Hollow Lane Monkerton Evaluation

Site Code EXHEL19

Grid Reference: SX 96144 93543

Area of site 2.34ha

In October 2019 Oxford Archaeology (OA) carried out a thirteen trench archaeological evaluation of the site of a proposed school development at the land at Hollow Lane in Monkerton, Exeter. Twelve trenches were set out in the written scheme of investigation, Trench 13 was added in order to investigate an area of discrete features (see below). The evaluation work confirmed that the geophysical survey linear positive anomalies represented an ENE-WSW aligned ditch in the north western part of the site and east-west remains of a trackway in the south eastern part of the site.

A line of 'low-high' geophysical anomalies in the north western part of the site - investigated in Trenches 1,2 and 13 were confirmed to be relatively modern tree clearance - indicated by the stratigraphic location (cut into subsoil immediately below topsoil) burnt layers (from stump burning) root holes and pulled up natural deposits in the base and one side of the fill sequence.

The features appear to represent an early arrangement of the field (with a trackway defined by ditch, tree line and worn ruts) running parallel to Hollow lane then turning toward the north east corner of the field. This topography has been cleared prior to the installation of the agricultural ENE-WSW aligned drainage grid visible on the geophysics survey.

No finds or features of archaeological note were revealed on the site.

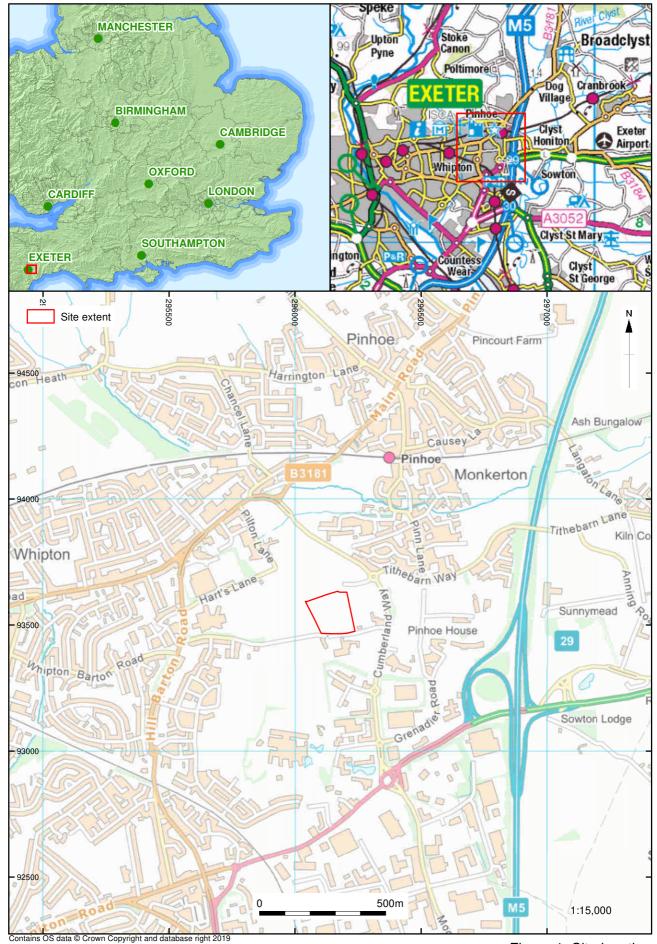


Figure 1: Site location

