

Devon County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish & District: Burrington, Umberleigh	National Grid Reference: SX 6032 1603	Number:
Subject: Archaeological monitoring at Eaglescott Airfield, Burrington, Umberleigh, Devon		Photo attached: N
Planning Application no: 47847	Recipient museum: Barnstaple and North Devon	
OASIS ID: exeterar1-63036	Museum Accession no: NDDMS 2009.74	
Contractor's reference number/code: EA 6867	Dates fieldwork undertaken: 27/07/2009 – 29/09/2009	
<p>Description of works:</p> <p>The site lies in an area of high archaeological potential. Six prehistoric funerary monuments lie on the higher ground to the north, all of which are subject to statutory protection as Scheduled Monuments. It was considered possible that archaeological features and/or artefacts associated with prehistoric activity in this area might survive within the footprint of the development.</p> <p>The site area measured 65m x 26m. A watching brief was maintained during the excavation of foundations for new facilities for the Devon Air Ambulance Trust (see attached plan). The initial ground reduction extended to a depth of 0.5m. As this did not extend below modern made ground, it was agreed to monitor subsequent trenching. These were on average 0.8m deep and cut through a layer of modern made ground relating to 20th century tipping. The trenching exposed a thin layer of surviving subsoil.</p> <p>Results:</p> <p>The layer sequence revealed by the trenching typically consisted of the following:</p> <p>0-1.2m Modern made ground 1.2-1.3m Subsoil 1.3+ Natural subsoil</p> <p>A service trench for a new electric main to the north of the development was also monitored. This was cut through 0.2m of mid to dark grey clayey topsoil and 0.3m of mid orange clayey subsoil, before revealing natural subsoil at a depth of 0.5m below current ground level.</p> <p>Conclusion</p> <p>No features, deposits or dating evidence were found to indicate archaeological activity within the area of the development.</p>		
Recorder: MFR Steinmetzer Exeter Archaeology		Date sent to HER: 22-10-2009

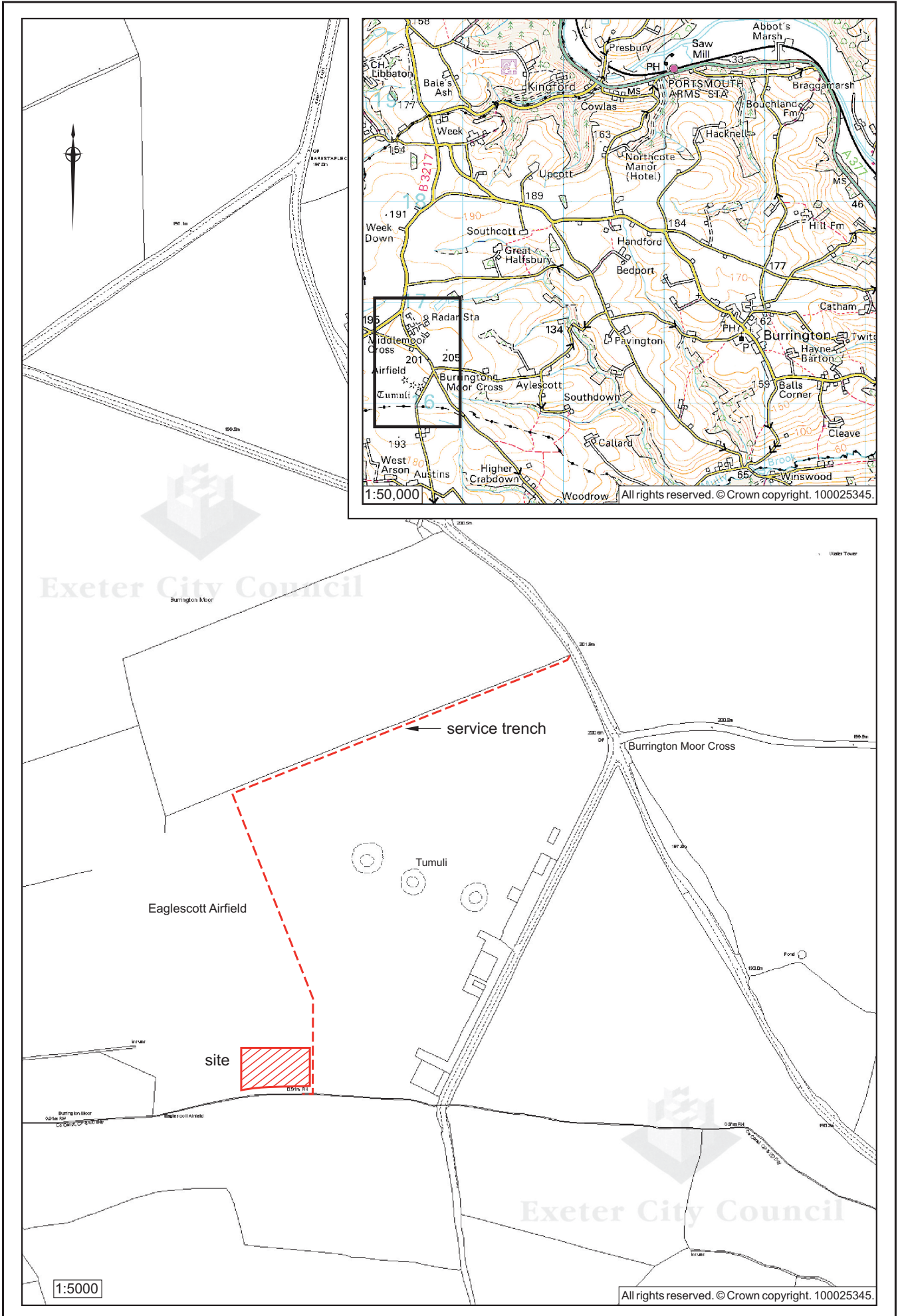


Fig. 1 Location of site.

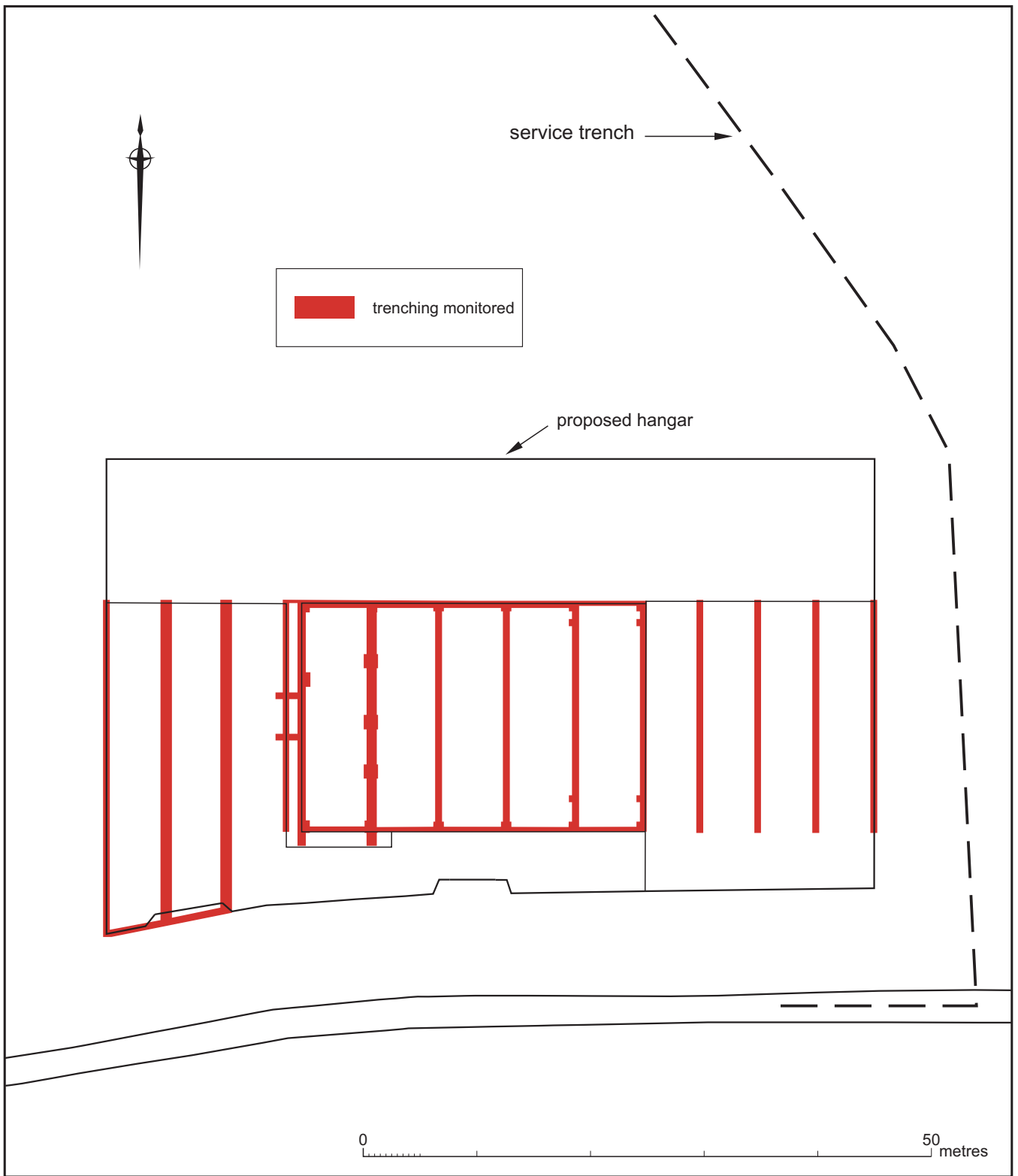


Fig. 2 Location of trenches. Based on plan supplied by Alder King, Property Consultants. Scale 1:500.