ground level to allow loading from lorries.



- 4.51** The fenestration of the south section of the west elevation is more regular than the east side with five pairs of windows of the same design as elsewhere in this range. The south ground-floor window is now located within the extension and has been blocked internally. The wide, north arched opening has new inner and outer doors. Halfway along the elevation there is a two-storey tower projection with window openings in the north and south walls. The ground floor windows are the same as elsewhere in this range at ground-floor level, but on the first floor are pairs of six-pane casements.
- 4.52** In the north section there is a flat roofed projection over the passage with two narrow first-floor casement windows. To the south there is a higher-level ground-floor opening with a doorway access via a flight of steps from the northwest yard. The sides of the steps are defined by a 1970s concrete block wall that separates the lower yard from the upper access track from the passage to the north. Above the opening are the remains of a horned sash window under an arched head.

### **The interior of the north range**

#### The ground floor

- 4.53** The main ground floor room is a single space (Plate 21). It has entirely modern finishes with plasterboard finishes, which, where visible are set apart from the exterior walls. This refacing covers many of the windows and former internal openings. There are currently only internal doors to the kitchen extension and the tower. The tower has a modern toilet and sink and a false modern ceiling below an earlier ceiling. This blocks the upper part of the windows.
- 4.54** In the northern section the external flight of steps leads to another dog-leg flight of stairs up to the first floor. There is a cupboard under the stairs. From the higher-level passage, which has a first floor supported on RSJs, there is access into a room at the north end of the range. The doorway has a rolled steel joist as a lintel. To either side are single windows under slightly arched heads, fitted with six-pane casements, with top opening sections. The openings appear to have been altered in the 1970s. The room has a brick floor and a pair of tanks for storing sugar.

#### The first floor

- 4.55** The first floor is entered from the central range by a narrow link and up modern steps into a single room over the large space below (Plate 22). It retains an old plaster finish and lath and plaster ceiling, but has a 1970s wooden floor. In the east wall there is a central recess the function of which is uncertain. The scar of a partition is visible just south of the second from south window. In the north wall there is a projecting brick chimney stack; however, there is no sign of a fireplace at this level. Instead, the northern part of the (current) room was originally heated by a fireplace in the west wall to the north of the tower, where there is a stone hearth and cement render over the blocking. At this level the tower also recently contained toilets, but these have been removed.
- 4.56** To the north is the lobby from the ground-floor staircase, with two steps up to the north room. The lobby retains plaster finishes and a lath and plaster ceiling. Two tanks have been added above the stairs. The opening into the north room has been widened. This room was latterly a sugar store but originally had a domestic use (Plate 23). It has a plaster finish with lath and plaster ceiling, and a picture rail. There is a wide chimney stack and a blocked fireplace in the south wall. A doorway leads into a narrow space to the west, formerly two smaller rooms. The ceilings of the northern

spaces obscure the roof structure which is closely spaced common rafters tied into a ridge, supporting battens.

### **The isolation block**

#### External description

- 4.57** The surviving remains comprise a broadly H-shaped block (with additional eastern section) representing part of a much larger former isolation block (Plate 24). It is constructed of two phases, with the western part being earlier. This has rendered finishes and a fully hipped roof with a central chimney stack. The middle linking section is flat roofed. The eastern part has corrugated sheet walls and a pitched corrugated sheet roof.
- 4.58** The west block has modern doors in the east and west elevations, a six-pane casement and plank shutter window in the east elevation and a two-light window, each of six panes, in the west elevation. There is also a blocked doorway in this wall.

#### Internal description

- 4.59** Internally the west block is divided into four rooms, with the northern two rooms entered via the link block; the other two rooms are entered via the doors in the west elevation. The chimney stack visible externally is present as a projecting feature in the small second from south room, but no associated opening is present. There is a low opening between the southern pair of rooms.
- 4.60** The link is entered via a part glazed door in the south wall which provides access to an integral corridor to the east and a corridor in the west block. These are lit by two light casement windows of six and eight-panes each. There is a hand-cranked fire alarm attached to the inside of the south wall.
- 4.61** The east block is now divided into three rooms by modern and old partitions, but retains three original four-panel doors from the corridor. The rooms are lit by wooden casement windows of varying sizes with multiples of six-panes. All the fittings are modern, but there are steel uprights supporting brackets at the base of trusses.

## **5. DISCUSSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE PROPERTY**

### **The original 1837 workhouse**

- 5.1** The South Molton Workhouse, or Union Building, was constructed in 1837 following the establishment of the South Molton Poor Law Union in 1835. It was the third such building in the town, but unlike in other local towns such as Exeter and Tiverton it was the first purpose-built workhouse in the settlement. It also differed from the earlier buildings, as the South Molton Poor Law Union now served 29 local parishes rather than just the settlement itself. Assessment of the design of the building indicates that it was largely constructed to Sampson Kempthorne's 1835 design of a 'Workhouse for 200 Paupers (Adapted for the less pauperised districts)'. However, the original plan form (which does not fully survive today) was adapted from this design and included additional external buildings beyond the main wings probably taken from his standard 200-pauper design. The layout was also unusual in that it incorporated a chapel into one of the side wings rather than the rear central wing, and that it would appear to have a form of 'central hub' to control surveillance (something not shown on Kempthorne's drawings for his 200 pauper workhouses but present on his larger buildings and also on George Gilbert Scott and William Moffatt's designs). The original layout of the workhouse (including missing elements) are described below.

- 5.2** The architecture of the 1830s workhouses has been much discussed by academics, including how it reflected, or contradicted, contemporary attitudes towards poverty (Newman 2014). A particular emphasis has been placed on surveillance, segregation and specialism to promote care and/or control over inmates. The approaches to workhouses, and their often formal regency architecture are often at odds with the more austere nature of the buildings and their role. South Molton was no different, and was approached by a short carriage drive, with turning circle, from North Road. In the centre of the south range was the entrance block comprising a waiting hall and board room; this block also often contained other rooms such as a porter's room and a searching room. One additional space, heated by a fireplace (so perhaps a porter's room), can be identified at South Molton on the opposite side of the entrance to the board room. The remainder of the ground floor of the south range at South Molton differed from Kempthorne's adapted plan and contained additional structures as in his standard 200 pauper design. Along with a basement under the central entrance block, only one of these structures now survives. Plans show these usually contained service rooms associated with cooking such as a bake house, with others in the ends of the east and west ranges being described as work rooms (presumably for children as they were housed in the southern part of the workhouse - see below). There is no evidence for heating in the surviving eastern rooms of the south range and this space may have been a large (perhaps single) food (provisions) store.
- 5.3** The link to the central range usually contained a staircase to the first floor (for the south range and the link) and the children's school and dining room. At South Molton this space contained the staircases (now removed) to both the basement and the first floor. There is some evidence that the remainder of the ground floor was divided into two rooms. It is notable that the link is longer (and therefore the adjacent boys' and girls' yards are deeper) than shown on Kempthorne's plans. First floors of the link and south range contained the associated boys' and girls' bedrooms and a lying-in room (respectively). The same arrangement probably existed at South Molton, although it is possible that the longer link also contained washrooms/water closets.
- 5.4** The central range contained two blocks of accommodation separated by a central admin/service block, which with its three storeys seems to have functioned in the form of a proto-surveillance hub, more common on larger workhouses. Otherwise, the plan at South Molton largely matches Kempthorne's adapted plan, but based on the architecture and the description of the 1892 fire some rooms had different uses. On the ground floor the central hub comprised a corridor through the range with stairs to the first floor, with a kitchen to the west and a master's room (probably given the security bars on the windows the main administrative office). To either side were the women's and men's accommodation (usually to the west and east respectively), with a pair of rooms to either side of a passage containing staircases to the first floor. The functional nature of the passage is typical of high-quality industrial buildings of the period (for example the Royal William Yard in Plymouth) rather than residential buildings. Kempthorne's adapted plan records the rooms either side of the passage as bedrooms and rooms for the sick and infirm, but at South Molton at the time of the fire in 1892 the latter were recorded as being in the north range. The first-floor arrangement was almost identical to the ground floor but usually contained two master's bedrooms in the central hub. Fittings in the central rooms at South Molton confirm this layout. There is evidence for an additional smaller early room at the east end; whether such a room existed at the west end is unknown. This could have been a washroom or toilet. The second floor contained two further master's rooms.

- 5.5** The original north range does not survive having been rebuilt after the 1892 fire. Kempthorne's plans show these ranges as single storeyed, and housing either the women's day room/dining room or dining room/chapel. Similar dining room functions are found in both Kempthorne's and Scott and Moffatt's larger workhouses. Based on the description of the 1892 fire South Molton was somewhat different with an usual three-storey range. It apparently housed a kitchen (but see above) and men's dining room on the ground floor, men's and women's sick wards separated by a nurse's room on the first floor, and infirm and lying-in wards on the top floor.
- 5.6** The mainly single-storey side ranges to the north of the central range usually contained day and work rooms for the men on one side, and laundry, washrooms and women's work rooms on the other side. At South Molton, only the east range survives anything like intact, albeit partially extended and rebuilt. The surviving form of the northern section broadly conforms with historic map evidence representative of work rooms. The southern section unusually contained a chapel. There is no evidence for any internal partitions here, nor for an original first floor, and it seems likely the whole space occupied by the former Quince Honey Farm reception was a chapel. A mid 20th-century photograph of the west range (reproduced at <http://www.workhouses.org.uk/SouthMolton/>) shows it incorporated a two-storey block with first-floor louvred wooden openings on the east and north elevations; this could have housed a drying room for the laundry.
- 5.7** As has been discussed above, the design of the South Molton Union workhouse broadly followed Kempthorne's two designs for 200 pauper workhouses, but with a number of key substantial differences. Overall, though, the layout retains the segregation of inmates, with children housed, educated, cared for and exercised in the southern part of the complex, and adult accommodation, welfare and work facilities and exercise yards being in the central range and northern part of the complex. The design also allowed for segregation of males from females. Within the surviving building there is no definitive evidence which side of the complex housed men and which housed women. It was usual for women to be on the left and men to be on the right. The only difference is the size of windows in the 'ward' rooms of the central range, with those on the right-hand side being larger. The probable demolished laundry in the west range probably indicates that the standard arrangement was found at South Molton. The hybrid middle section of the central block appears to be a version of the surveillance hubs used in larger workhouses.
- 5.8** The deviations from the layout of Kempthorne's plans, and the use of elements of both his 200 pauper plans seems to have been driven by a desire for increased accommodation, with additional ward space within the central range to accommodate more than 200 inmates. This seems to have led to the centralisation of the adult health facilities in the north range. In the event, the capacity appears to have never been reached, with census records indicating that at maximum, the building was barely above half capacity (of its official 200 or so pauper limit – the adapted plan could actually house 212). The census records also show numbers decreasing over time.

#### **Later 19th-century alterations**

- 5.9** Given the large size of the building, and the well below capacity of inmates, oddly the 1889 Ordnance Survey 25-inch map shows some additions to the building since the 1840s.
- 5.10** In 1892 a fire in the north range, which sadly took the lives of two inmates, necessitated this range to be rebuilt (in 1895). Unlike the earlier range, it was only of

two storeys, but each floor was tall. The near identical design (as far as can be reconstructed) appears to indicate that as before it housed male and female sick wards on different floors. Although both floors are currently open plan, there is limited evidence for subdivision of the first floor, whilst the 1940s Royal Air Force aerial photography shows three chimney stacks serving this range indicating further subdivision. It may have also housed nurses' accommodation along with a dining room (which is mentioned as separate to the main accommodation wings in 1917).

- 5.11** Other alterations to the building of the period may have been undertaken at the same time. These included the construction of the original boiler house, and partial rebuilding of the north section of the east range.

#### **The workhouse under Devon County Council ownership**

- 5.12** The building passed in to the ownership of Devon County Council in 1929. The main identified change to the workhouse was the extension of the north range northwards. Although modified, the ground floor passage appears to be an original feature. Above was an accommodation unit, presumably for a care worker, as there is direct internal access to the existing first-floor accommodation.

- 5.13** The other main change to the property was the construction of the isolation block. This evolved over time, and now only partially survives. The building probably contained a series of five wards (three of which have been demolished) arranged off a central corridor. The nature of the construction of this element of the building was temporary. More permanent brick buildings at the west end probably had ancillary uses including a laundry (and/or furnace for destroying contaminated fabrics) and stores. The context of the block was the recognition of the need for specialist, 'isolated' treatment of patients with infectious diseases at the turn of the 20th century, witnessed by the construction of either specialised isolation hospitals or new blocks within existing hospitals.

#### **NHS ownership during the third quarter of the 20th century**

- 5.14** The building passed to the NHS in 1948 and became the Beech House care home. The institutional nature of the building was reduced, mainly recognisable today by the replacement of some original windows with metal-framed casements; original sashes were however retained in the central sections of the south range and central ranges. All external walls not already painted (such as in the south range) were finished with render. Other alterations included the removal of the buildings at the southwest corner and replacement with a new dwelling (outside the current scheme area). Other changes, removed in the 1970s, was the addition of sun terraces attached to the south side of central range.

#### **The Quince Honey Farm**

- 5.15** The most significant, post 1895, changes took place in the 1970s and 1980s when the building was converted into the Quince Honey Farm. These included the removal of buildings at the southeast corner of the complex (to be replaced by toilets), removal of most of the west range, rebuilding of the north section of the east range to create a café and associated kitchen, and removal of part of the link between the south range and central range (to facilitate access between the yards). Elsewhere, the central range and north range were converted into a production facility and associated public viewing galleries. The latter included the addition of new two-storey structures attached to the central range within the southern yards, and opening up of rooms in both ranges. Most of the ground floor of the central range was used to make honey, and the first floor was converted into an overhead walkway to allow visitors to

look down and watch and understand the process. This involved the removal of most of the original first floor structures and a number of partitions.

- 5.16 In its grounds, over half of the isolation block was demolished, and a new car park created within its former gardens, with increased vehicular access to the northern yards; various (now demolished) buildings associated with the manufacture of honey were constructed in the northeast yard.

## 6. ARCHIVE AND OASIS ENTRY

- 6.1 The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service within three months of the acceptance of this report by the Devon County Historic Environment Team.
- 6.2 Details of the project have been submitted to the OASIS (Online Access to the Index of Archaeological investigationS) database under the unique identifier 381795. The entry will include a digital copy of the approved report.

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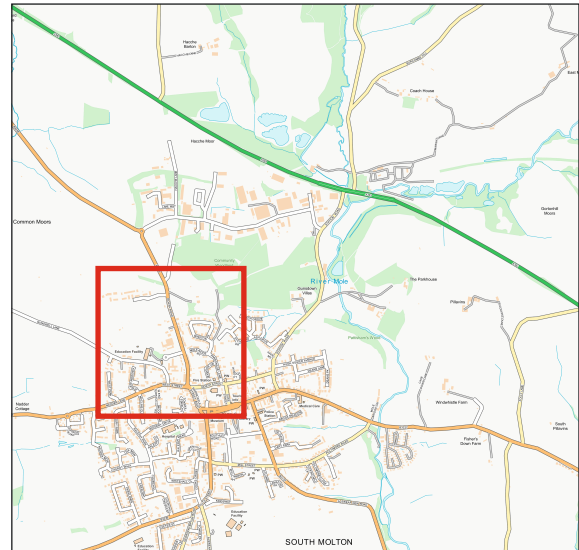
Devon and Dartmoor Historic Environment Record  
<http://map.devon.gov.uk/dccviewer>

National Heritage List for England  
<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>

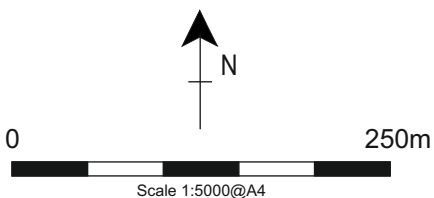
Old Maps  
<https://www.old-maps.co.uk>

The Genealogist  
<https://www.thegenealogist.co.uk>

The Workhouse – a Story of the Institution  
<http://www.workhouses.org.uk/SouthMolton/>



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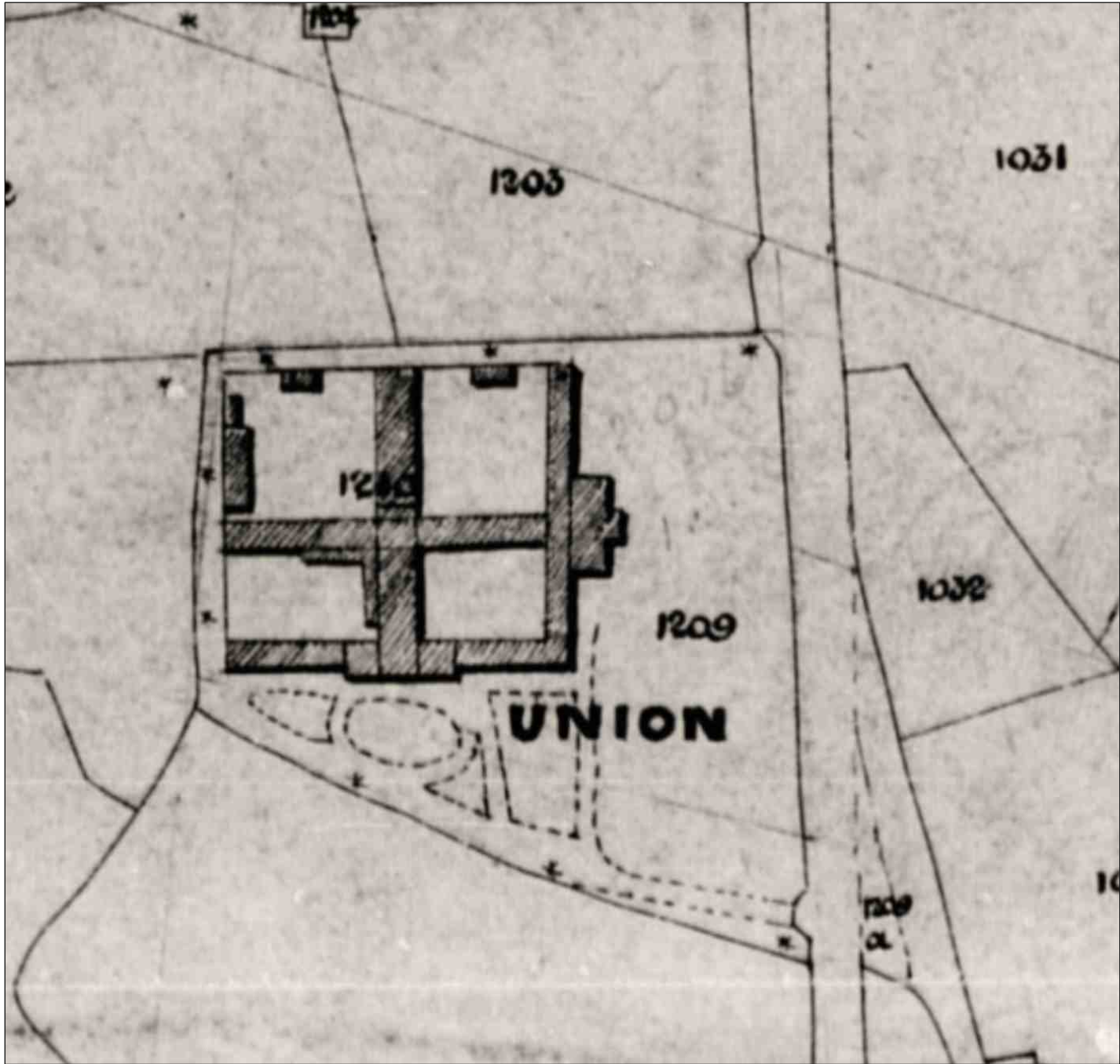
PROJECT  
The Former Quince Honey Farm, North Road,  
South Molton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 1: Site location







PROJECT

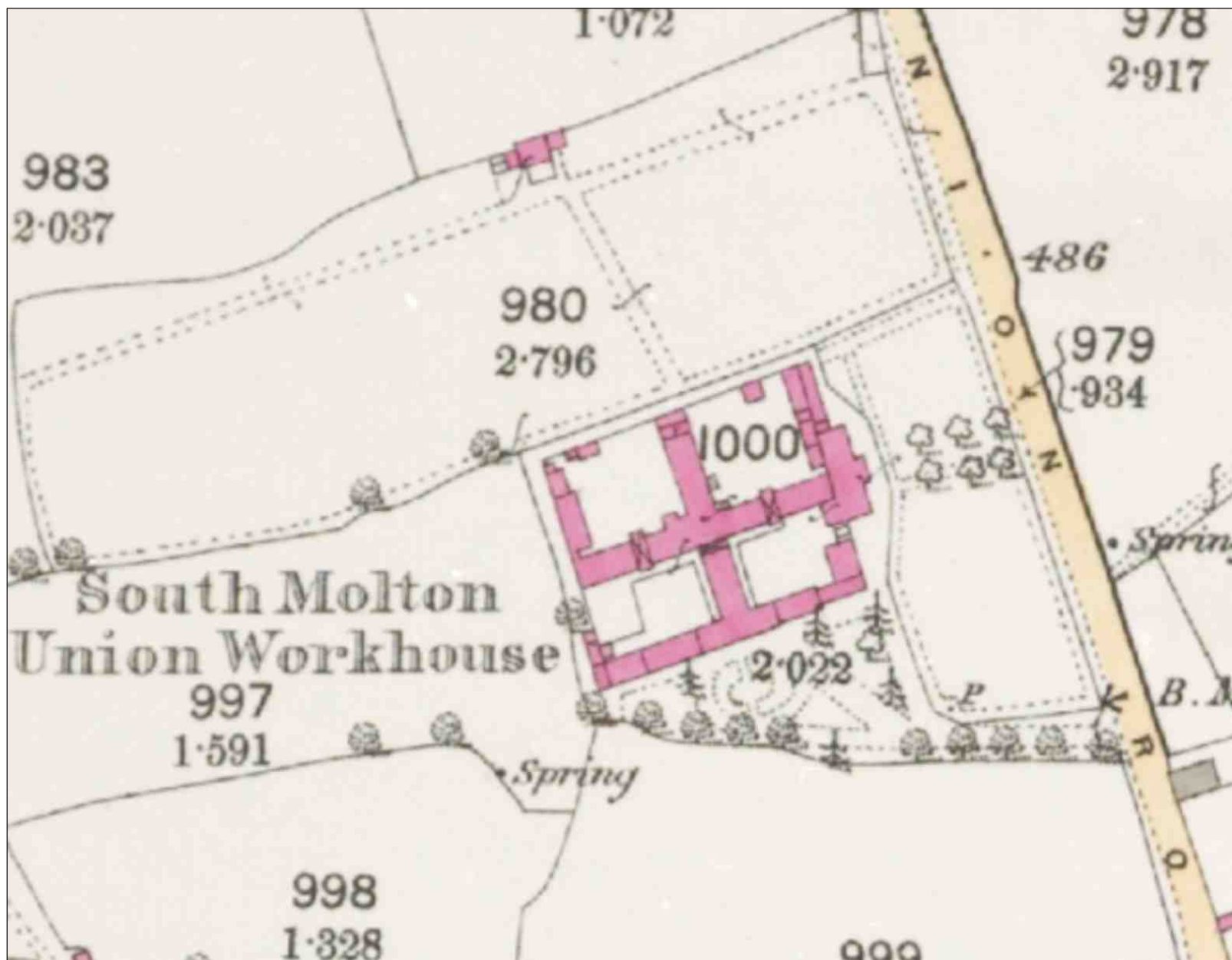
The Former Quince Honey Farm,  
North Road, South Molton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 2: Extract from the South  
Molton tithe map, 1844



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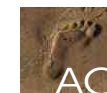


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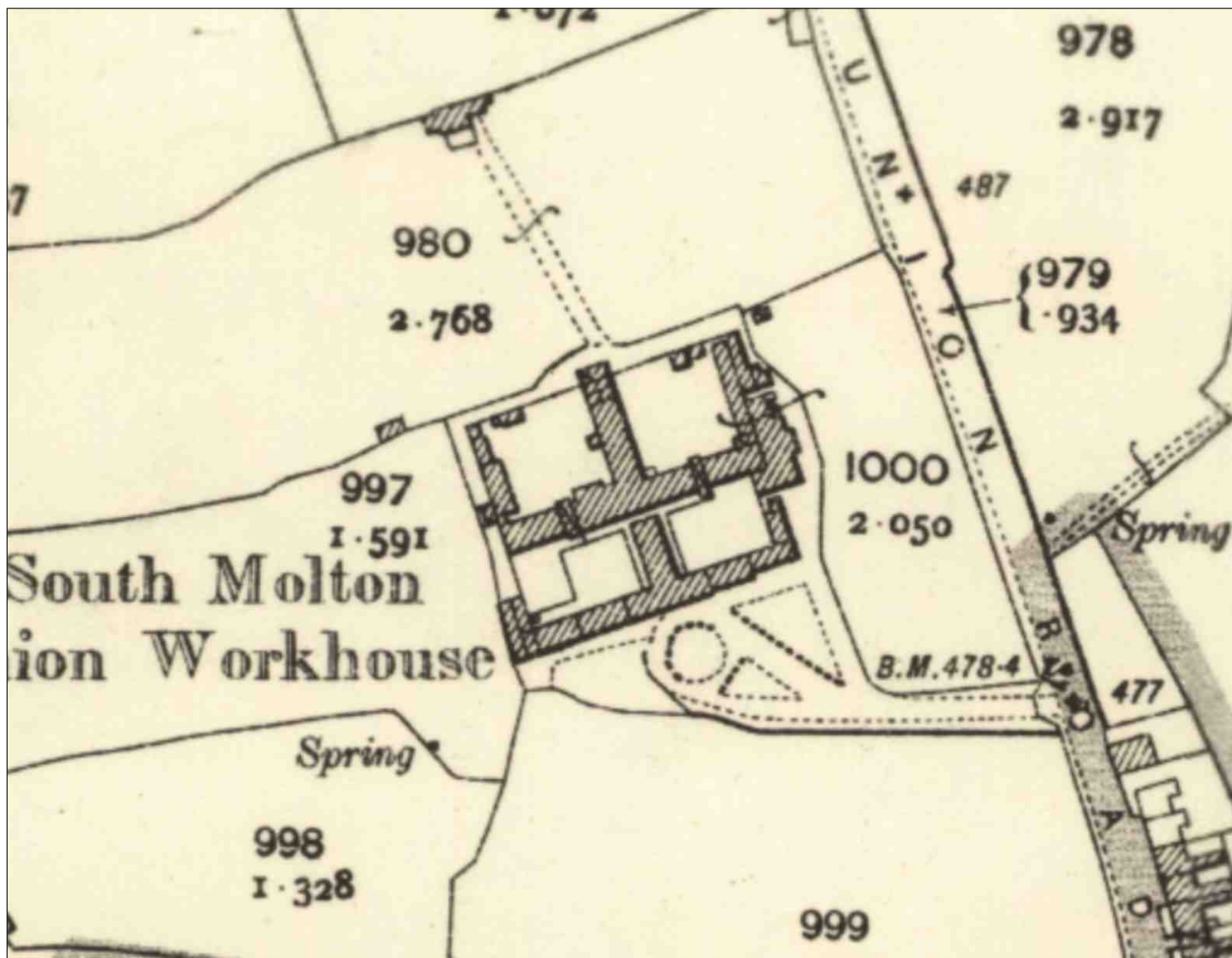
The Former Quince Honey Farm,  
North Road, South Molton, Devon

TITLE

Fig. 3: Extract from the First Edition  
Ordnance Survey 25-inch map, 1889



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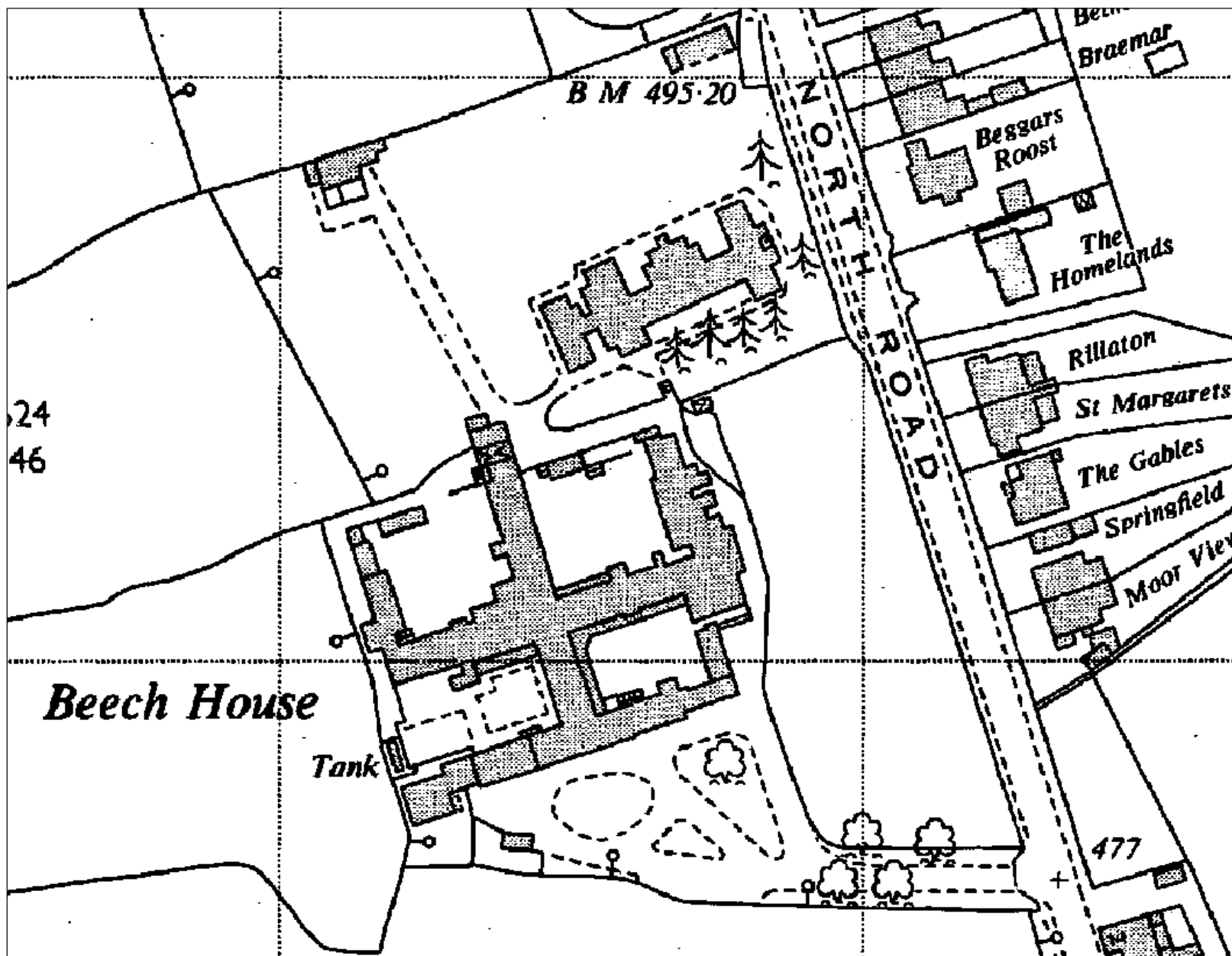
The Former Quince Honey Farm,  
North Road, South Molton, Devon

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Fig. 4: Extract from the Second  
Edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch  
map, 1904



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Fig. 5: Extract from the Ordnance  
Survey 1:2,500 map, 1970



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Plate 1: View looking northwest from the car park showing the south range (left), toilet block (centre) and east range (right)



Plate 2: The central section of the south range, looking northeast (2m scale)



Plate 3: The west elevation of the central section of the south range, looking east showing blocked openings and roof scar (2m scale)



Plate 4: The painted floorboards in the entrance hall of the south range, looking north (1m scale)





Plate 5: The east partition to the entrance hall of the south range, looking west from the adjacent room (2m scale)



Plate 6: The first floor of the south range, looking east showing the roof structure



Plate 7: The north rooms with vaulted ceilings in the basement, looking south (1m scale)



Plate 8: The south elevation at the west end of the central range showing 1970s addition and link to the south range beyond, looking east



Plate 9: The north elevation of the central range, west section looking southeast showing boiler room and kitchen extensions with the taller central section beyond



Plate 10: The north elevation of the central range, east section looking southwest also showing the south end of the north range



Plate 11: The passage and staircase in the west side of the central range, looking south (2m scale)



Plate 12: The former kitchen, looking north showing extensions to the rear and blocked fireplace to the right (2m scale)



Plate 13: Central and eastern rooms in the central range, showing barred window and replaced first-floor structure, looking northeast (2m scale)



Plate 14: General view of the first floor of the central range showing the walkway and viewing platform, looking west (2m scale)



Plate 15: The central western first-floor room of the central range, looking southeast up from the ground floor showing fireplace, cornice, picture rail and sash windows



Plate 16: The east elevation of the east range, looking southwest



Plate 17: The south (chapel) section of the east range, looking south showing later 20th-century openings (1m scale)



Plate 18: The open-plan north section of the east range, looking north (1m scale)



Plate 19: The east elevation of the north range, north end, looking west showing passageway with scar of original yard wall to left of scale (2m scale)



Plate 20: The west elevation of the north range, southern section showing integral service tower and later extensions, looking southeast





Plate 21: The ground floor of the north range, looking north (2m scale)



Plate 22: The first floor of the north range, looking north (1m scale)



Plate 23: The north room at first-floor level in the north range, looking south



Plate 24: The isolation block, looking north

### Devon Office

AC archaeology Ltd  
Unit 4, Halthaies Workshops  
Bradninch  
Nr Exeter  
Devon  
EX5 4LQ

Telephone/Fax: 01392 882410

### Wiltshire Office

AC archaeology Ltd  
Manor Farm Stables  
Chicklade  
Hindon  
Nr Salisbury  
Wiltshire  
SP3 5SU

Telephone: 01747 820581  
Fax: 01747 820440

[www.acarchaeology.co.uk](http://www.acarchaeology.co.uk)