ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT WISTON ROMAN FORT AND ITS ENVIRONS, PEMBROKESHIRE 2014: INTERIM REPORT

Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
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Gan / By

James Meek MCIfA

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf
Neuadd y Sir, Stryd Caerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AF
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121
Adran Rheoli Treftadaeth 01558 823131
Ffacs: 01558 823133
Ebost: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited
The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo,
Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121
Heritage Management Section 01558 823131
Fax: 01558 823133
Email: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

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SUMMARY

Following the confirmation of the presence of the Roman Fort near Wiston in Pembrokeshire, further investigations have been undertaken within the fort and its environs through grant aid from Cadw and a grant from the David and Christopher Lewis Foundation. An initial geophysical survey of the fort site was carried out in 2012, with subsequent archaeological investigations through trial trenching across the site in 2013 through grant aid from Cadw. These confirmed that the fort was surrounded by three defensive ditches, with internal ramparts. An intervallum road ran around the inside of the defences and timber buildings were present. In the centre of the fort was a trapezoidal enclosure. Pottery from these investigations indicated a first phase of activity in the late 1st century to early 2nd (the fort). The trapezoidal enclosure dated to the mid-2nd to mid-3rd century AD and appeared to represent activity after the fort had been abandoned.

Further geophysical surveys were carried out to the west, south and southeast of the fort in 2014. The survey of the field to the west was inconclusive and mostly demonstrated the presence of post-medieval field boundaries. The results within the fields to the south and southeast of the fort identified an extensive series of enclosures, roughly aligned along possible track-ways running east to west with offshoots to the south and southwest. The enclosures covered an area of c.10ha and evidently extended beyond the survey areas to the east, south and west.

A large trench was opened within the fort area, which revealed more evidence for the fort ramparts, further stone-lined postholes and rubbish pits. No clear building plans could be seen within the trench, but general east to west alignments were visible. No evidence for the intervallum road was seen within this trench.

Four trenches were excavated in the field directly south of the fort. These indicated that the enclosures seen on the survey were of Roman date, and represented a series of small ditched enclosures with timber buildings within forming an extensive settlement. A possible agricultural processing area or building was seen in the northern part of the field, as well as the possible remains of a road leading to the fort. In the northeastern corner of the field in its lowest part, layers of dumped material were recorded possibly a midden area associated with the settlement.

Pottery recovered from the site indicates that the fort was short lived, perhaps established around AD 74 but abandoned and slighted by AD 100. In the mid-2nd century a settlement was established to the south of the former fort site, associated with a new enclosure built within the centre of the fort. There was a lull in activity in the early to mid-3rd century, but a slight resurgence in the later 3rd century and possibly into the 4th century AD. The settlement type is different to other Romano-British settlements known within the region. It provides evidence to confirm that Roman presence and administration in this region was far greater than had previously been thought.

INTRODUCTION

The site of the Roman fort was confirmed at Wiston (SN 026 187; Figure 1), Pembrokeshire following a geophysical survey in 2012 (Poucher 2013) and a scheme of trial trenching across the fort site in 2013 (Meek 2013) through grant aid from Cadw.

The geophysical survey and evaluation confirmed that the site survives as a substantial earthwork on agricultural land to the south of Churchill Farm, Wiston. It is possible to trace the northern, eastern and southern sides of the fort through the former ditches surrounding the fort in the classic 'playing card' shape. The western side lies beneath the existing road from Wiston to Clarbeston Road. The eastern side of the fort was formerly used as a quarry, as indicated on historic Ordnance Survey maps, which was the main reason that the site had been previously dismissed as being a Roman fort.

The fort site lies directly to the north of the line of the previously identified line of the Roman road leading west from Carmarthen, through aerial photographic, cartographic and ground truthing surveys.

Following the confirmation of the fort at Wiston further works were grant aided by Cadw to enable further investigations of the environs of the fort to determine if any associated *vicus* settlement or other associated features were present. Two further phases of gradiometer survey were carried out in early 2014. The first survey was carried out as a contingency Cadw grant aid project undertaken in March 2014 within the field to the northwest of the fort (Figures 1 & 2).

In early 2014, a project design for grant-aid to undertake further geophysical survey and evaluation excavation within the fields to the south of the fort was accepted by Cadw (Figure 1 & 3). The design included full gradiometer survey of the two fields south and southeast of the fort, followed by the excavation of four trenches within the field to the south, targeting anomalies revealed on the survey with the intention of characterising the archaeological remains and potentially leading to the scheduling of the area.

A successful request for a grant to undertake further excavation within the Roman fort was also submitted to the David and Christopher Lewis Foundation, a private educational charity who had previously supported excavations of a Roman site near Llandeilo. A single trench was excavated within the southwestern corner of the fort, adjacent to Trench 1 from 2013.

The works were designed to further enhance our understanding of the Roman fort at Wiston, its use, abandonment and association with an apparent settlement area to the south of the fort. Further intrusive excavation of the fort was undertaken within an area seen to have a high potential for archaeological remains associated with structures and other important features to provide more information on the date and abandonment of the fort. Intrusive investigation within the fields to the south was also necessary to ascertain more information on the character and date of the ditched enclosures that had been revealed on the gradiometer survey of the fields to the south of the fort.

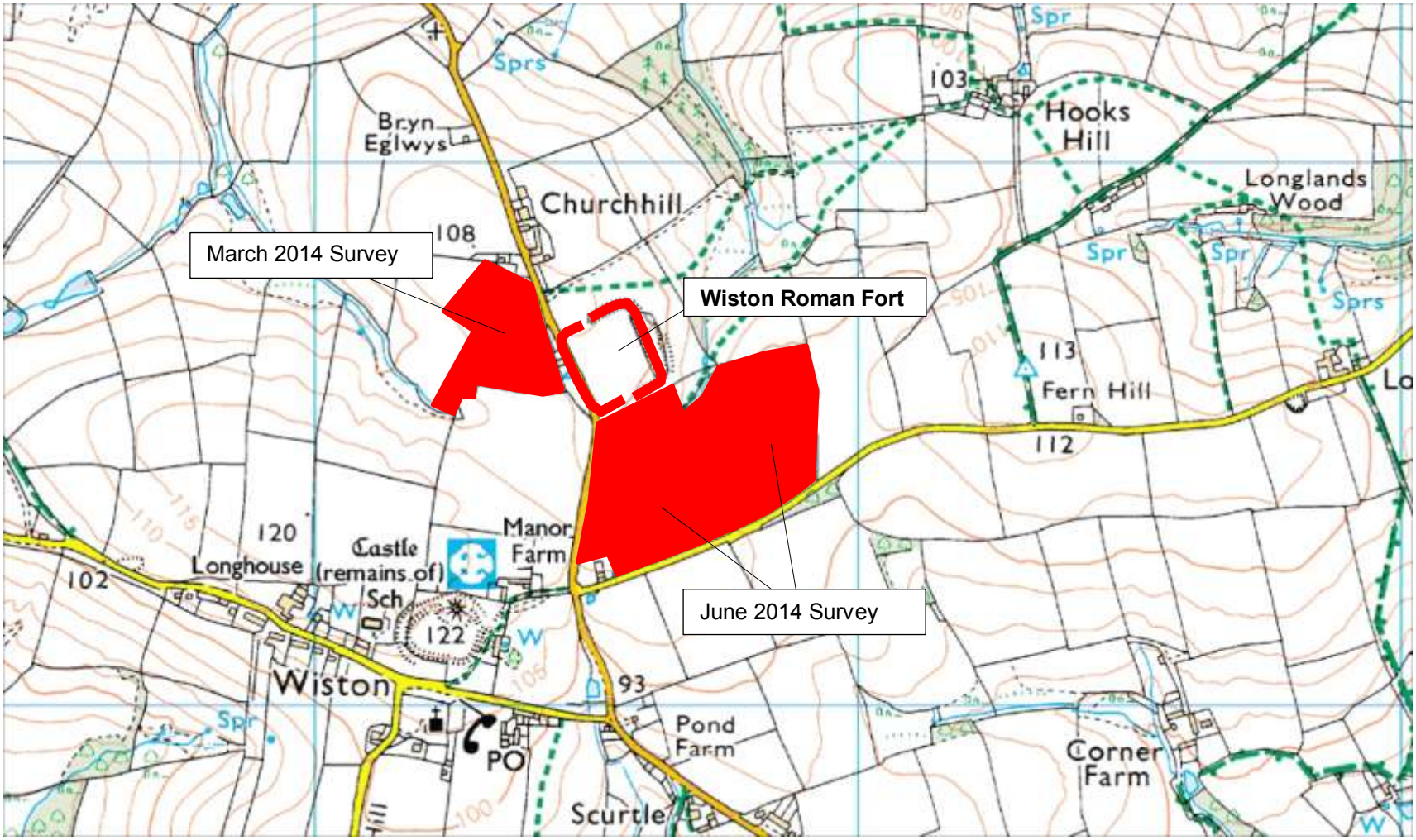

Figure 1: Location Plan of Wiston Roman Fort and additional Geophysical Survey areas 2014

SITE DESCRIPTION

The following description of the site is taken from the geophysical survey report of 2012 and refers specifically to the results of that survey.

The geophysical survey revealed a complex range of archaeological activity throughout the surveyed area, these included features characteristic of the remains of a Roman Fort, namely the shape and size of the site along with its distinctive defensive ditches and possible central entranceways. These features appear convincing enough to confirm this as the site of a Roman fort. (Poucher 2013, p1)

The following summary is taken from the report on the results of the trial trench investigations undertaken in 2013 within the area of the fort.

The trenches confirmed the presence of three defensive ditches on the northern side of the fort, the internal of which was very substantial. The trench across the possible location of the entranceway uncovered the line of the internal ramparts, but the location of the north entrance was unfortunately not identified. The trench across the trapezoidal enclosure (in the centre of the fort) *indicated it was of Roman date, post-dating the use of the fort. Its function remains unclear.*

The trench in the southwestern corner of the fort provided evidence for timber buildings in the form of substantial stone lined postholes, and probably indicating a number of phases of structures. The foundations for a substantial intervallum road were revealed. Further evidence for the ramparts on the southern side of the fort were identified, with the remains of structures built into their rear also present. Pottery indicates two main phases of Roman activity at the site, the first associated with the fort (late 1st to early 2nd century AD) and the second with later use of the site (mid 2nd to mid-3rd century AD). (Meek 2013, p1)

The fort field has been in the ownership of the present landowner, Mr Morris's family for many years. It has always been used as a pasture / silage field and has not been deep ploughed in living memory. Depressions over the ditches of the fort are clear to the north, east and south. The line of the ditch to the west is covered by the road between Wiston and Clarbeston road. A possible rise around the inside of the fort could possibly represent the line of the ramparts around the inside of the fort.

The field to the west, subject to geophysical survey in March 2013, was again used as a pasture field, and has not been subject to deep ploughing in recent years. The field has also been annually in recent years as the Clarbeston Showground.

The fields to the south of the fort have been under a different agricultural regime, formerly used for a maize crop and have been subject to deep ploughing. At the time of the surveys the fields had been ploughed and seeded with grasses for silage.

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

Methodology

A fluxgate gradiometer was used for the survey, which detects variations in the earth's magnetic field (full specifications are in Appendix 1). Readings were taken at a low resolution on traverses 1m wide and every 0.25m within a 20m x 20m grid across the site.

Three fields were surveyed in early 2014 (Figures 1, 2 & 3). The first survey was carried out in March 2014 within the field to the west of the fort site (the Clarbeston Showground field). An area of *c.*3.5ha was surveyed.

In June 2014 the entirety of the two fields lying directly south and southeast of the fort site were surveyed. The western of the two fields measured *c.*6ha in size, the eastern around 5.6ha. A Trimble TST was used to tie the survey grid into the local Ordnance Survey grid.

Limitations

The first survey was undertaken in March 2014. Weather conditions were fine and generally dry. The fields were bounded by hedgerows, some containing wire fencing, which may have obscured readings taken in their immediate vicinity (mostly on the eastern side of the survey area). The field was generally level and under short pasture. As it is used each year for the Clarbeston Show it was anticipated that disturbance and metal objects may have been littered across the site, but in the event the field surveyed well. The survey was undertaken by experienced surveyor with an assistant and any variations in the data collection are likely to have been small.

The second survey of the fields to the south and southeast of the fort were carried out in June 2015 during a spell of mostly very dry weather conditions, but with occasional showers on some days. The fields were bounded by hedgerows, with no evident wire fencing. An overhead cable ran across the fields, roughly east-northeast to southwest-southwest, which may have obscured readings taken in their immediate vicinity, although little evidence for this appeared on the survey. The western field lay on a gentle north facing slope with a slight rise at its northern end, heading up towards the fort. The eastern field was generally sloped towards the northwest. Two experienced surveyors undertook all of the survey work therefore any variations in the data collection are likely to have been minimal.

The underlying geology and soils of both all three fields did not appear to cause any geological distortions of the geophysical survey results.

Processing, presentation and interpretation

Processing was performed using *TerraSurveyor 3.0*, detailed explanation of the processes involved are described in Appendix 1. The data is presented with a minimum of processing, but the presence of high values caused by ferrous objects tends to hide fine details and obscure archaeological features, thus the values were 'clipped' to remove the extreme values allowing the finer details to show through.

During the survey the presence of small surface iron anomalies, typically deriving from modern material, causes spikes in the data. These have been removed using median values.

The processed data is presented as grey-scale plots overlaid on local topographical features (Figures 2 & 3). The main magnetic anomalies have been identified and plotted onto the local topographical features as a level of interpretation (Figure 4).

The survey results and interpretation diagrams should not be seen as a definitive model of what lies beneath the ground surface, not all buried features will provide a magnetic response that can be identified by the gradiometer. In interpreting those features that are recorded the shape is the principal diagnostic tool, along with comparison with known features from other surveys. The intensity of the magnetic response could provide further information, a strong response for example indicates burning, high ferric content or thermoremnancy in geology. The context may provide further clues but the interpretation of many of these features is still largely subjective.

All measurements given are approximate as accurate measurements are difficult to determine from fluxgate gradiometer surveys. The width and length of identified features can be affected by its relative depth and magnetic strength.

Summary of Results

West Field (Figure 4)

The survey of the Clarbeston Road showground mostly identified linear features which relate to former field boundaries visible on the 19th century Ordnance Survey map and Tithe map. The majority of these features show a series of large rectangular fields presumably associated with post-medieval enclosure. A possible modern service trench crosses the area also, running in a north south direction from the southern edge of the survey, before turning 90 toward Wogan Villas.

A few potentially more significant archaeological features do exist within the field, including a semi-circular anomaly on the northern edge of the field. Whether this represents a feature such as a round barrow or even a possible round house of Iron Age date is uncertain. Two other features of interest are represented by possible linear anomalies with right angled corners. These could potentially be structural, but are of unknown date.

The survey provided no clear indications of an associated *vicus* settlement for the fort or any other clear indication of other Romano-British activity within the field.

Southern fields (Figure 5)

The surveys of the two fields to the south of the fort provided an indication of extensive archaeological remains across almost the entire area of both fields and evidently projecting beyond their boundaries. Cropmarks from aerial photographs of the field directly to the south of the fort had previously indicated a series of ditched enclosures provisionally interpreted as being of possible

Romano-British or Iron Age origin. These were located in the southwestern part of the field on the higher ground. The geophysical survey confirmed that these features were present, but also that they were far more extensive than previously thought.

In summary the geophysical survey suggested a network of enclosures, in linear arrangements suggesting they ran along the projected line of the Roman road, with a line heading south roughly along the field boundary between the two fields and a further arrangement heading to the southwest through the area of cropmarks. Clearly the overlapping nature of many of the ditches suggested that there was some phasing to the site. No clear evidence for the line of the Roman road could be seen on the survey, other than a faint linear positive anomaly running east to west across the fields (grey line on Figure 5). Many of the enclosure anomalies appeared to cross this line and so its interpretation as a Roman road was questionable.

A number of other anomalies of interest were identified, including a strong linear anomaly running roughly northeast from the higher ground in the southwestern part of the western field. This ran down the hillslope, but then disappeared in the lower part of the field. Its line was crossed by the linear, possible road feature and a further break in its line was also evident. Strong anomalies were also present in the northeastern part of the western field close to the fort and adjacent to rough scrubland and the site of a former pond directly to the east. Further pit like anomalies were visible across both fields.

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Figure 2: Processed data as grey-scale plot overlaid on local topographical features for field west of fort site, including 2012 plot for the Roman Fort

Figure 3: Processed data as grey-scale plot overlaid on local topographical features for fields south of the fort site, including 2012 part of plot for the Roman Fort

Figure 4: Summary interpretation plot of geophysical survey within field west of the fort. Brown - negative features; grey – positive features

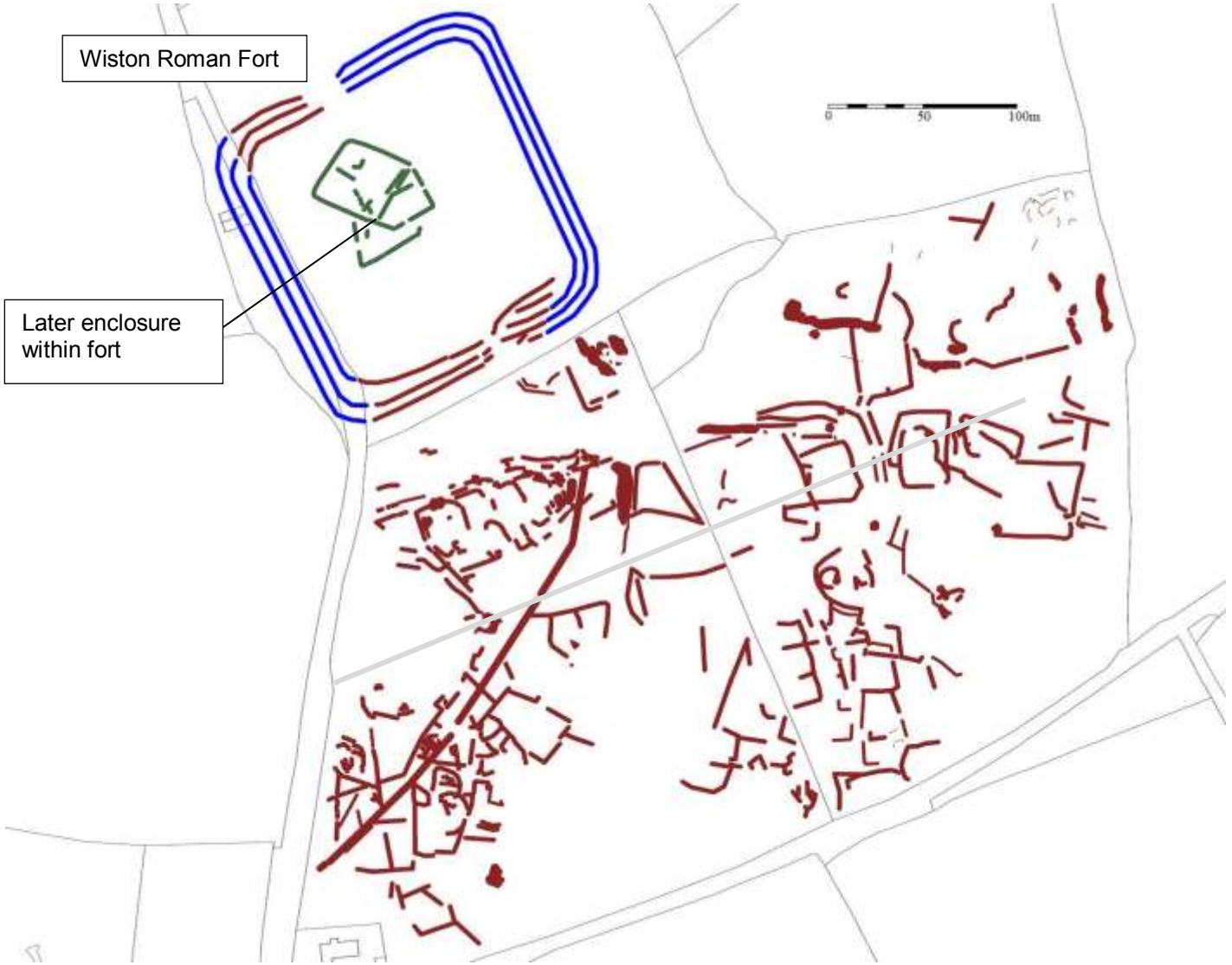


Figure 5: Summary interpretation plot of geophysical surveys within fields to the south of the fort and the main features of the fort. Brown and green – negative archaeological features; grey – positive features; blue - projected lines of fort ditches

TRIAL TRENCHING

Methodology

Following on from the results of the 2014 geophysical surveys four trenches were opened up in the field immediately to the south of the fort to test the geophysical survey results (Figure 6). A further trench was also opened within the fort site. The investigations were undertaken between 14th July and 3rd August 2014.

The four trenches within the southern field were located to target features identified on the geophysical survey, specifically an area in the northeastern corner of the field to target a few strong anomalies revealed on the geophysical survey and also a possible alignment of the roman road (Trench 5); an area in the centre of the field to cross a number of enclosure features and another projected line of the Roman road (Trench 6); an area in the northern part of the field directly opposite the entrance to the fort and near other features identified on the geophysical survey (Trench 7); and an area in the southwestern part of the field corresponding with cropmark features recorded on an aerial photograph (PRN 14323) (Trench 8).

A further Trench was excavated within the fort site (Trench 4), located adjacent to trench 1 from the 2013 investigations, targeting an area with high potential for structures and other features associated with the fort

A mechanical excavator removed topsoil from the four trenches using a toothless bucket. The trenches were then cleaned using hand tools, planned and photographed. Sections were then excavated using hand tools through all features identified.

Recording was done using DAT's recording manual.

Volunteers excavated the site under the supervision of experienced DAT staff.

The weather during the excavations was almost entirely dry, with some very hot days which made the ground very hard and difficult to see archaeological features. Mr Morris the landowner generously provided a large tank of water for the site which was used to dampen the trenches to make visibility and excavation of the archaeology easier.

In the following results section cuts of features are referred to in square brackets eg. [6004]; fills or layers are referred to in round brackets eg (4003). Summary site plans are used in this interim report (excluding for Trench 4) with the full detailed plans to be used in the forthcoming publication on the results.

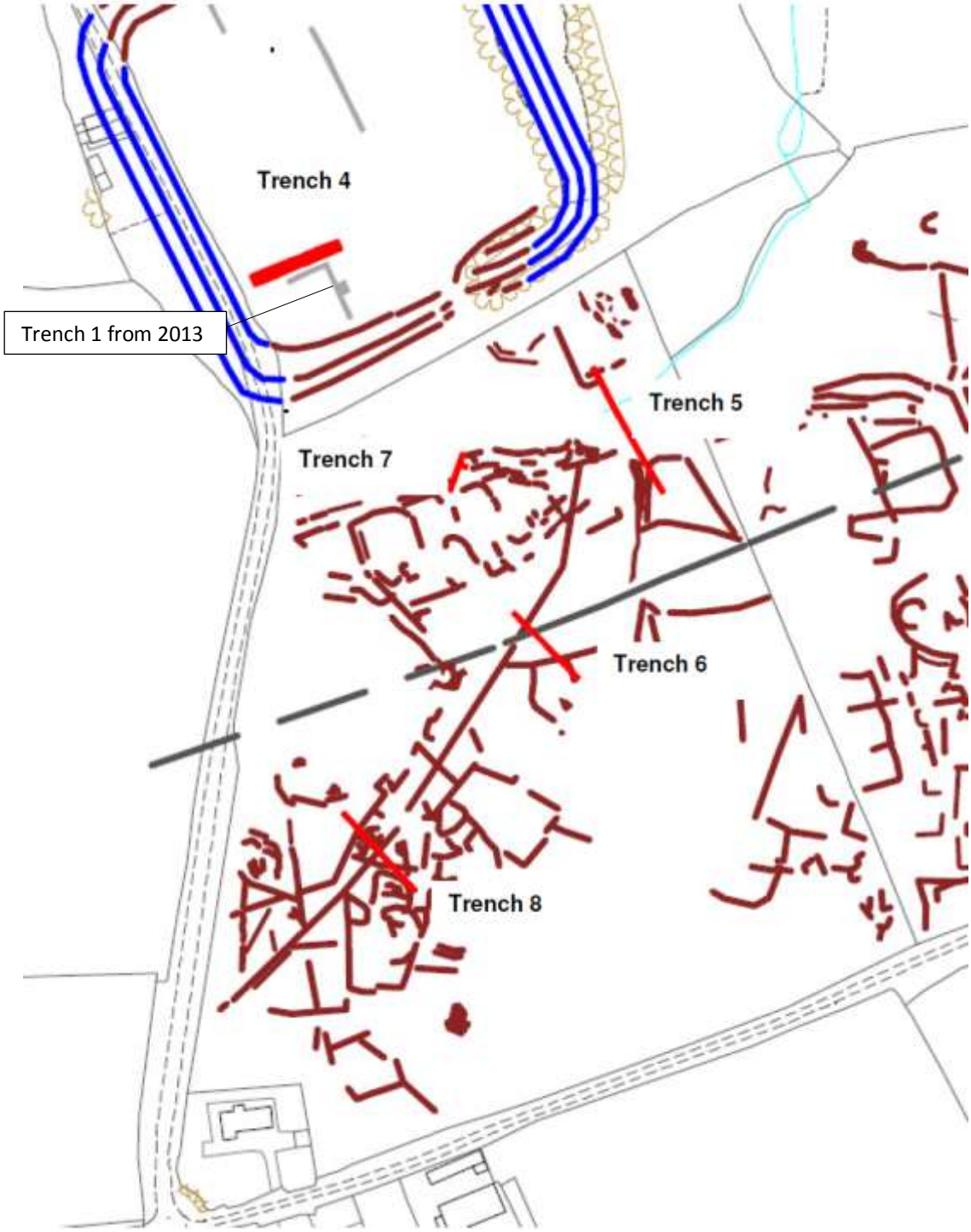


Figure 6: Trench location plan (trenches ion red) overlaid on geophysical survey interpretation plot

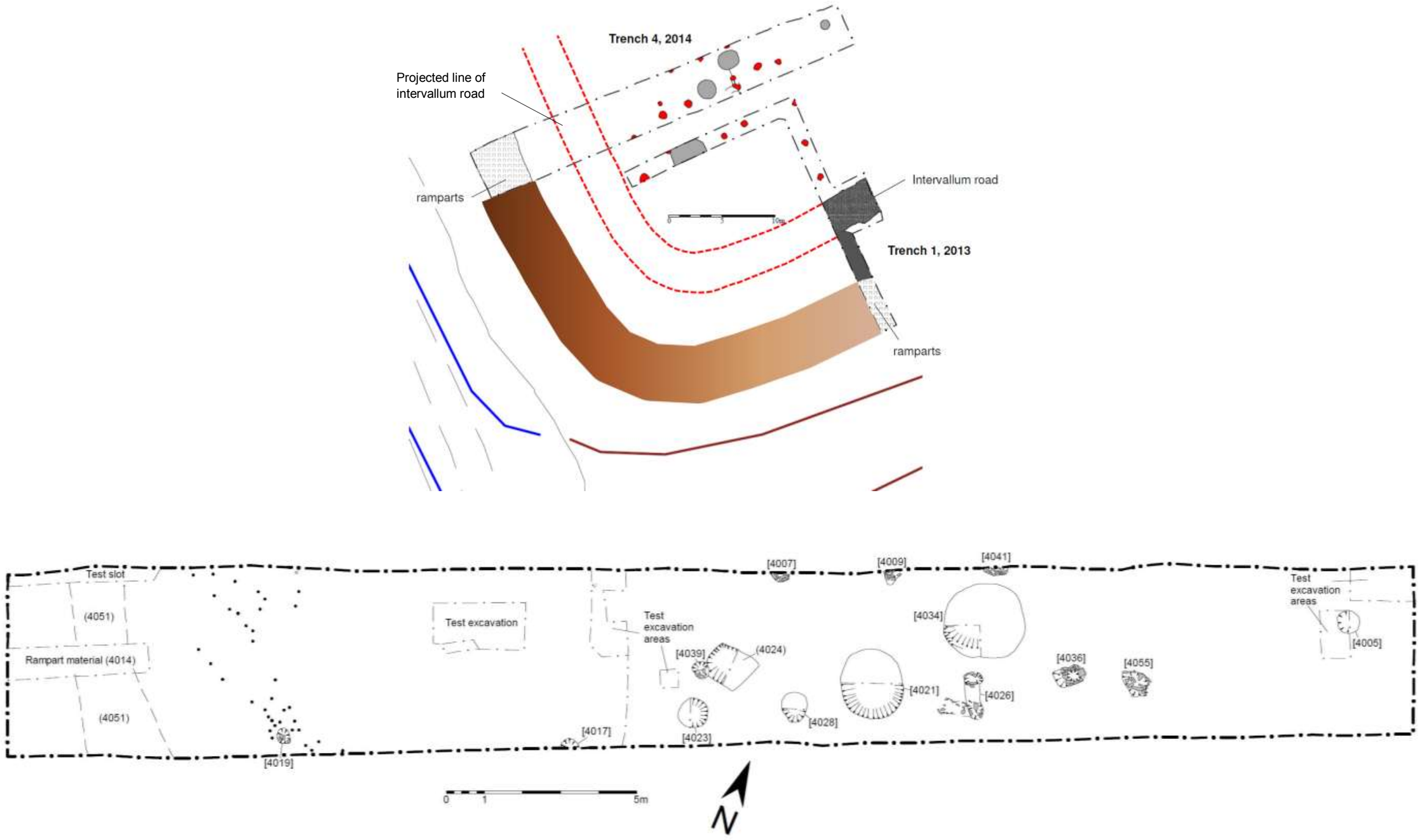


Figure 7: Plan of Trench 4, with its approximate position in relation to the defensive ramparts and Trench 1 from 2013 (aligned to north); red circles represent postholes with detailed trench plan below (black dots to left representing stake-holes)

EXCAVATION RESULTS

Trench 4 (Figure 7)

Trench 4 was located directly to the north of Trench 1 from the 2013 evaluation, within the southwestern corner of the fort. It measured *c.*5m x 37m. The trench was located as the area was seen as having high archaeological potential following the results of Trench 1 in 2013.

The western end of the trench had the continuation of the ramparts on the inside of the defensive ditches. As with the 2013 excavations, the ramparts comprised a compact grey clay (4014) overlying darker soils (4013), having the typical appearance of a clay and earth rampart (Photo 1). Excavations through the ramparts did seem to indicate a few discernible turfs within its make-up. At the base of the rampart material a compact cobbled surface was identified. The cobbles may have formed a foundation for the earth rampart above, although the initial interpretation was that it was possibly a road pre-dating the construction of the fort defences.

Photo 1: Excavated sections through rampart material at west end of trench, showing cobbled surface beneath

It was anticipated that the intervallum road would cross through the trench on the inside of the ramparts, as had been seen in Trench 1 and as indicated on Figure 7. No sign of a road was seen in this location, although further to the east a layer of loose stone was identified directly below the topsoil which spread over the entire central part of Trench 4 (Photo 2). The stone layer (4002/4003) was hand excavated to determine if it formed part of a road or other surface, but it was evident that it lay within a plough disturbed horizon and sealed underlying archaeological layers. Where this layer was not present, the trench was clearly machined directly onto the uppermost surviving archaeological layer.

The underlying natural substrata across the entire trench comprised a yellow/orange, clay substrata with bands of broken sandstone running through on

roughly northwest to southeast alignments. This corresponds with what was exposed within Trench 1 of 2013.

Photo 2: View east across stone layers (4002) and (4003)

Photo 3: Area of stake-holes on southern side of Trench 4 at its western end, with posthole [4019]

Between the rampart and the stone layer (4002/4003) the trench numerous stake-holes were visible within the exposed natural substrata. A number of these were excavated to ensure they were not merely root holes or animal burrows. The majority of those excavated were over 0.05m in depth and were near

vertical, indicating that they were indeed archaeologically significant. The stake-holes formed no clear pattern, but rough alignments could be seen (Photo 3). Two postholes were also identified within this area of the trench, [4017] and [4019]. The northern side of the trench was less clear to define and a number of test slots were excavated through the exposed surface suggesting that in areas of the trench a compact clay rich soil, very similar to the natural, was present, layers (4064) and (4065). Due to the very hot and dry weather, these layers were difficult to define.

Removal of layers (4002) and (4003) indicated it was around 0.20m in depth below which a number of archaeological features were identified, as well as patches of the compact clay mentioned above. Two large pits were revealed, which were visible on the geophysical survey. Pit [4021] was clearly identified near the start of the excavation (Photo 4). It measured around 1.7m in diameter and was excavated to a depth of *c.*0.9m, but was not bottomed. It contained a large broken slate slab on its western edge, but few artefacts. The second pit, [4034], was only found at the end of the excavation following the removal of a section through the compacted clay layer at the base of the trench. It was *c.*2m in diameter, but due to time limitations only a small quadrant of the pit was excavated, to a depth of 0.6m. There was a substantial amount of burnt material within the pit and also burnt red clay which was very fragmentary (probably burnt and crushed daub).

Photo 4: Excavated section through pit cut [4021] (not bottomed)

A number of postholes were recorded across the trench, some stone lined [4007], [4009], [4036], [4041] and [4055], looking very similar to those recorded in Trench 1 in 2013, with the others being relatively stone free, [4023], [4028] and [4038]. Three of these postholes were located projecting out from the northern edge of the trench (Photo 5), which were not excavated due to the difficulty in removing the stones ([4007], [4009] and [4041]). One of the postholes, [4036]

excavated nearer the centre of the trench revealed a substantial feature well lined with local stone slabs (Photo 6).

Photo 5: Stone lined postholes on north trench edge [4007], [4009] and [4041]

Photo 6: Posthole [4036] showing clear stone lining

A possible right angled beam slot was also noted in the centre of the trench, with two possible indentations possibly indicating former upright posts were set within it, [4026]. A number of seemingly rectangular stone features were investigated within the trench, but on excavation, these were identified as natural outcrops of the broken sandstone, layers (4024) and (4042).

Trench 5 (Figure 8)

Trench 5 measured 45m x 1.6m and was aligned roughly north-northwest to south-southeast. It was located directly to the southeast of the fort running from the lowest part of the field up slope. The trench was located to target a number of anomalies, including a possible enclosure to the south, one of the projected liens of the Roman road from Carmarthen and strong anomalies in the northeastern part of the field.

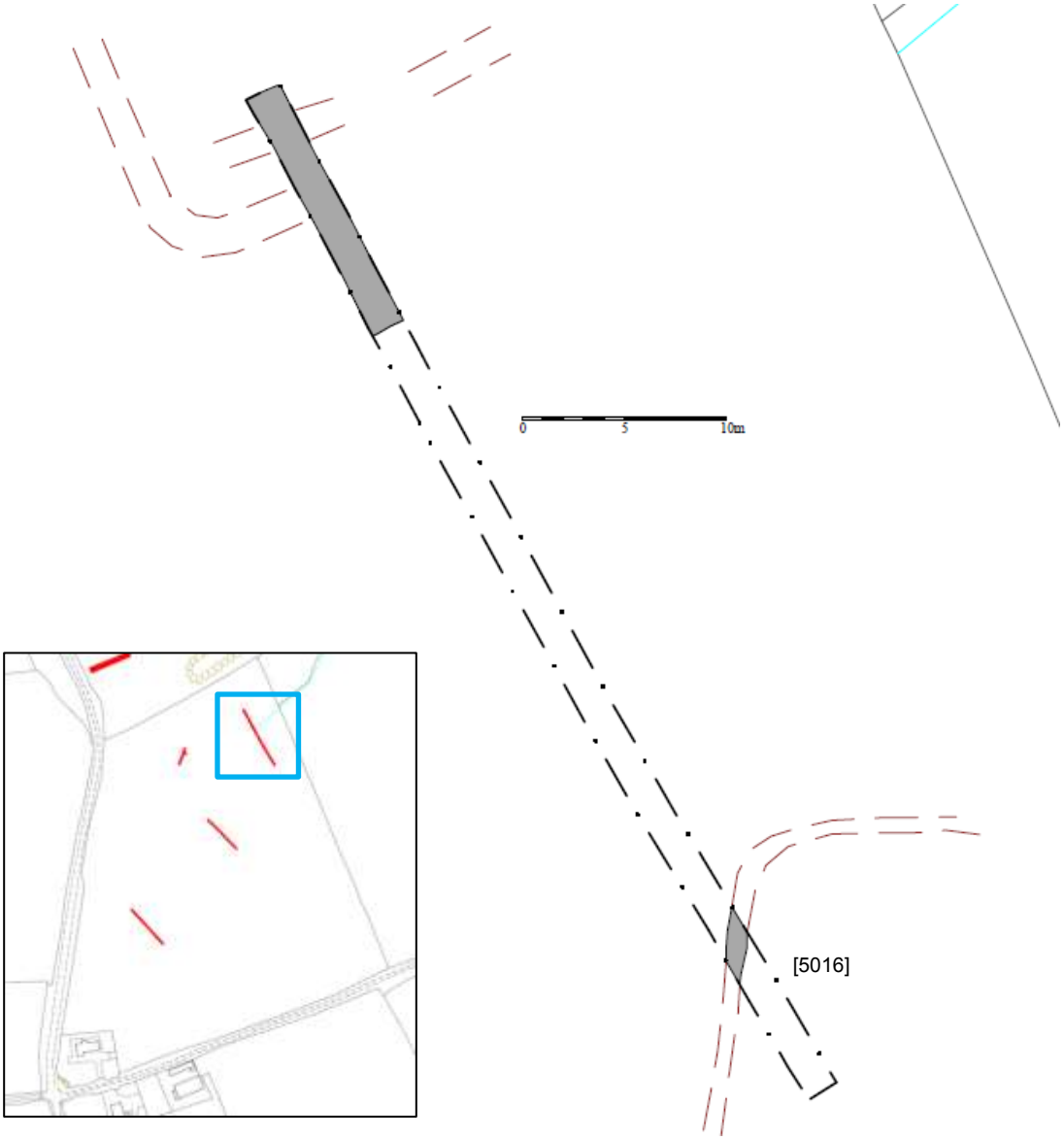


Figure 8: Location plan of Trench 5 (inset), with main plan showing trench overlaid on geophysical survey anomalies, with features identified in grey

The enclosure ditch at the southern end of the trench was identified and excavated [5016], although the feature was not easily defined (Photo 7). No sign of a Roman road was identified within the main body of the trench.

Photo 7: Ditch cut [5016] at southern end of Trench 5, looking north

The northern end of the trench contained large spreads of archaeological material as opposed to linear features, as had been expected. The spreads contained large amounts of burnt material, building rubble and pottery (Figure 9; Photos 8, 9 and 10). These layers appeared to fill the lowest part of the field, with the ground rising up to the north and south. The pottery recovered from these layers is predominantly mid-2nd to early 4th century AD.

Photo 8: Pre-excavation shot of layers at north end of Trench 5, looking north

Photo 9: Post-excavation shot of layers at north end of Trench 5, looking north showing its position at low point of field

Photo 10: Amalgamated photos showing east facing section through layers at northern end of Trench 5

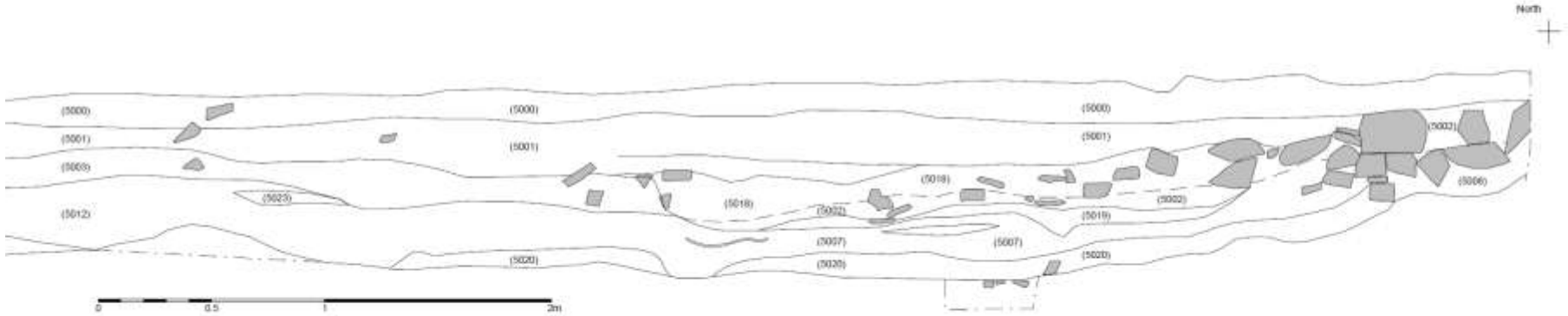


Figure 9: Extract from hand drawn east facing section of Trench 5 showing stratigraphy

Trench 6 (Figure 10)

Trench 6 measured *c.*27m x 1.6m and was aligned roughly northwest to southeast. It was located in the centre of the field targeting a series of enclosure features, the linear feature running down the slope and the positive linear anomaly running east to west through the fields.

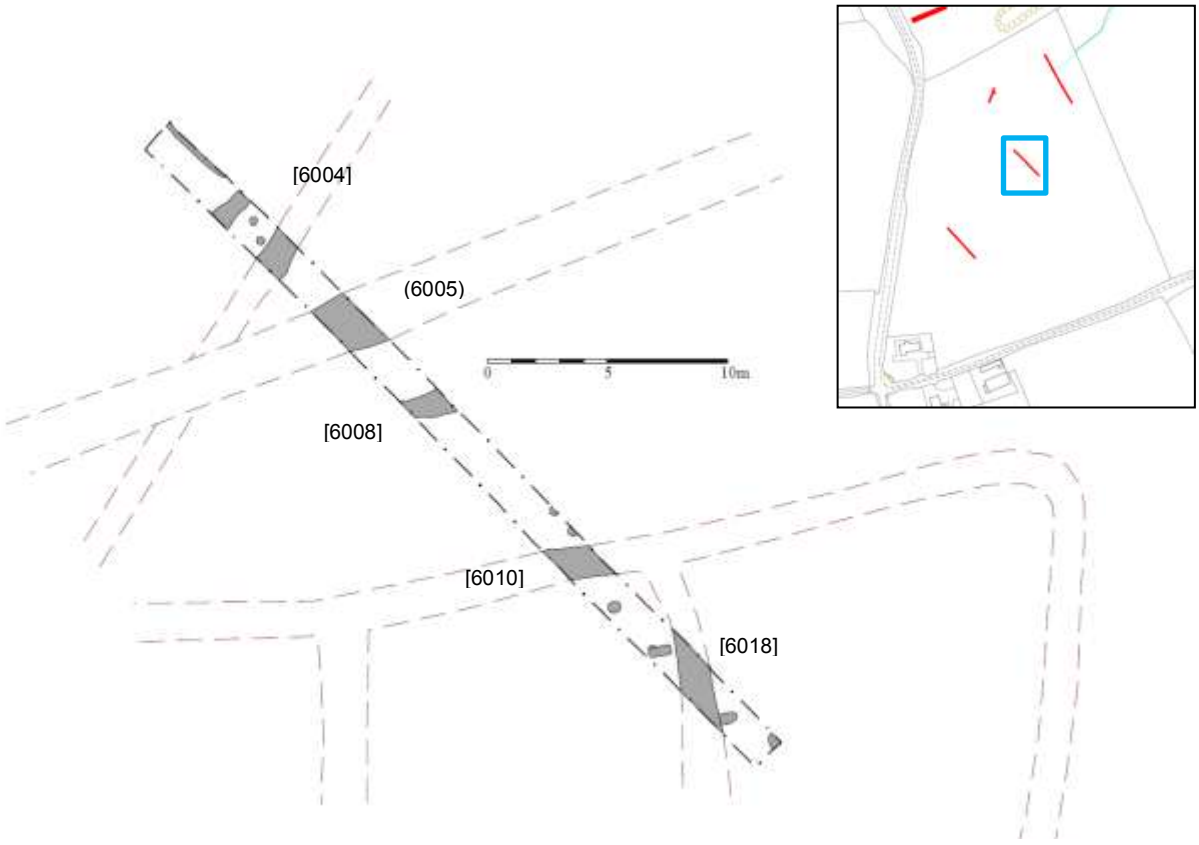


Figure 10: Location plan of Trench 6 (inset), with main plan showing trench overlaid on geophysical survey anomalies, with features identified in grey

All of the main ditch-like features identified on the geophysical survey were identified within the trench, as were a number of additional features and possible postholes.

The southwestern end of the trench crossed through the corner of a possible enclosure identified on the geophysical survey. The north-south stretch of the enclosure, [6018] was a *c.*1.1m wide and *c.*0.45m U-shaped ditch with a slight step on its western edge (Photo 11). This step may have been caused by a later feature, [6041] cutting through it, but this was not certain. The east to west stretch of the enclosure lay to the north, [6010], measuring *c.*1.2m in width and *c.*0.45m in depth with a U shaped profile (Photo 12). A number of smaller features, which may well represent postholes, were recorded within the area enclosed by the two ditches and also in a further enclosure area to the southeast, [6014], [6016] and [6050]. Two further postholes projected from the eastern edge of the trench directly north of ditch [6010], postholes [6012] and [6020] (Photo 13).

Photo 11: South facing section through dicth [6018]

Photo 12: View west along excavated section through ditch [6010]

Photo 13: Postholes [6020] (right) and [6012] (left) viewing northeast

Photo 14: Possible beam slot [6008], viewing southwest along its length

A further linear feature was identified to the northwest of these postholes which did not show up on the geophysical survey, [6008]. This feature was aligned roughly northeast to southwest, was *c.*0.50m in width and *c.*0.20m in depth, with a very flat base. The feature had the appearance of a bedding trench or a beam slot.

The next feature identified to the north corresponded with the east to west aligned positive linear feature identified on the geophysical survey. The area was defined as fairly dark fine silt layers, from which a single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered. The feature was excavated and was identified as a *c.*4m wide shallow ditch like feature of maximum depth of 0.30m (Photo 15). The base was relatively level, formed by compacted and worn bedrock. The northern edge was difficult to define and a box section was excavated to ensure the feature had been fully excavated. The southern edge was clearer and it appeared that the feature cut through an underlying possibly gully, [6036].

Photo 15: Feature [6006], southwest facing section

During the excavation the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) took aerial photographs of the investigations which indicated a clear linear cropmark running through the field, corresponding with the geophysical survey anomaly. The feature can be clearly seen to cross through Trench 6 in the area of this feature.

To the north of this was the linear feature running down the slope of the field from its southwest corner. The ditch, [6004], was clearly visible, measured *c.*1.10m in width and 0.75m in depth, and was steep sided with a slightly flat base (Photo 16; Figure 11).

Photo 16: Excavated section through ditch [6004], viewing northeast, with posthole [6026] visible to left

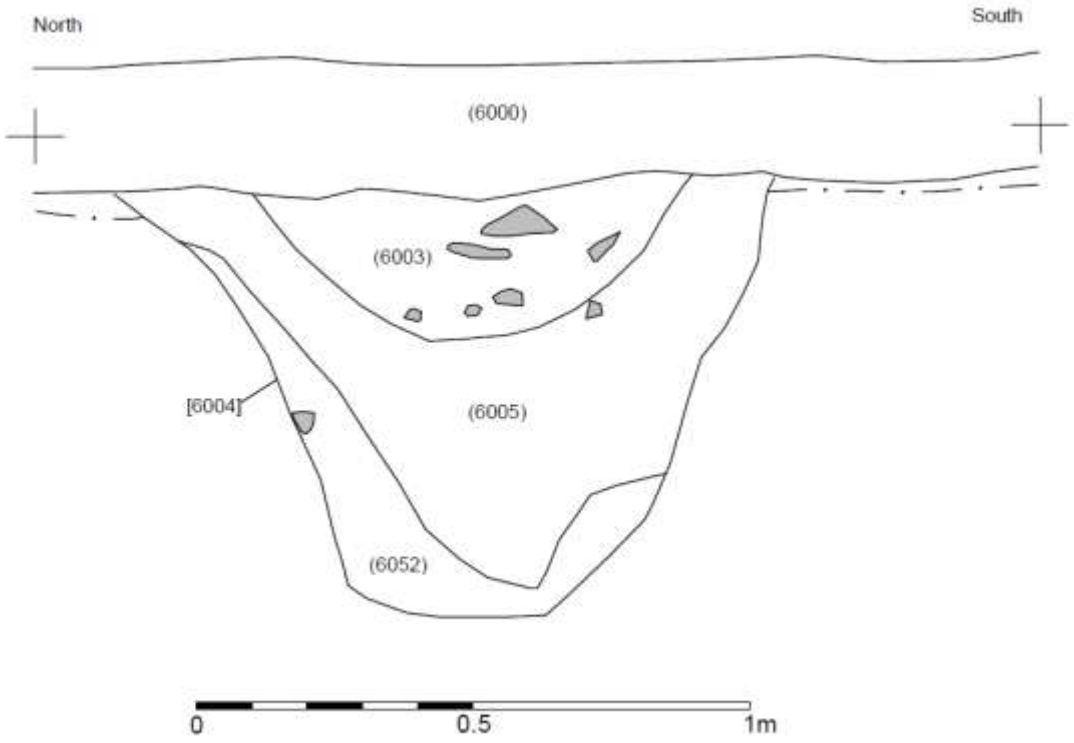


Figure 11: Southwest facing section of ditch [6004]

Two shallow postholes, [6026] and [6028] were located directly to the north of ditch [6004], with a further shallow gully, [6002] to the north of these. None of these features were visible on the geophysical survey. A further feature was located on the very northeastern edge of the trench, only slightly projecting into the trench, [6030]. The feature looked relatively substantial with a minimum length of 3.2m, and depth of 0.28m. Its width was a minimum of 0.30m.

Trench 7 (Figure 12)

Figure 12: Location plan of Trench 7 (inset), with main plan showing trench overlaid on geophysical survey anomalies, with features identified in grey

Trench 7 was located in the northern part of the field, almost directly south of the entrance to the fort. The trench measured 15.5m in length, aligned roughly north-northeast to south-southwest and c.1.6m wide. A small 2.5m long spur was machined on its eastern side to investigate a stone capped feature.

At the southern end of the trench a large ditch was identified which correlated with one of the geophysical survey anomalies. The ditch, [7016], measured possibly 1.5m in width and *c.*0.40m in depth. Its southern edge was obscured by a modern vertical sided gravel filled land drain. On further excavation of the area it was apparent that a layer of fine clay material was present over much of the trench obscuring further small ditches and gullies beneath and also a possible stone filled posthole. These were not excavated further.

Two large oval features were recorded on the western edge of the trench. The southern feature, [7004] measured around 1m in length and at least 0.70m in width and a maximum depth of 0.70m (Photo 17). It was filled with numerous large stones, possibly comprising over 50% of the fill of the feature. The northern feature, [7014] was at least 1.2m in length and 0.70m in width (Photo 18). The feature was *c.*0.30m in depth and again crammed full of stones. A

further feature, [7008] on the eastern side of the trench looked similar in plan, but was less than 0.10m in depth.

Photo 17: Feature [7004], facing northwest

Photo 18: Feature [7014], facing southwest

Photo 19: Feature [7006], facing east

Photo 20: Stone spread (7012) facing west

On the northeastern side of the trench a linear feature was identified which had four small slabs of stone laid across its surface. One of these stones was displaced during machining. The feature [7006] measured 0.8m in length and had a maximum width of 0.40m (Photo 19). The feature was only a few centimetres in depth, as deep as the stone slab above. The underlying material was very clayey in nature and looked slightly reddened by heat. Further excavation in this area suggested that the feature was cut into the top of layers of a depth of re-deposited fine clay (7030), which in places was around 0.20m in depth. A sondage was excavated through this clay layer (7030) to the east of [7006] within the eastern extension of the trench, which revealed a stone spread, layer (7012) beneath (Photo 20). The natural stone slabs in the spread were mostly laid relatively flat. The spread was visible for a length of 1.3m from the eastern end of the trench extension, but only a 0.70m wide area of it was exposed.

Trench 8 (Figure 13)

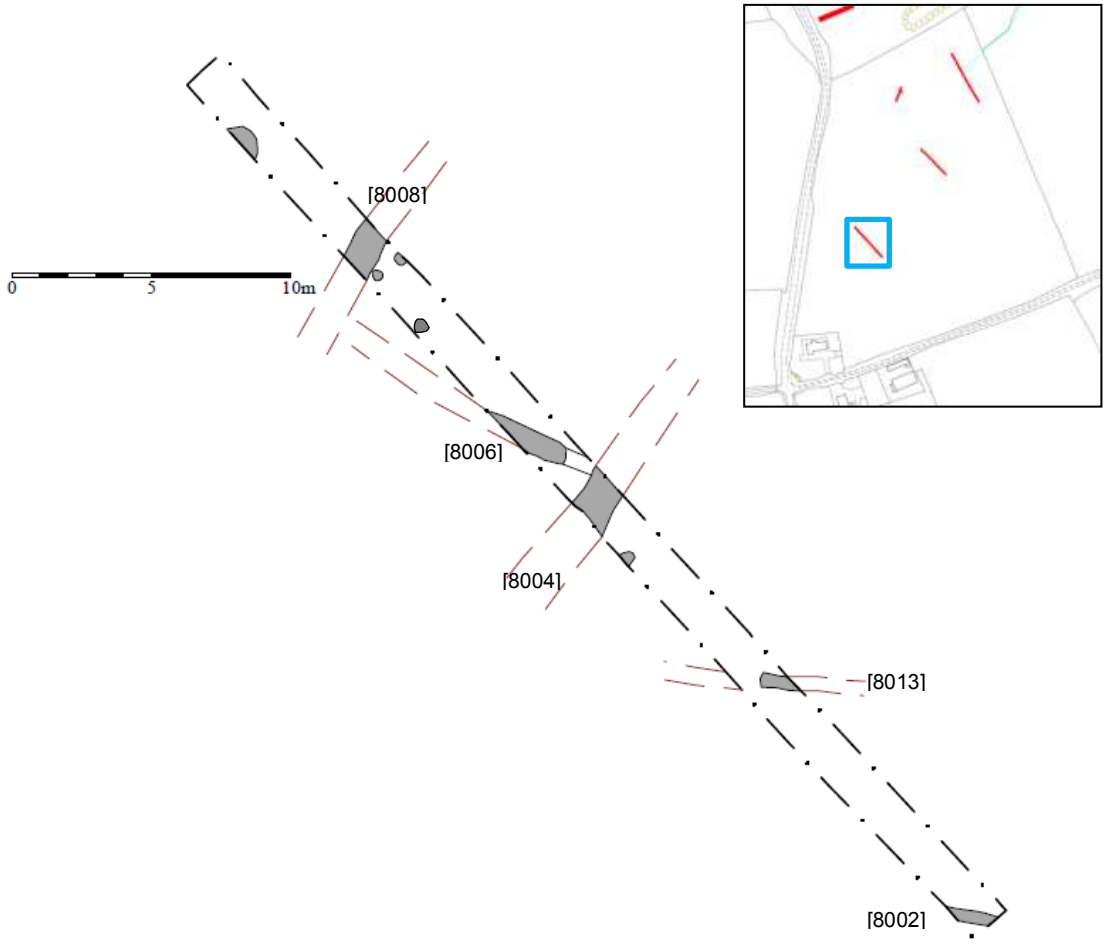


Figure 13: Location plan of Trench 8 (inset), with main plan showing trench overlaid on geophysical survey anomalies, with features identified in grey

Trench 8 was located in the southwestern part of the field to the south of the fort. It targeted the cropmark area seen on aerial photographs, which had been also

been shown as an area of quite intense activity on the geophysical survey. The trench measured 41.5m x *c.*1.6m, aligned northwest to southeast. The trench was located on some of the higher ground within the field and the topsoil was very shallow. Although the archaeological features showed up quite clearly following machining, the ground dried out very quickly and this was the most difficult of all of the trenches excavated to define and excavate the archaeological features.

The geophysical survey indicated that four linear features crossed the trench, all of which were identified. A few smaller additional features were also identified. At the southeastern end of the trench a small gully was revealed, [8002], aligned roughly east to west. It measured 0.24m in width, was visible for a length of 2m within the trench and had a depth of 0.16m (Photo 21). It was quite steep sided and had a flat base of uniform depth along the stretch excavated.

Photo 21: Gully [8002] looking east

The first of the geophysical survey anomalies encountered was a shallow butt-ending ditch again aligned roughly east to west, located 5.5m to the northwest, [8014]. The geophysical survey suggested the feature was continuous across the trench, although excavation indicated it projected into the trench for a length of only 0.7m in length, at which point it butt ended. It had a maximum width of 0.45m and depth of 0.10m. It is very likely that the feature had suffered from plough damage.

Crossing through the centre of the trench in a southwest to northeast alignment was the linear feature running down the hillslope through the field, as excavated in Trench 6, [6004]. The ditch [8004] was the clearest feature within Trench 8, measuring 1.2m in width and 0.70m in depth, with steep sides and a flat base (Figure 14; Photo 22)

Photo 22: Ditch [8004] viewing northeast

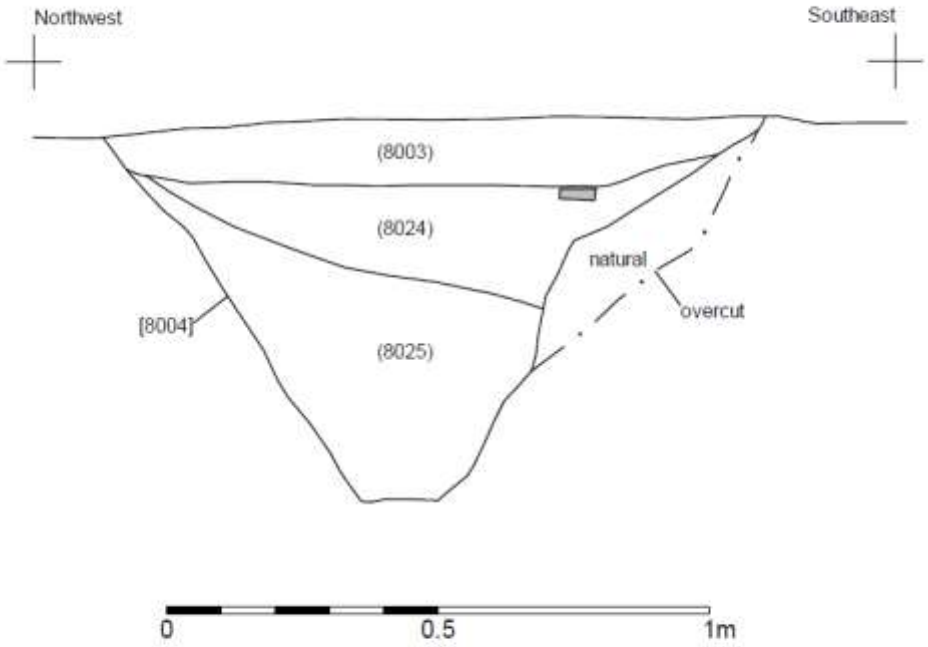


Figure 14: Southwest facing section of ditch [8004]

Photo 23: Ditch [8008] viewing east

Photo 24: Ditch [8006] viewing south after full excavation

Two arms of a possible enclosure were present in the northern half of the trench, one aligned southwest to northeast, cut [8008], and an east to west ditch [8006]. Ditch [8008] to the north, was a clear ditch crossing the trench, measuring 1.2m in width and 0.45m in depth (Photo 23). A possible posthole was present cutting into its eastern edge, [8020], although this was not visible in plan. Two small sherds of medieval pottery were recovered from the upper part of the fill (8007) of this ditch.

The ditch to the south was again shown to be continuous across the trench on the geophysical survey, but when excavated appeared to fade out to the south. It measured some 0.80m in width, 0.12m in depth and was visible for a length of 3.4m in the trench before becoming so shallow it could not be discerned (Photo 24). This appeared to be as a result of plough damage. Between these two ditches were a number of possible posthole features, although these were difficult to define and were quite shallow.

The northern end of the trench was nearly devoid of discernible archaeological features, although a possible pit, [8012] was noted projecting out of the western edge of the trench. The fill (8011) of the possible feature contained fine silts with few inclusions, being quite different from the adjacent stone and clay layers. The feature was not excavated.

Summary of pottery analysis (Appendix 1)

The pottery from the 2014 work has been analysed by Peter Webster, and compared with that found during the 2013 investigations. The pottery clearly indicates there are at two main phases of Roman activity at Wiston.

The first phase covers the period from the late first century AD, possibly into the early second century AD. This material seems to be mostly associated with the fort itself, associated with the first phase of military occupation in Wales. The general paucity of material recovered from inside the fort, especially from Trench 4 during the 2014 works, suggests that the fort was short lived.

The ceramic material recovered from secure contexts within the trenches in the field to the south of the fort predominantly dates from the mid-1st century to 4th century AD, with a hiatus in material from the early/mid-3rd century. This would appear to tie in with the second phase indicated within the fort, associated with the trapezoidal enclosure constructed in the centre of the abandoned fort, with a possible resurgence of activity in the mid-3rd century AD (which had not been identified in 2013). The ceramic material from the settlement area is mostly British manufactured, including Black Burnished wares, Severn Valley, Oxford wares as well as a small number of imported material, including fragments of olive oil amphora from Spain.

A scatter of medieval pottery was recovered from the site in every trench. The material was mostly very abraded and appeared plough damaged. It is considered that the material is derived from manuring scatters across the fields which had been moved by the plough, and in some cases become embedded in

the upper fills of some of the features. Post-medieval pottery was only found in the topsoil, again presumably deriving from manuring scatters.

A metal detector survey was undertaken of the opened trenches by the Pembrokeshire Prospectors. No significant metal objects were identified by the survey, other than modern fragments of farm machinery and other detritus.

A single coin was recovered from the layers at the south end of Trench 5 during hand excavation, which adds to the two recovered from 2013. The coins have been identified by Edward Besly of the National Museum of Wales as follows:

2013 Investigations:

Trench 2, Context (2002): Corroded denarius. Uncertain details but the date will fall within the first or early second century A.D.

Trench 2, Context (2014): (Small find 57). Corroded and fragmenting AES. Uncertain details but the date will fall within the period from the first to the early third century.

2014 Investigations:

Trench 5, Context (5002): Denarius of Hadrian (AD 117-138). Rome mint. FELICITATI [AVG] with a galley towards the left; cf. RIC 239 (BMC 546).

CONCLUSIONS

Following the works undertaken at the site in 2013 which confirmed the site at Wiston as that of a Roman fort, investigations in 2014 have shed further light on the environs of the fort and the period of occupation within the fort itself. An extensive Romano-British settlement to the south of the fort has been identified. The settlement, based on the geophysical survey results, covers an area of over 10ha, with its full extent yet to be determined. As with all of the following conclusions, they are based on the evidence revealed in only a small number of trial trenches covering only a very small part of the fort and an even smaller sample area of the extensive settlement and thus there are limitations in interpretation. The following conclusions are considered to be plausible interpretations of the site, its chronology and development.

It was noted in 2013 that the area of the Roman fort had not been subjected to significant plough damage, being used for pasture and silage and only ever shallow disc-ploughed in living memory. Trench 4 within the fort does not change this view particularly although absence of the projected line of the intervallum road suggest areas of the site have been damaged, though this could have been associated with field clearance or even quarrying for road stone.

It is known that the fields to the south of the fort have been subject to deep ploughing and sub-soiling. This was evident within the trenches with some subsoil scars being recorded. The depth of topsoil was greater in the northern half of the field on the hills slopes and in the lower parts of the field, as would be expected from hill-wash and plough-soil movement. Topsoil was shallower in trench 6 and especially Trench 7 which were located on the brow of the hillslope and close to its summit. Evidence for plough damaged features was seen in Trench 8 with two anomalies identified as continuous on the geophysical survey, being recorded as very shallow to non-existent within the trench.

Wiston Roman Fort

The results of Trench 4 opened within the fort adjacent to Trench 1 of the 2013 investigations, has again demonstrated the presence of timber buildings and rubbish pits within the fort interior. The continuation of the ramparts on the western side of the fort has also been confirmed, including what appears to be a cobbled footing for the turf and clay ramparts above.

It was hoped that Trench 4 in conjunction with the plan of Trench 1 from 2013 would enable building plans to be identified, but unfortunately this has not been possible. Trench 4 did contain another 11 postholes, many of which were lined with local stone slabs as had been seen in Trench 1. General east to west alignments of these postholes were visible, suggesting building plans within the fort were on this same alignment.

The two pits revealed within the trench were of similar character and size to that excavated in Trench 1, but with all of these pits, it was not possible to excavate the features to their base within the limits of the investigations. How the pits relate to the possible buildings in the area is difficult to ascertain from the limits

of the excavations, although in 2013 it was noted that one of the postholes was located on the edge of the pit, possibly cut into its backfill material.

No buildings were recorded in the back of the ramparts, as had been recorded in Trench 1, but an area of numerous stake-holes and a couple of postholes was recorded. This could indicate a different form of activity on the interior of the rampart in this location.

The continuation of the intervallum road around the inside of the defences was not present within the trench, which was surprising based on how substantial the structure was in Trench 1 from 2013. The layers of stone seen to the east (4002) and (4003) appeared to be plough disturbed material, but did not correspond with the projected line of the road, implying the road had merely been ploughed away. Stones within these layers was considerably less dense than was seen in the road surface in Trench 1. It is possible the stone from the road had been dug out, perhaps quarried away for road stone for the adjacent existing road line to the west or alternatively it was quarried out when the fort was abandoned and spread across the site to prevent reuse (although this theory is contradicted by survival of the road in Trench 1). The clay layers noted across Trench 4 sealing underlying features may also be evidence for a similar process, perhaps being derived from slighted rampart material.

From the paucity of finds recovered from Trench 4 within the fort (markedly less than was recovered from the adjacent Trench 1), it is seen to be evidence for short lived occupation of the fort. Potentially the fort was first constructed in the mid 70s AD, associated with the initial phase of Roman occupation in Wales, but by AD 100 the fort would appear to have been abandoned and levelled. Only timber buildings were present within the fort, which may also have used clay bricks in their construction, for which evidence was recovered in 2013, but not in 2014. There is certainly no evidence from within the investigations to suggest that any of the buildings or defences were rebuilt in stone, as happens in many of the more longer lived forts.

Post-Fort Occupation

The investigations in the field to the south of the fort provided evidence to confirm the results of the geophysical survey being an extensive series of enclosures representing settlement. Postholes were recorded in Trenches 6 and 8 which may well be associated with buildings within the enclosures. Possible beam slots (in the form of narrow, steep sided, flat based gullies) were also recorded in these trenches. Pottery predominantly dating from the mid-2nd to 4th centuries was recovered from the southern field, with only a few diagnostic sherds of earlier date present. The enclosure ditches did not seem particularly substantial, suggesting they were more akin to plot boundaries or paddock boundaries rather than defensive.

The 2013 investigations indicated that the trapezoidal enclosure within the fort was constructed after the abandonment of the fort. It is possible that this later enclosure is contemporary with the settlement, its location within the fort perhaps indicative that it had some administration function or was representative of a much smaller military presence.

The results of Trench 5 suggest that the lowest part of the field contains layers of Roman waste material. Perhaps the low lying land was used a midden for the settlement? The absence of any features between the enclosure ditch seen at the southern, higher end of Trench 5 and the tip layers to the south, could suggest that settlement was not present on the steeper parts of the site.

The linear feature seen running down slope from the southwestern corner of the field to the lower part in the north was recorded in both Trenches 6 and 8 (cuts [6004] and [8004]. They had similar dimensions. The fact that the feature appears to run down the hillslope, in straight sections, stopping on the lower part of the hillslope (before the deposits seen in the north end of Trench 5), close to the line of a water course shown on Ordnance Survey maps, is seen to demonstrate the feature was probably used to channel water possibly from a spring on top of the hill down towards the fort. If contemporary with the fort, it is well within Roman capabilities that a timber aqueduct channelled water across into the fort itself. Enough head of water would have been achieved on the slope to carry water across such an aqueduct. If a later feature, again it may be water management associated with the later Romano-British settlement.

In Trench 7 a different character of archaeology was revealed. Here a thick layer of imported clay material was present sealing underlying archaeological features, but also with large possible stone filled postholes cutting through it. A small stone covered channel was cut through these clays with evidence of being heat affected. It is possible that this trench was located within a building, possibly containing a corn drier or similar processing feature using low levels of heat. Potentially this area may have been used for larger scale agricultural processing. If this theory is correct, then was it associated with the fort or the later settlement? Of interest is the fact that the clay layer (possible flooring material) overlay a patch of stone on the eastern projection of the trench. The way that the stone was laid in this area was similar to that seen on the intervallum road within Trench 1 inside the fort. Is it possible that this represents the very edge of a roadway leading from the southern entrance of the fort towards the main east to west Roman road. If this is the case, then it would also mean that the possible agricultural processing building would be associated with the later settlement.

As noted in the geophysical survey results, the layout of the enclosures would indicate general alignments east to west across the site with offshoots to the southwest and south. It is thought this may indicate track-ways along which the enclosures were constructed. The projected line of the Roman road from Carmarthen, which would be associated with the military occupation phase, could correspond with the feature seen on the RCAHMW cropmark and linear feature [6005] in Trench 6. The feature was not of typical Roman road construction, appearing more as a hollow way, with compacted bedrock surface, than a metalled and cambered road. It is uncertain if this indicates that the road remained in use well after the Roman period and the original surfaces worn away, repeated use forming the hollow-way. A number of the enclosures of the settlement appear to cross this line of the road, but without excavation it is not known if the road was diverted around the enclosures or the enclosures pre-date the road. The backfill material from above the possible road in Trench 6 contained a sherd of medieval pottery.

No material or features indicative of Iron Age occupation were recorded within the field. No evidence for post-Roman occupation was present either. Pre-Roman settlement is known in the wider area around the site, including a number of defended Iron Age enclosures, such as that reused for Wiston Castle to the southwest. Medieval occupation is focussed on the site of the existing village and castle site, although as would be expected in agricultural land there was a scatter of medieval pottery across the site and in the tops of a few of the features (mostly quite abraded). From the evidence recorded in the trenches opened at Wiston, which is obviously only a very small sample of the entire site, the implication is that the fields to the south of the fort represent a Romano-British settlement established after the abandonment of the fort, continuing in use until the later Roman period. The form of the settlement, a series of conjoining farmstead plots along a possible network of track-ways, is different to other contemporary sites in Pembrokeshire which are mostly represented by continued occupation of Iron Age enclosures. Could this indicate that the Wiston settlement indicates one that was governed more by the Roman Empire than a continuation of native British rule? It is more akin with rural Roman settlements in England than in southwest Wales.

The 2013 confirmation of the Wiston Roman Fort significantly altered our conception of the Roman military in southwest Wales. As noted previously it makes the presence of a fort at Whitland, equidistant between Wiston and Carmarthen as an almost certainty. It also opens the potential of other Roman military sites along the Pembrokeshire coastline, as well as increasing the likelihood of smaller military sites and other infrastructure and supply networks within west Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire.

The presence of what appears to be a large Romano-British settlement established after the fort, from the mid-1st to 4th century AD may again be considered as a first for West Carmarthenshire / Pembrokeshire. Whether this is a single settlement of its type or part of a larger network is not known, but it would suggest a continued Roman presence and administration in the region during a period when it was previously thought that the influence of Rome had greatly diminished.

Further Roman remains must lie in the vicinity of Wiston Roman Fort, such as an associated vicus and organised agricultural administration sites. There is also the possibility of an associated bath house, perhaps located close to the stream to the southeast of the fort where the landowner has noted probable masonry just below the ground surface during ploughing. Numerous questions remain about the about the internal layout of the fort area itself. Building layouts and alignments are not fully understood. The layout of internal roads has yet to be confirmed. The function of the trapezoidal enclosure remains unknown. Further open area excavations within the fort to answer some of these questions would be very beneficial.

From the works undertaken in 2013, it is known that the fort site is of national significance and therefore of schedulable quality. The settlement in the fields to the south of the fort covers a much larger area, and Trench 8 would indicate that parts of the site on the higher ground will have been significantly plough damaged. From the trenches excavated this damage is only located on the upper parts of the field and the areas in the north on the lower part of the field and

hillslopes appear far better preserved. Due to the apparent date of the settlement and its association with the fort (even if not a contemporary settlement) that the remains would also be of national significance and thus of schedulable quality, although there is still far more to be learnt about the site and its extents have as yet not been defined.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The excavation was directed by J Meek with support from H Wilson, E Davies, P Crane, T Jamieson and S Rees of Dyfed Archaeological Trust. The Trust would like to thank the volunteers for their hard work during the excavation: Alice Day, Ami Barrass, Babs Spittle, Deione Thurston, Gareth Nicholls, Gaynor Bussell, Geraint Lloyd, Hazel Wadey, Ian Atkinson, Jim Garner, Joan Wilks, John Steer, Jonathan Thrower, Jude and Rob Walter, Martin Davies, Pete Jones, Rhod Kemp, Rob Walter, Robert and Wendy Hopkins, Rodger Frost, Roger Smith, Sarah Jones and Tony Clark (apologies if I have missed anyone out). Thanks are also due to the Pembrokeshire Prospectors who attended the site on one day to carry out a metal detector survey across the opened trenches.

The Trust is also again deeply indebted to Mr Ieuan Morris for allowing the investigations on his land.

The works at the site have been made possible through funding from Cadw and The David and Christopher Lewis Foundation, for which we are very grateful.

The report was written by J Meek. The pottery analysed by Peter Webster.

VOLUNTEERING AND OUTREACH

The trial trenching works at Wiston were undertaken with the assistance of volunteers. The works undertaken with the aim of involving volunteers within the excavation and raise awareness of the archaeology of the site to the local community and site visitors.

Volunteer places on the excavations were advertised in the months preceding July, with places being very quickly booked up. Information on last year's work at the site was supplemented with specific information on this year's work and supplied to all interested volunteers. Following on from last year's work and other projects with volunteers we aimed to have a maximum of 15 volunteers on any one day, as this was seen to be a manageable number in order to be able to provide appropriate support, training and supervision. Most days were fully booked, although unfortunately for various circumstances not everyone who booked a place was able to attend.

There were in total 16 working days where volunteers could work on the excavations between Monday 14th July and Friday 1st August (Photos 26 to 31). Monday 14th July was restricted to DAT staff only during machining of the trenches (although a few volunteers did turn up to assist with site set-up anyway). Sunday 20th and Sunday 27th July were not worked. On Sunday 3rd August two members of DAT staff did attend the site to finish off certain jobs and were very ably assisted by two volunteers. In total 24 volunteers worked on the site throughout the three weeks of the investigations.

Monday	**Tuesday**	**Wednes-day**	**Thursday**	**Friday**	**Saturday**	**Sunday**
14/07/14	**15/07/14**	**16/07/14**	**17/07/14**	**18/07/14**	**19/07/14**	**20/07/14**
2 vols	12 vols	12 vols	12 vols	15 vols	10 vols	0 vols
21/07/14	**22/07/14**	**23/07/14**	**24/07/14**	**25/07/14**	**26/07/14**	**27/07/14**
12 vols	13 vols	13 vols	13 vols	13 vols	11 vols	0 vols
28/07/14	**29/07/14**	**30/07/14**	**31/07/14**	**01/08/14**	**02/08/14**	**03/08/14**
16 vols	13 vols	12 vols	12 vols	12 vols	0 vols	2 vols

Volunteer numbers per day on-site

The working days were typically from 9.00am to 5.00pm, with a roughly 7.25 hour working day taking into account lunch breaks. In total 205 volunteer days were spent on the project – which equates to around 1486.25 volunteer hours. Most volunteers who attended the site spent over 5 days on the investigations, a number managing to attend every day.

Many of the volunteers had worked on a number of archaeological projects with DAT or other organisations and so were quite experienced. For some volunteers this was the first archaeological site they had worked on. Opportunities were provided for volunteers to learn excavation techniques from site cleaning using trowels, mattocking and shovelling, through to hand excavation of archaeological features. Opportunities were provided to carry out recording through drawn, written and photographic record techniques. Training in the use of and

opportunities to use the level and electronic distance measurer was provided. Training was carried through direct supervision from a member of DAT staff or via the use of simple instruction sheets where a volunteer felt more confident to work more independently. DAT staff were always available to ask questions or provide assistance. Not all volunteers wished to do all tasks available. Copies of the site recording manual were also provided on-site. A number of site tours were also provided by DAT site staff during the works to enable volunteers to get a better understanding of what others were doing and what was going on across the site as a whole, as the trenches were spread out. This also provided an opportunity to learn what the present interpretations of the site findings were and discuss ideas.

Deione Thurston again provided excellent support with processing of the finds on the site. She ensured finds were correctly bagged and labelled and also kept on top of the pot washing single handed. When visitors arrived at the site she would lay a number of the best examples out to display. Robert Hopkins was able to provide spot dating for many of the ceramics recovered from the site.

Photo 25: Volunteers cleaning Trench 4 within the fort

Photo 26: Geraint Lloyd, Jude Walters, Joan Wilks and Alice Day excavating within Trench 5

Photo 27: Rodger Frost with a freshly discovered sherd of pottery from Trench 6

Photo 28: Alice Day section drawing in Trench 5

Photo 29: Deione Thurston cataloguing finds

Photo 30: A tour for the volunteers around the site

During the on-site works around 150 visitors came to the site, whether pre-arranged or ad-hoc visits. Ad-hoc visitors were mostly members of the local community, holiday makers or friends and family of volunteers, staff or Mr Morris the landowner. Pre-arranged visits included Staff, Trustee's and members of Dyfed Archaeological Trust, David and Hazel Lewis of the David and Christopher Lewis Foundation and Planed (Photo 31); the Clarbeston Road Historical Society; Pembrokeshire Historical Society and archaeological professionals (Toby Driver of RCAHMW; Phil Bennett of PCNPA; Richard Hingley of Durham University).

A number of local schools were invited to visit the excavation, although as the excavations started in the last week of the summer term only the local junior school in Wiston was able to accept the invitation. This was carried out on Friday 18th July when some 23 pupils and two teachers visited the excavations and were given a guided tour, opportunity to look at and handle finds, saw a reconstruction of a Roman fort and chatted with a number of the site staff and volunteers (Photo 32).

Throughout the works a dig diary was maintained and updated on the DAT website.

Photo 31: Site visit by members and trustees of Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The David and Christopher Lewis Foundation and Planed

Photo 32: Site visit by members of Wiston Junior School, being given a site tour by Ed Davies of DAT

A number of talks on the work at Wiston have been given, with further talks arranged for later in 2015. Those given so far were:

15/11/14 – Pembrokeshire Archaeology Day School – around 200 attendees

06/02/15 – Pembrokeshire History Society – around 50 people

09/03/15 – Clarbeston Road Historical Society – 22 people

Future talks on the works have also been scheduled for 02/04/15 for Laugharne and District History Society, for the Ammanford History Society in June and Tenby Historical Society for a guided walk at Wiston in July.

On 24th February 2015 Peter Webster from the National Museum Wales came to the DAT offices to give a short training session for volunteers on pottery identification for the Roman period, using the material recovered from Wiston in 2013 and 2014. The session was offered to people involved on the project and all volunteers who had worked on the site, and 13 people attended (Photo 33). The feedback on the session has been excellent, especially as it provided volunteers with an opportunity to understand more about the material they had been finding on the site, where it had come from, its date, its use and its overall significance in terms of what it means for our understanding of the Wiston fort, settlement and Roman Pembrokeshire in general.

Photo 33: Pottery ID session with Peter Webster

APPENDIX 1: WISTON ROMAN FORT POTTERY ANALYSIS (Peter Webster)

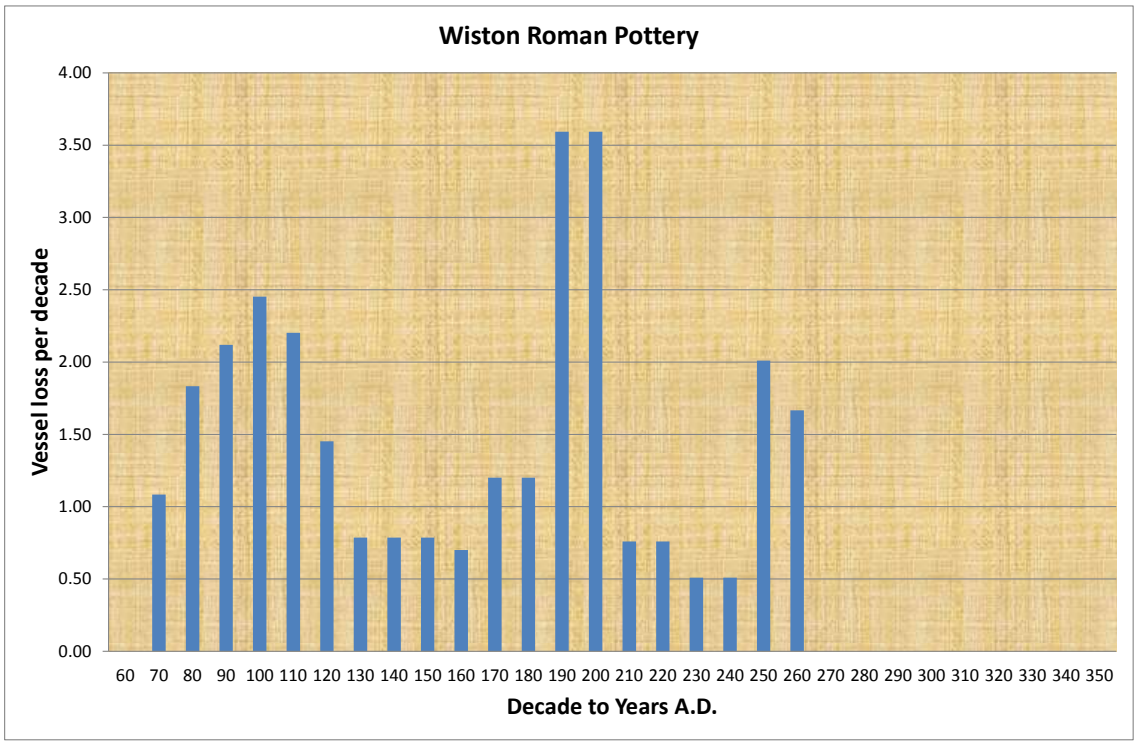
The excavations yielded approximately 571 sherds, weighing 5.09 Kg – approximately 30 post-medieval (0.463Kg), 69 medieval (0.263 Kg), 34 fragments of burnt clay or daub (0.155Kg) and the remainder Roman or probably Roman, consisting of 20 brick or tile fragments (0.319 Kg) and 418 sherds of pottery (3.891 Kg). All sherds have been listed by fabric and weight in an archive list which forms the basis for comments here.

The 2014 material appeared to have suffered from soil action so that many sherds lacked their surfaces, making identification of fabrics difficult. This is especially so in the case of some redwares. For instance, eroded Roman redware and post-medieval redware with a glaze or other surface now eroded away can look remarkably similar.

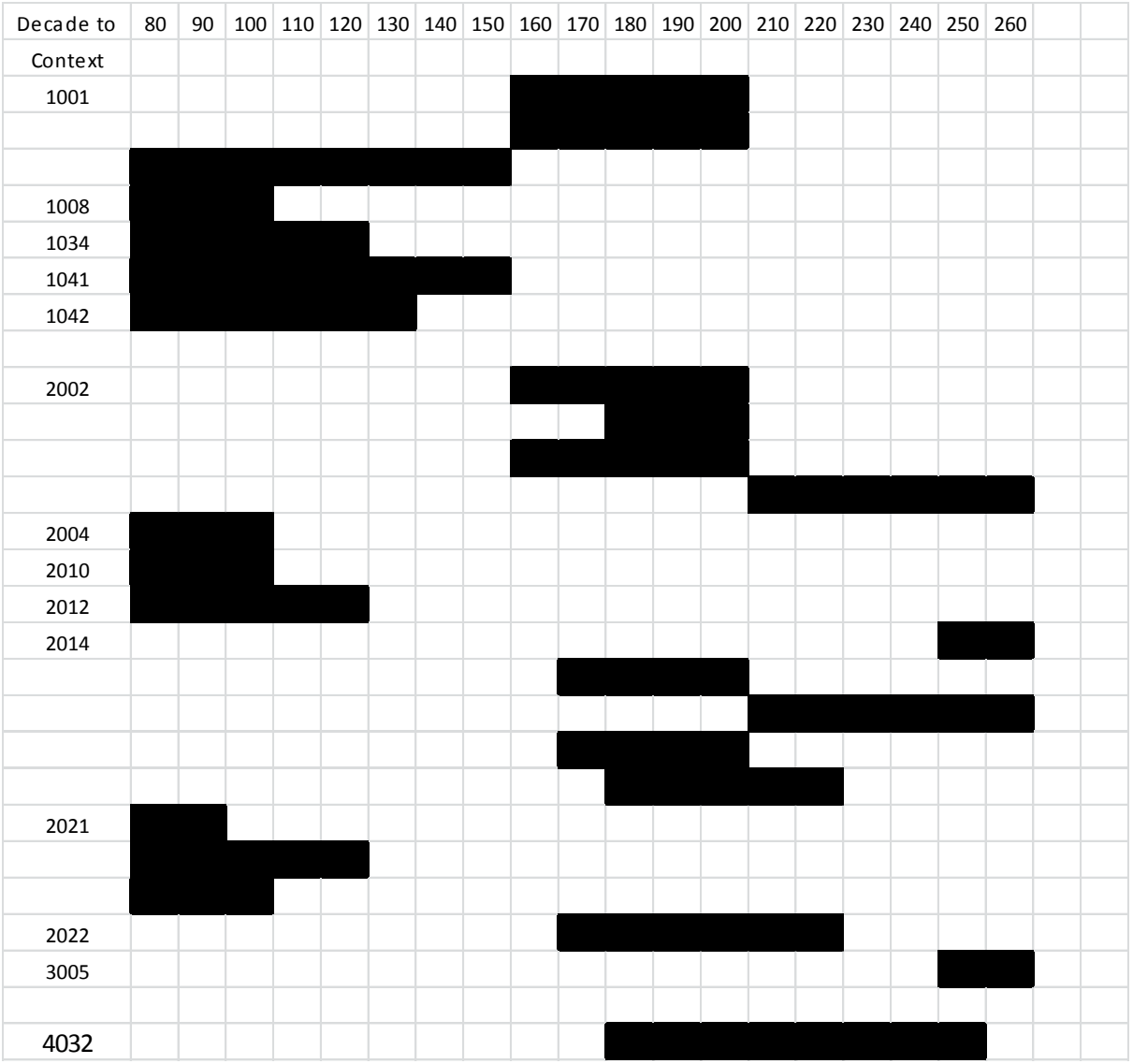
As with the assemblage from the 2013 excavations the 2014 pottery sample is not large, especially when it is considered that it comes from exploratory trenches spread across a large area. Thus, it is likely to give pointers as to the history and occupation of the site rather than clear indicators. In the discussion that follows it must be born in mind that the total number of vessels represented in any context is small and that this must be reflected in the conclusions to be drawn from them.

Chronology

The 2013 fort excavation (Trenches 1-3) produced Roman material from the mid/late 1st century to at least the middle 3rd century. The new material from the fort area (Trench 4) adds very little to this picture. If we add the single diagnostic piece from the 2014 excavations, we can update the 2013 histogram of fort area pottery:

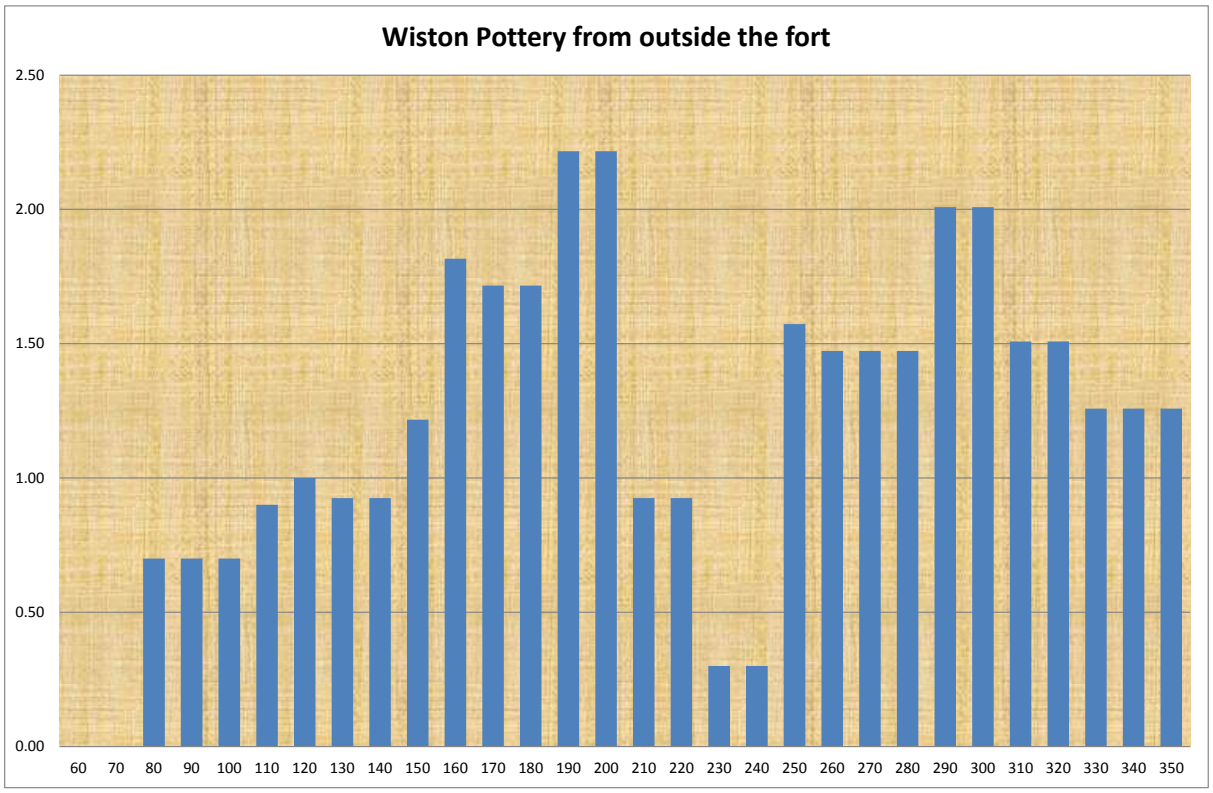


Unsurprisingly the addition from 2014 makes no difference to the overall picture and there seems no reason to alter the suggestion of two separate occupations as indicated by the chart of those pieces which can be dated with reasonable precision and which we can update as follows:



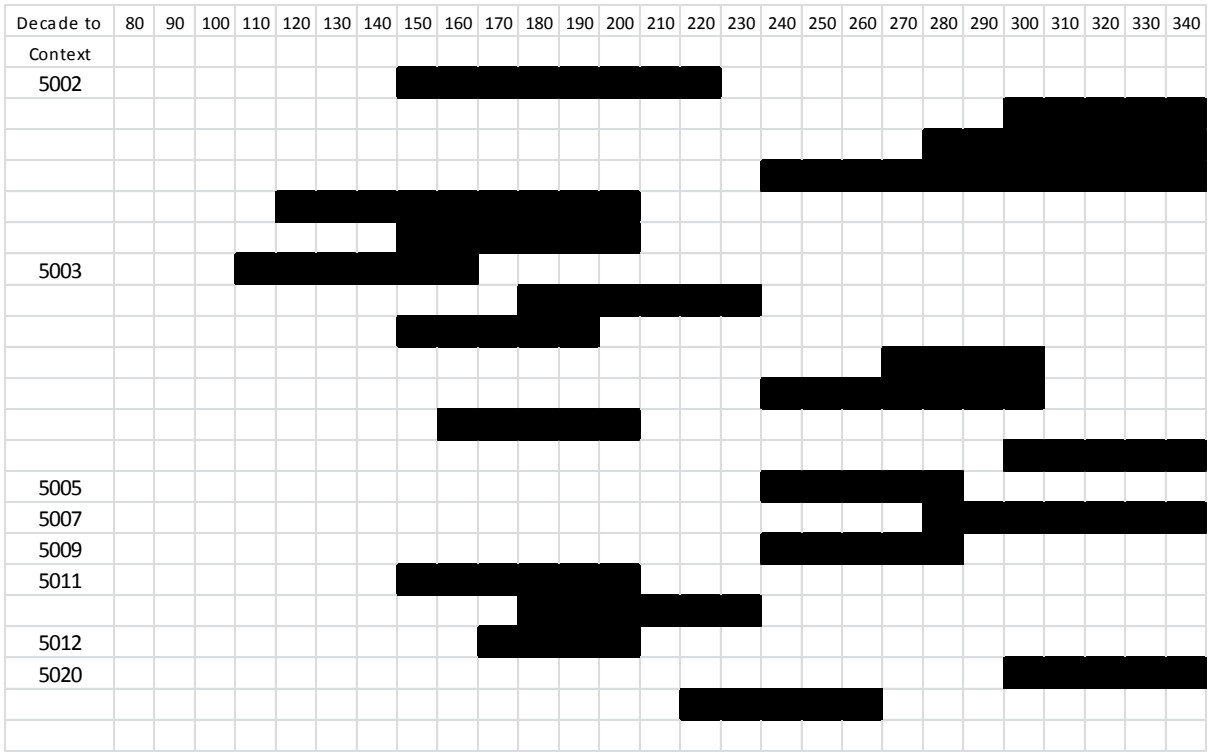
This is the basis for the suggestion that there were two separate occupations on the fort site, the first (presumably the fort) producing material which could all date c.A.D.75-100 and a second (perhaps a farm) which could date to the late 2nd and early 3rd century with activity up to the middle of the century. Our earlier report stated that with 'such a small sample these suggestions have to be tentative, but they produce a viable model which can be tested against future excavation'. One can only add that the 2014 excavations produced nothing to contradict this model, but the material produced was so sparse that it can hardly be taken as conclusive.

If we compare the pattern of the 2013 pottery with that from the 2014 trenches outside the perimeter of the fort we can see some clear differences.



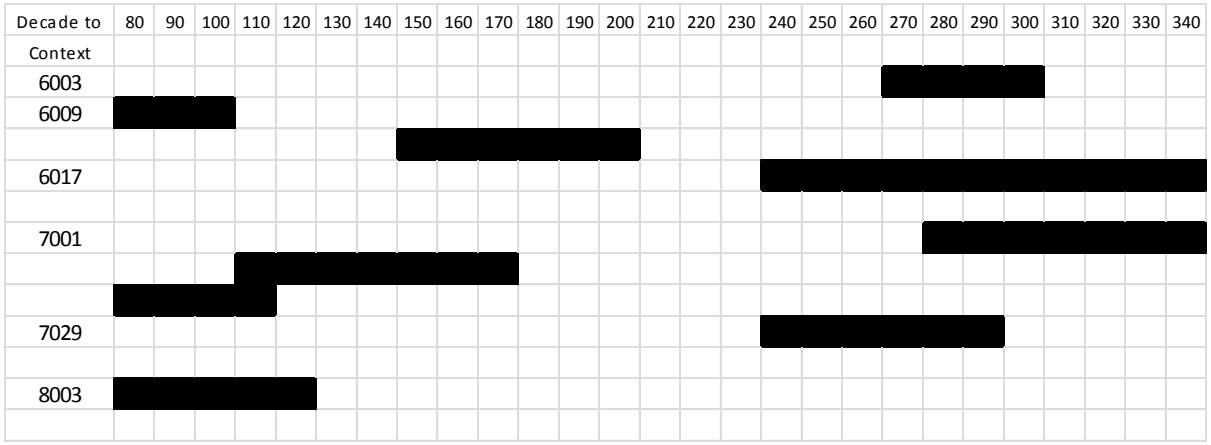
Again, we need to remind outselves that the numbers of vessels indicatd is not high, but it is clear that there is a greater preponderance of 2nd century and later pieces. There is, indeed a mid 3rd century dip, but there is also later 3rd and fourth century pottery barely seen on the 2013 site.

If we express this in chart form showing the date ranges of all vessels with a fairly precise range we see the same thing. It is convenient to look at the more prolific trench 5 first:



Here it is again possible to see some sort of early/mid 3rd century hiatus. The earlier material (second and very early third century) fits well with the later occupation on the fort site. The mid third to mid fourth century material can, tentatively be suggested as deriving from some separate focus of activity away from the fort area.

Trenches 6-8 seem to show a similar pattern but here the numbers of diagnostic pots present are too small for any sort of certainty in the matter.



One might add one further chronological point. The later pottery from outside the fort is shown as running up to the mid fourth century. This cut-off point is to some extent arbitrary. There are a number of vessels which are dated to the fourth century and there

is no definite way of knowing when in the century they were in use. However, there are no types which definitely date to the second half of the century and a lack of the flanged and ridged Black-burnished ware bowls which one would certainly expect to see in quantity on a site occupied long into the century. It could well be that the site was not occupied much beyond AD 300, but it seems more prudent to suggest that occupation is unlikely to have lasted beyond the middle of the fourth century – a long, but it is hoped not over-long chronology

Post-Roman material follows a similar pattern to that seen in 2013. Medieval pottery consists of Dyfed Gravel tempered ware. Despite being more plentiful, there were no rims although the 12th-14th century date for medieval deposition offered previously, still seems appropriate. Post-medieval pieces are largely 18th-19th century in date and appear to be restricted to the ploughsoil and few in number.

Sources of Roman pottery

Sources of Roman pottery are noticeably less diverse from for the 2014 assemblage, possibly because there are far fewer pieces likely to be derived from the fort. The possible Terra Nigra (context 6009) , South Gaulish samian (from 7001) and rusticated jar (from 8003) seem likely to be strays from the fort but really only serve to reinforce the impression that any civilian settlement associated with it is unlikely to be on the south side.

The majority of the pottery recovered from 2014 belongs to later occupation and can be compared with that from the putative second phase on the fort. A few sherds of Central Gaulish samian are present and some, if not all, of the Dressel 20, south Spanish oil amphorae sherds belong to this later phase. Otherwise, the pottery is British in origin, although one can detect a predominance of pottery brought into the region rather than made locally. As on the later phase in the fort, 'kitchen' wares are dominated by Black-burnished ware from South Dorset, the major cooking ware of the later 2nd to 4th century throughout southern Wales. We may also note a few Oxfordshire products, both colour coated ware a mortarium from an industry marketing into Wales from the middle third century onwards.

The one major difference between the pottery found in 2013 and that in 2014 is the amount of Severn Valley Ware present. This fabric can appear in South Wales at any point from the conquest onwards (cf. Manning 1993, 62-4, 285-294). In south-west Wales it appears in the Carmarthen fort (a single vessel) and in larger numbers on the Roman town sites (cf. Brennan in James 2003, 256). The types noted there seem to span the second to the fourth century but belong to a restricted suite of forms when compared with sites in the Severn Basin itself (or the Usk assemblage). Storage jars seem to predominate and this pattern is repeated at Wiston. One would normally expect more smaller and fewer larger vessels on a site this far away from the production area. Large jars must have occupied considerable volumes of space and one would have supposed that they offered lower little financial return per load than smaller pieces. This does, of course, presuppose that the jars were sold *as jars* and not as containers for some commodity and it may be that the latter explains their presence in the west..

Functional, economic or social deductions from a small assemblage must of necessity be both broad and tentative. The 2014 material can add little to the picture of the fort pottery. It is perhaps worth repeating that the greater variety both of sources and types is found in the earlier phase and would be entirely compatible with a military presence. The material from outside the fort area shows a restricted range of sources (and forms) such as is often seen in an agricultural establishment.

Catalogue.

In the catalogue below, material is grouped by feature with the great majority of vessels with rims extant selected for inclusion. Features are listed by trench and in numerical order. Vess numbering continues that of the 2013 pottery report..

Trench 4

This trench cut within the fort produced a disappointingly small amount of pottery. Unstratified levels included both medieval and post-medieval pottery. Context 4002 and 4003 had only medieval with some Roman material. Contexts 4020, 4024, 4032-3, 4047 and 4044 are all likely to be Roman but finds within them largely lacked diagnostic pieces. However, a Black-burnished ware jar with lattice decoration which probably places it in the late 2nd to mid 3rd centuries from 4032 and a minute fragment of possible Severn Valley Ware from 4047 probably place those features in the later (presumed non-military) occupation of the fort area.

Trench 5.

This produced by far the largest collection of pottery from the 2014 excavations mainly from the tip levels 5002 and 5003.

Context 5002

With a fragment of Central Gaulish samian bowl (2nd century), the eroded base of a Central Gaulish form 31 (mid-late 2nd century), a fragments of bowl probably in eroded Oxford colour coated fabric (mid 3rd - 4th century), a beaker fragment probably in Caerleon Ware (early-mid 2nd century) and numerous Dressel 20 amphora fragments probably all from the same vessel and to be associated with the rim from 5003 (no. 28 below):

24. Jar in Severn Valley Ware; cf. Webster 1976, Fig.1, 3 (1st-2nd century).

25. An abraded jar rim in Severn Valley Ware; probably from a vessel such as Webster 1976, Fig.3, 10 (3rd-4th century). With a similar but smaller jar.

Other probably Severn Valley Ware included the shoulder of a jar with burnished diagonal lines in a band, as Webster 1976, Fig.3, 10 (cf. no.25 above))

26. Jar in Black-burnished ware, cf. Gillam 1976, types 11-12. Late 3rd-early 4th century.

27. Jar in Black-burnished ware, cf. Gillam 1976, types 12-14. 4th century.

Context 5003

With a fragment of Lezoux beaker with black slip (mid-late 2nd century)

28. Rim of a Dressel 20 South Spanish olive oil amphora, Martin Kilcher type 37 (Peacock & Williams 1986, Fig.60). Mid 2nd to early 3rd century.

29. Jar in Severn Valley Ware, Webster 1976, Fig 1, 4 (2nd- 4th century).

30. Jar in Severn Valley Ware with a double bead rim as Webster 1976, Fig.3, 10. 3rd-4th century.

The context included many body sherds of Severn valley Ware as well as the rim of a further jar (as Webster 1976, Fig 1, 5, 2nd-3rd century).

31. Jar rim in Black-burnished ware as Gillam 1976, type 5. Late 2nd century

32. Two jar rims in Black-burnished ware, possibly from the same vessel; cf. Gillam 1976, types 12-14. 4th century. Wall sherds from this context included jar sherds with obtuse angled lattice of late 3rd to 4th century date.

33. Flanged bowl in Black-burnished ware, heavily sooted; cf. Gillam 1976, type 38. Mid-late 2nd century.

34. Abraded Caerleon Ware mortarium represented by two joining flange fragments with a scar possibly from the spout and a non-joining spout fragment. For the form see Manning 1993, Fig.194, 17-18. Early to mid 2nd century.

35. Three fragmented sherds of mortarium in white fabric, probably of Oxfordshire origin. A vessel such as Young 1977, M21 seems likely (mid-late 3rd century).

36. Straight sided dish in Black-burnished ware. The decoration is indistinct but appears to resemble that of Gillam 1976, type 81 (late 3rd century). One of two straight sided dishes in Black-burnished ware, the second has no decoration.

Context 5004. Tip layer below 5012.

Along with further fragments of Dressel 20, possibly from the same vessel as no.28 above was Black-burnished ware including:

37. Straight sided dish in Black-burnished ware with somewhat eroded decoration, possibly of inverted chevrons, which are most likely to be a third century characteristic (cf. Gillam 1976, types 73 & 81.

Context 5005. Below 5004

With Black-burnished jar fragments including wall sherds with right angled lattice:

38. Two jars (probably but not certainly different vessels), Gillam 1976, type 8. Mid 3rd century.

Context 5007. Below 5002.

There was little diagnostic material from this context but Black-burnished ware including a jar wall with obtuse angled lattice (a late 3rd to 4th century feature) may be noted.

Context 5009. Tip layer.

39. Jar in Black-burnished ware; probably Gillam 1976, type 8 (mid 3rd century).

Context 5011. Tip layer below 5003.

With a burnt samian bowl sherd of form 31 (mid-late 2nd century) and a Black-burnished ware bowl wall with inverted narrow looped chevrons (a 3rd-4th century feature):

40. Jar in burnt fabric, probably Severn Valley ware as Webster 1976, Fig.2, 6 (2nd-3rd century).

41. Flanged and grooved bowl in Black-burnished ware, Gillam 1976, type 42. Late 2nd-early 3rd century.

Context 5012. Tip layer

With the grooved base of a Severn Valley Ware wide mouthed jar:

42. Flanged bowl in Black-burnished ware; cf. Gillam 1976, types 65-6. Late 2nd century.

Context 5020. Above natural and below 5007 and 5012.

43. Jar in Black-burnished ware, Gillam 1976, type 7. Early-mid 3rd century.

44. Jar rim in Black-burnished ware. The angle of the rim suggests Gillam 1976, type 12-14. 4th century.

In general there seems little to distinguish the tip layers in trench 5 and all may well be near contemporary and thus mid-late 3rd century to perhaps early 4th century.

Trench 6

Context 6005 and 6013 produced medieval Dyfed Gravel Tempered ware, with another probably fragment from 6017.

Context 6003. Fill of ditch 6004.

With a worn fragment of Central Gaulish samian (2nd century):

45. Joining fragments of a jar in Black-burnished ware, Gillam 1976m type 10. Late 3rd century.

Context 6009. Upper fill of ditch 6010.

With a fragment of smooth black fabric, probably Terra Nigra (Flavian) and four joining fragments of Central Gaulish samian, form 31 (mid-late 2nd century) were fragments of Black-burnished ware and a possible Severn Valley Ware jar with cordon on the neck.

Context 6017. Fill of ditch 6018.

A small assemblage included a bowl fragment in orange-buff which is possibly eroded Oxfordshire red colour coated fragment and consequently mid 3rd to 4th century, and what may be an eroded Severn Valley ware storage jar, along with the possible medieval sherd already noted.

Trench 7

The small assemblage from this trench comes almost entirely from the ditch 7001

Context 7001. Bottom of ditch 7002.

With a sherd of Caerleon roughcast beaker (early-mid 2nd century) and a very worn fragment of South Gaulish samian (c.A.D.70-110):

46. Rim of a jar in Black-burnished ware; cf. Gillam 1976, types 11-12 (late 3rd-4th century).

Context 7029. Fill of small gully 7028.

47. Jar in Black-burnished ware with iron accretion. Probably from a vessel such as Gillam 1976, type 9. Mid-late 3rd century.

Trench 8

Only one context produced Roman pottery:

Context 8003. Fill of ditch 8004.

48. Jar in grey fabric with rusticated decoration. For the general type see Manning 1993, Fig.101, 53. Mid/late 1st to early 2nd century.

POTTERY TOTALS	Sherd Count	Weight
Post-med	30	463
Medieval	69	263
Roman CBM	20	319
Roman	418	3891
Daub/clay	34	155
Total	**577**	**5091**

POTTERY CATALOGUE

TRENCH 4

Cont No	Bag	Description	Fabric	Sherds	Wt	Comment/Date
U/S	14	Unstratified	Gravel tempered	1	14g	? Tile fragment. Late or post-medieval
U/S		As above	Dyfed Gravel tempered = DGT	1	8	Medieval
U/S		As above	Redware	2	5	Probably post-med
U/S	4	As above	DGT	5	15	Medieval
U/S		As above	DGT	3	13	Medieval
U/S		As above	Brick/tile	1	18	Possibly Roman
U/S		As above	scraps of oxidised pot	5	8	Possibly Roman
U/S		As above	Off-white with green glaze	1	2	Post-med
U/S		As above	Grey with ?lime temper & oxidised orange interior	1	7	?Medieval
U/S	12	As above	DGT	3	4	Medieval
4002	11	Stone layer	DGT	5	12	Medieval
4002		As above	Redware	3	3	Possibly Roman
4003	13	Stone layer	Grey with some gravel temper	4	21	Medieval
4003		As above	DGT	6	20	Medieval
4003		As above	DGT	1	5	Edge of spout or handle
4003		As above	Scraps	6	6	Probably medieval
4020	18	Upper fill of pit [4021]	Redware	3	13	Possibly Roman
4024	19	Square stone patch	burnt pottery	1	3	Probably Roman
4032	25	[4021] Pit in Fort	Large orange-red jar	1	54	Roman
4032			BB1 jar wall - lattice decoration probably right angled	1	11	Probably late 2nd-mid 3rd century
4033	28	Fill of pit in fort, [4034]	Redware	3	7	Probably Roman
4047	30	Fill of pit in fort [4034]	Red with grey core	chip	<1	Roman possibly SVW
4055	35		Grey	1	7	Roman

TRENCH 5

Cont No.	Bag	Description	Fabric	Sherds	Wt	Comment/Date
U/S	1a	Unstratified	Redware	1	1	
U/S			Greyware	3	1	
5002	3a	Layer, S end Trench 5	Dressel 20 amphora	3	40	Trench 5 contains numerous Dressel 20 fragments, many noticably thin in section and probably from a single vessel. The only rim of mid 2nd to early 3rd century date comes from 5003 (bag 47|)
5002		As above	redware	2	34	Roman
5002	3b	As above	Dressel 20 amphora	1	127	See Context 5002, bag 3a
5002	3c	As above	Dressel 20 amphora	3	106	See Context 5002, bag 3a
5002	3d	As above	Dressel 20 amphora	1	291	base. See 5002 bag 3a
5002	3e	As above	Dressel 20 amphora	1	136	See Context 5002, bag 3a
5002	14	As above	Severn Valley ware (=SVW) jar	20	112	Cf. Webster 1976, Fig.1,3.1st-2nd century. Catalogue No 24
5002	17	As above	Dressel 20 amphora	5	274	
5002	20	As above	SVW	1	8	An abraded jar rim, probably Webster 1976, Fig.3, 10. 3rd-4th century. Catalogue No 25
5002		As above	oxidised lump	1	4	
5002	22	As above	oxidised scraps	7	13	Roman
5002		As above	burnt stone	2		
5002	23	As above	SVW	5	33	A jar similar to that in Bag 14 (Catalogue No 25) but smaller. 3rd-4th century
5002	25a	As above	Dressel 20 amphora	1	61	See Context 5002, bag 3a
5002	25b	As above	BB1	1	22	Jar rim, Gillam 1976, types 12-14. 4th century. Catalogue No 27
5002		As above	BB1	1	12	Jar rim, Gillam 1976, types 11-12. Late 3rd - early 4th century. Catalogue No. 26
5002		As above	BB1	1	3	Possibly from a bead rim jar.
5002	25c	As above	SVW	7	35	Jar fragments
5002	25d	As above	Oxidised with grey core, possibly eroded Oxford red colour coat	2	11	Possibly Mid 3rd-4th century
5002		As above	Oxidised	5	39	Roman
5002		As above	Dressel 20 laminate	1	2	
5002		As above	Central Gaulish samian	1	9	Bowl. 2nd century
5002	26a	As above	BB1	1	6	jar fragment.
5002		As above	Oxidised fragments	7	9	Roman
5002		As above	Burnt daub	1	4	
5002		As above				
5002	27	As above	oxidised	4	19	Roman
5002		As above	SVW	5	36	Roman
5002		As above	Dressel 20 amphora	1	22	
5002		As above	Possibly Oxford red colour coated	1	16	Possibly mid 3rd-4th century
5002		As above	BB1	1	7	eroded
5002		As above	Greyware	1	5	Jar with acute angled lattice. Probably 2nd century

5002		As above				
5002	29	As above	Greyware	1	5	Curved rim jar fragment. Possibly 1st-2nd century
5002		As above	Oxidised, possibly SVW	1	2	
5002	30	As above	Fawn	1	5	Possibly part of a 3rd-4th century SVW jar
5002	32	As above	Oxidised and possibly burnt	2	43	2 joining sherds with burnished diaginallines on the shoulder. Possibly from a SVW jar such as Webster 1976, Fig.3, 10 (3rd-4th century)
5002	no.no	As above	Oxidised	10	45	Including SVW
5002	no.no.	As above	Smooth oxidised with grey core	1	11	Roman
5002		As above	Greyware	1	11	Roman
5002		As above	oxidised	1	3	laminate
5002	101	As above	Central Gaulish samian	1	13	eroded base of form 31 c.150-200
5002		As above	Probably Caerleon Ware	1	3	Beaker 2nd century
5002		As above	oxidised	5	12	Roman
5003	34	Layer, S end Trench 5	Greyware	2	9	Roman
5003	38a	As above	Caerleon Ware	2	49	Two joining flange fragments of an eroded Caerleon ware mortarium with the scar probably of the spout. Cf. Manning 1993, Fig.194, 17-18. Early-mid 2nd century. Catalogue No 34
5003		As above				
5003	38b	As above	BB1	3	28	Jar rim as Gillam 1976, type 5. Late 2nd-early 3rd century. Catalogue No 31
5003		As above	BB1	1	34	Heavily sooted flanged bowl; cf. Gillam 1976, type 38. Mid-late 2nd century. catalogue No 33
5003	38b cont	As above	BB1	1	14	Straight sided dish. The decoration appears to resemble Gillam 1976, type 81 (late 3rd century). catalogue No 36
5003		As above				
5003	38c	As above	White oxford mortarium	3	46	Three broken fragments, two probably joining. The most likely reconstruction is as Young 1977, M21 (mid-late 3rd century). catalogue No 35
5003		As above				
5003	38d	As above	Oxidised possibly SVW	10	46	Roman
5003		As above				
5003	38e	As above	Oxidised mortarium spout	1	16	Probably part of the Caerleon mortariu, 5003, bag 38a above). Catalogue No 34
5003		As above	SVW	1	12	Jar; Webster 1976, Fig.1, 4. 2nd-4th century. Catalogue No 29
5003		As above	Oxidised	1	5	
5003		As above	Black slip Central Gaulish	1	1	Lezoux beaker. Probably 2nd century
5003		As above				
5003	43	As above	oxidised	4	11	Roman
5003		As above	SVW	1	5	Jar with a double-bead rim as Webster 1976, Fig.3, 10. 3rd-4th century. catalogue No 30
5003		As above	burnt daub	3	8	
5003		As above	burnt stone			

5003		As above				
5003	43a	As above	oxidised, possibly SVW	1	4	Roman
5003		As above				
5003	45	As above	BB1	3	18	Straight sided dish without decoration. Perhaps 3rd-4th cent
5003	47	As above	Dressel 20 Amphora	1	60	Rim; cf.Martin-Kilcher type 37 (Peacock & Williams 1986, Fig.60. Mid 2nd-early 3rd century. catalogue No 28
5003		As above				
5003	49a	As above	oxidised with grey core, probably SVW	17	100	Includes 1 rim as Webster 1976, Fig.1, 5 (2nd-3rd century)
5003		As above				
5003	49b	As above	BB1	1	30	Flanged bowl. 2nd century
5003		As above	BB1	2	26	Possibly from the same jar; cf. Gillam 1976, types 12-14. 4th century
5003		As above				
5003	49c	As above	BB1	2	10	Bowl/dish frags
5003		As above	BB1	6	23	including obtuse angled lattice, perhaps mid 3rd-mid 4th century
5003		As above				
5003	49d	As above	BB1	1	3	
5003		As above	Brown	1	9	jar
5003		As above				
5003	49e	As above	oxidised	6	38	
5003		As above	whiteware with traces of red-brown paint	1	3	Beaker, possibly in a parchment ware. Probably 3rd-4th century
5004	50	Layer, S end Trench 5	Dressel 20 amphora	3	110	See Context 5002, bag 3a
5004		As above	Dark grey	3	15	Roman
5004		As above	oxidised	7	9	Roman
5004		As above				
5004	54	As above	Burnt daub	6	11	
5004		As above				
5004	55	As above	oxidised	2	6	Roman
5004		As above	grey with oxidised core	1	7	Roman
5004		As above				
5004	58	As above	burnt daub	11	276	
5004		As above	burnt stone	1		
5004	58a	As above	burnt clay	1	10	
5004		As above	oxidised	2	8	Roman
5004		As above				
5004	60	As above	BB1	1	14	bowl wall 2nd-4th cent.
5004		As above				
5004	64	As above	BB1	1	5	jar shoulder
5004		As above	BB1	1	7	Straight sided dish with inverted chevrons. Probably 2nd-3rd century. catalogue No 37
5004		As above	oxidised	4	6	Roman

5005	65	Layer, S end of Trench 5	BB1	5	14	jar frags including right angled lattice. Probably 3rd century
5005		As above	BB1	2	15	Jar rims, probably different vessels both Gillam 1976, type 8.Mid 3rd century. Catalogue No 38
5005	68	As above	burnt clay	3	10	
5005		As above	?burnt stone	1		
5005		As above	coal	1		
5005	69	As above	oxidised	1	3	
5005		As above	brick	1	138	
5005		As above	burnt daub	10	55	
5005	69a	As above	oxidised	2	1	
5007	72a	Layer, S end of Trench 5	red scrap	1	<1	
5007	74	As above	redware frags	5	8	Probably Roman
5007		As above	Dressel 20 amphora	1	28	Burnt?
5007		As above	burnt daub	5	15	
5007		As above	stone	5		several burnt. 1 possibly shaped?
5007	78a	As above	redware, possibly SVW	2	20	missing surface.
5007	78b	As above	BB1	1	13	Obtuse angled lattice, late 3rd-4th cent.
5007		As above	BB1	1	10	bowl or dish
5007		As above				
5007	78c	As above	brown with grey core	1	7	Roman
5007		As above	stone			
5009	86	Layer , S end of Trench 5	bunrt clay lumps	9	46	
5009						
5009	89	Layer, S end of trench 5	BB1	1	9	Jar rim, probably Gillam 1976, type 8. Mid 3rd century. catalogue No 39
5010	84	Layer, S end of Trench 5	Grey with grey and white inclusions	1	6	Possibly but not certainly Roman
5010		As above	Grey with orange surface	2	16	Roman
5011	88	Layer, S end of Trench 5	Orange with grey core SVW	34	96	Roman
5011	90	As above	samian probably Central Gaulish	1	8	Form 31, burnt. C.150-200
5011		As above	BB1	1	26	Flanged and grooved bowl. Gillam 1976, type 42.Late 2nd-early 3rd century. catalogue No 41
5011		As above	greyware with red ?burnt interior.	1	9	
5011		As above	BB1	3	31	jar frags
5011		As above	BB1	1	8	bowl or dish
5011		As above				

5011		As above	redware, probably SVW	2	18	
5011		As above	Possibly burnt SVW	1	11	Possibly as Webster 1976, Fig.2, 6. 2nd-3rd century. Catalogue No 40
5011	93a	As above	SVW	7	105	Roman
5011	93b	As above	BB1	1	2	jar frag
5011	100	As above	BB1	1	7	bowl wall with inverted 'hairpin' chevrons. 3rd-4th cent,
5011	103	As above	burnt clay	1	2	
5012	94	Layer, S end of Trench 5	orange-red SVW	1	18	grooved base usually used on tankards and Wide mouthed jars. This is probably the latter
5012		As above	redware	2	2	beaker fragments
5012	95	As above	BB1	1	21	Flanged dish; cf. Gillam 1976, types 65-6. Late 2nd century. Catalogue No 42
5020	97	Layer, S end of trench 5	BB1	1	7	Jar, probably Gillam 1976, types 12-14. 4th century. Catalogue No 44
5020		As above	?burnt stone	1		
5020	no no.	As above	BB1	1	27	Jar, Gillam 1976, type 7. Early-mid 3rd century. catalogue No 43

TRENCH 6

Cont No	Bag	Description	Fabric	Sherds	Wt	Comment/Date
U/S	1	Unstratified	DGT	3	16	Medieval
U/S			Redware	1	2	Probably post-med
6003	5	Fill of ditch [6004]	Greyware	1	35	Grey jar base, possibly S Wales Reduced Ware. Roman
6003	3	As above	BB1	3	34	jar sherds possibly from the type 10 jar below
6003		As above	BB1	1	15	Bowl or dish base 2nd-4th century
6003		As above	Central Gaulish samian	1	5	worn. 2nd century
6003		As above	burnt stone	2		
6003	4	As above	BB1	2	33	Joining jar sherds, sooted on the rim. Cf. Gillam 1976, type 10. Late 3rd century. Catalogue No 45
6005	11	Fill of backfill over road?	DGT	4	4	Medieval
6009	17	Fill of ditch [6010]	Black, possibly Terra Nigra	3	7	?Flavian
6009	18	As above	BB1	4	6	Probably same vessel. Prob. 2nd-4th cent.
6009	19	As above	redware	6	23	Possibly a SVW jar with cordoned neck. Roman, probably 2nd-4th century.
6009		As above	Central Gaulish samian	5	36	4 joining. C.150-200
6013	24	Fill of possible posthole [6014]	DGT	2	6	Medieval
		As above	BB1	1	3	Jar. 2nd-4th cent.

6017	26	Fill of ditch [6018]	Orange buff, possibly eroded Oxford colour coat		77	Probably Young C45 type. C.AD 240-400
6017	27	As above	Orange-red with a grey core	5	48	Possibly a SVW storage jar but very eroded. Roman
6017	28	As above	Gravel tempered probably DGT	10	20	Probably medieval
6049	31A	Fill of possible posthole [6050]	Off buff	3	11	?Roman

TRENCH 7

Cont No	Bag	Description	Fabric	Sherds	Wt	Comment/Date
U/S	1	Spoil	Grog tempered jar	1	16	Possibly Roman
7001	4	Bottom of ditch [7002]	BB1	1	6	Jar rim; cf. Gillam 1976, type 11-12.Late 3rd-4th century. catalogue No 46
7001	5a	As above	Caerleon roughcast ware	2	2	c.AD.110-160
7001		As above	SG samian	1	2	very worn.c.AD 70-110
7001		As above	redware	3	24	Probably Roman
7001		As above	?imbrex	1	39	Roman
7001	5b	As above	DGT	1	13	includes small patch of external green glaze. Medieval
7001	5a	As above	Cream	2	22	Joining. ?post med tile
7003	7	Fill, posthole [7004]	Brown lump, ?brick	1	20	?Roman
7011	11	Layer / floor?	Fired clay, possibly decayed brick	16	104	Probably Roman
7029	13	Fill of gully [7028]	BB1	1	3	External iron 'pan'. Probably Gillam 1976, type 9. Mid-late 3rd century. catalogue No 47

TRENCH 8

Cont No	Bag	Description	Fabric	Sherds	Wt	Comment/Date
U/S	8	Unstratified	Black glazed redware	1	16	18th-19th century
U/S	9	Unstratified	Pearlware	1	2	internal blue painted decoration. Late 18th- mid 19th century
U/S			Creamware	1	7	Base. Probably late 18th-mid 19th century
U/S			Gravel tempered	1	7	Green glazed. Post med
8001	2	Fill of ditch [8002]	red ?tile	1	20	?19th cent.
8001		As above	DGT. Orange-red surface, grey core	1	5	Medieval

8003	3	Fill of ditch [8004]	oxidised lumps/worn sherds	5	18	
8003		As above	burnt daub	1	5	
8003		As above	burnt stone	1		
8003	4a	As above	Greyware	5	41	Jar with rusticated decoration; cf. Manning 1993, Fig.101, 53. Mid/late 1st - early 2nd century. Catalogue No 48
8003	4b	As above	Smooth red ware	5	5	Roman

UNSTRATIFIED FINDS FROM SURFACE OF FIELDS

Cont No	Bag	Description	Fabric	Sherds	Wt	Comment/Date
U/S	3	S Field surface	stoneware	1	20	Probably 19th cent.
U/S			Green glaze on red	3	89	Post-medieval
U/S			Black glaze on red	1	30	18th-19th cent.
U/S			N Devon Gravel tempered	1	9	17th-18th cent.
U/S			Gravel tempered, probably N Devon	1	37	17th-18th cent.
U/S			DGT	8	60	Medieval
U/S			DGT glazed	1	7	Medieval
U/S			Redware	5	36	Probably post-med. Incl. brick/tile
U/S			redware	9	22	
U/S			redware	1	9	rim. Post med
U/S			Dressel 20 amphora	1	44	Burnt. 1st-3rd cent.
U/S	15	both fields	Black glaze on red	1	15	Mug. ?16th-17th cent
U/S			redware	4	121	Probably post med
U/S			?DGT	4	21	Medieval
U/S			redware	2	15	Possibly Roman

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS AT WISTON ROMAN FORT, PEMBROKESHIRE 2013: INTERIM REPORT

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Mawrth 2015
March 2015

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by J Meek

Swydd / Position: Head of Field Services

Llofnod / Signature ....  .... Dyddiad / Date: 27 March 2015

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith
This report has been checked and approved by K Murphy

ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: Trust Director

Llofnod / Signature  Dyddiad / Date: 27 March 2015

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report

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