

01/09/93



PENRY POINT, HILL MOUNTAIN, BURTON.

REPORT ON ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATIONS, SEPTEMBER 1993.
under a Section 106 Planning Agreement.

commissioned by: Mr & Mrs V. Morillo & Sons

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PLANNING BACKGROUND

The Trust first expressed its concern over the archaeological implications of residential development in 1988. The Trust commissioned a Geophysical Survey from Geophysical surveys Ltd of Bradford. On the basis of the survey results and the surface evidence for this Iron Age enclosure, application was made to Cadw for funds to carry out a rescue excavation on the terms which then applied for the investigation of threatened archaeological sites. However, the bid was not successful.

Outline planning permission was granted for residential development (2 plots) at Penry Point, Hill Mountain within which area the site is located on 21 July 1989. This consent lapsed and in 1992 a fresh outline application was made this time for three dwellings on an enlarged plot. (D2/92/1231). The Trust was consulted by Preseli district council on 05/01/93 and made fresh comments on the archaeological implications (letter 12/03/93). Further information on the nature of the site and the implications of the archaeological recommendations made under the new PPG16 'Archaeology and Planning' was sought by Preseli District Planning Department.

As a result of this correspondence and a field assessment made by the Trust (Feb 1993), the Trust suggested that the archaeological concerns and the applicant's interests might be best reconciled by means of a planning agreement under Section 106 of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act, as recommended under para. 26 of PPG16. The Agreement is reproduced in Appendix 1 and the Archaeological Report which fulfils Clause 2 (d) follows overleaf.

SUMMARY

Hearson Mountain enclosure is a small hillslope enclosure of Iron Age type with a possible entrance on the south. Relatively small scale excavations were carried out on the site by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust in advance of building operations. Three trenches (2-4) were laid out across the interior of the enclosure and into the rear of the bank and the bank on the south was sectioned (trench 1). The bank appeared to be a simple dump but included some large stones in its make up. In the interior over much of trenches 2 and 3 features were rare. Features were more common on the periphery of the enclosure. These were probably contemporary with the enclosure rather than pre-enclosure. In trench 1 these included a possible hearth, a charcoal spread and a pit; in trench 2 these consisted of a group of post-holes: in trench 3 features were more extensive and included two gullies overlain by probably two phases of stone surface. PRN
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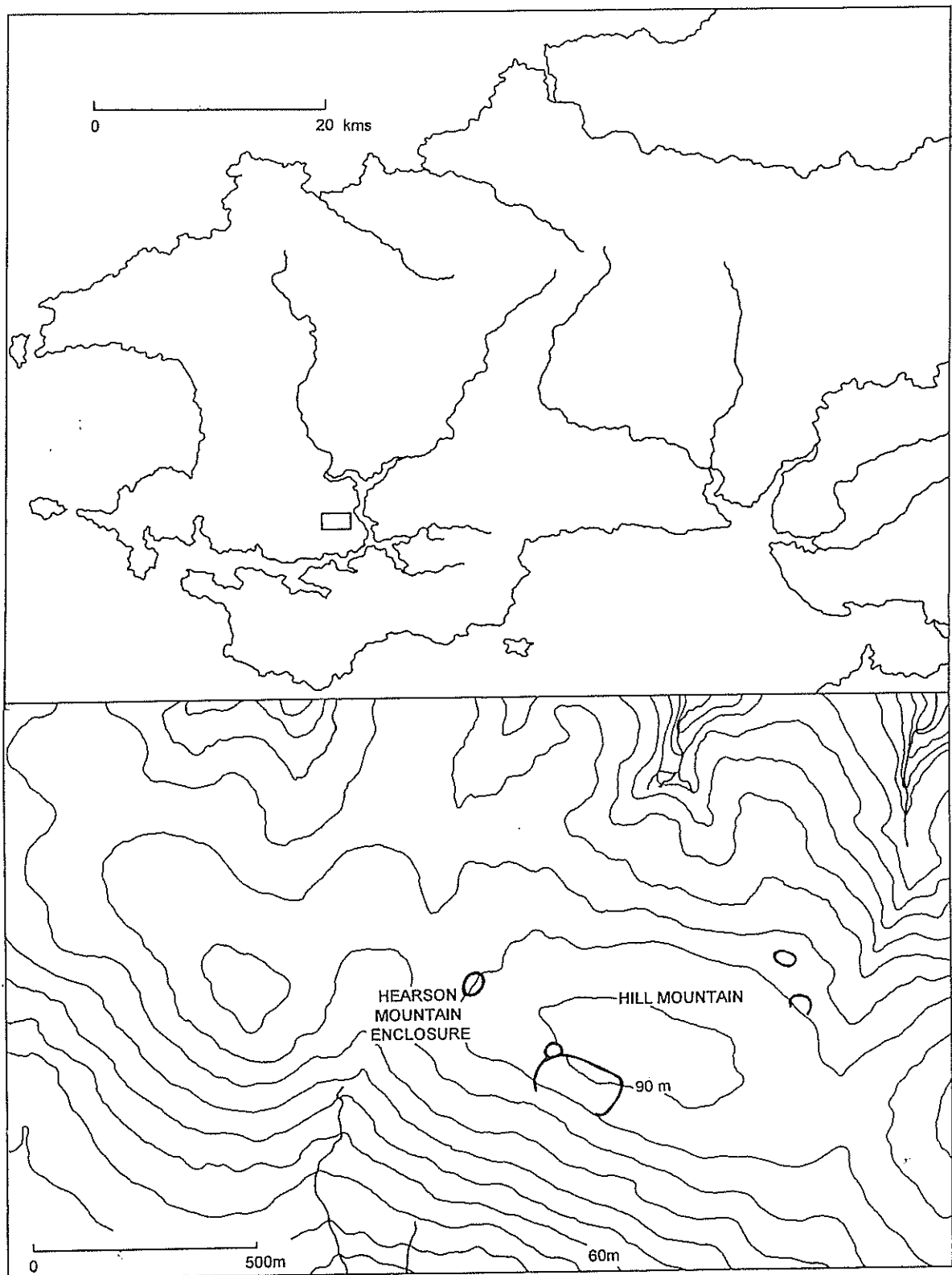


Fig 1: Site Location & distribution of contemporary enclosures

INTRODUCTION

Site description

The enclosure lies at SM 9757 0837 some 3 km to the north of the town of Neyland on Milford Haven (Fig 1) on the western edge of the village of Hill Mountain. It lies on a north facing slope just below the crest of a ridge. Three other possible defended enclosures are known from aerial photographs to the east of the enclosure (fig 1) and a further possible enclosure is documented.

The enclosure is sub-oval (Fig 2), measuring some 55 x 40m internally with sharp changes in direction of the defences in the south-west and north. The interior seems to occupy the eastern part of a natural hollow, ie the interior is half bowl-shaped. This internal slope is very marked on the south (Fig 2) although here the slope may have been enhanced by the recent removal of topsoil. (Most of the information on the recent history of the site included in this report was obtained from the owner, Mr. V. Morillo). The bank and the external ditch is present, although in low relief, on the south, beyond which is an open field. The ditch was deliberately infilled in recent years. (A small hedge was constructed across this bank some twenty-five years ago and was removed in 1977 or 1978). A lowering of the bank and an internal scarp in this southern area may represent an entrance and hollow way. A geophysical survey (see below) suggests the entrance may have been approached by antenna ditches. The bank is overlain by a hedge on the north and east but the inner scarp is evident to the inside of the hedge (although it is obscured by dumping on the north-east). On the outside of the hedge the old ground surface and the outside face of the hedgebank itself have been partially removed during the construction of modern houses to the west and north of the enclosure but, where this area is undisturbed on the north-west, there is no real trace of an outer scarp to the bank. The ditch was formerly visible on the west, but was filled in during building operations. It was discovered during the building of the house to the north and caused great difficulty with the foundations. The bank was formerly also overlain by a hedge on the east, bordering a trackway: this hedge and the underlying bank was also flattened in 1977/78.

The enclosure is described by local residents as a 'little field' and originally formed part of the field to the south. It has been used as a garden in recent years. A recent history of disturbance includes the removal of hedges, the (accidental) bulldozing of topsoil (to form dumps against the hedge on the north-east, and some distance to the south-east, of the enclosure), the infilling of the ditch, the fly-dumping of builders waste and its subsequent partial removal/partial spreading out, and the construction of houses to the west and north.

Geophysical Survey

A geophysical survey of the enclosure was carried out on behalf of the Trust by Geophysical Surveys of Bradford (Gater and Gaffney 1988). The interior of the site was magnetically very 'noisy' due to disturbance. To the south of the site the survey suggested the possible existence of antenna ditches running out from the entrance but the anomalies in the area are not easy to interpret (and these features are not illustrated).

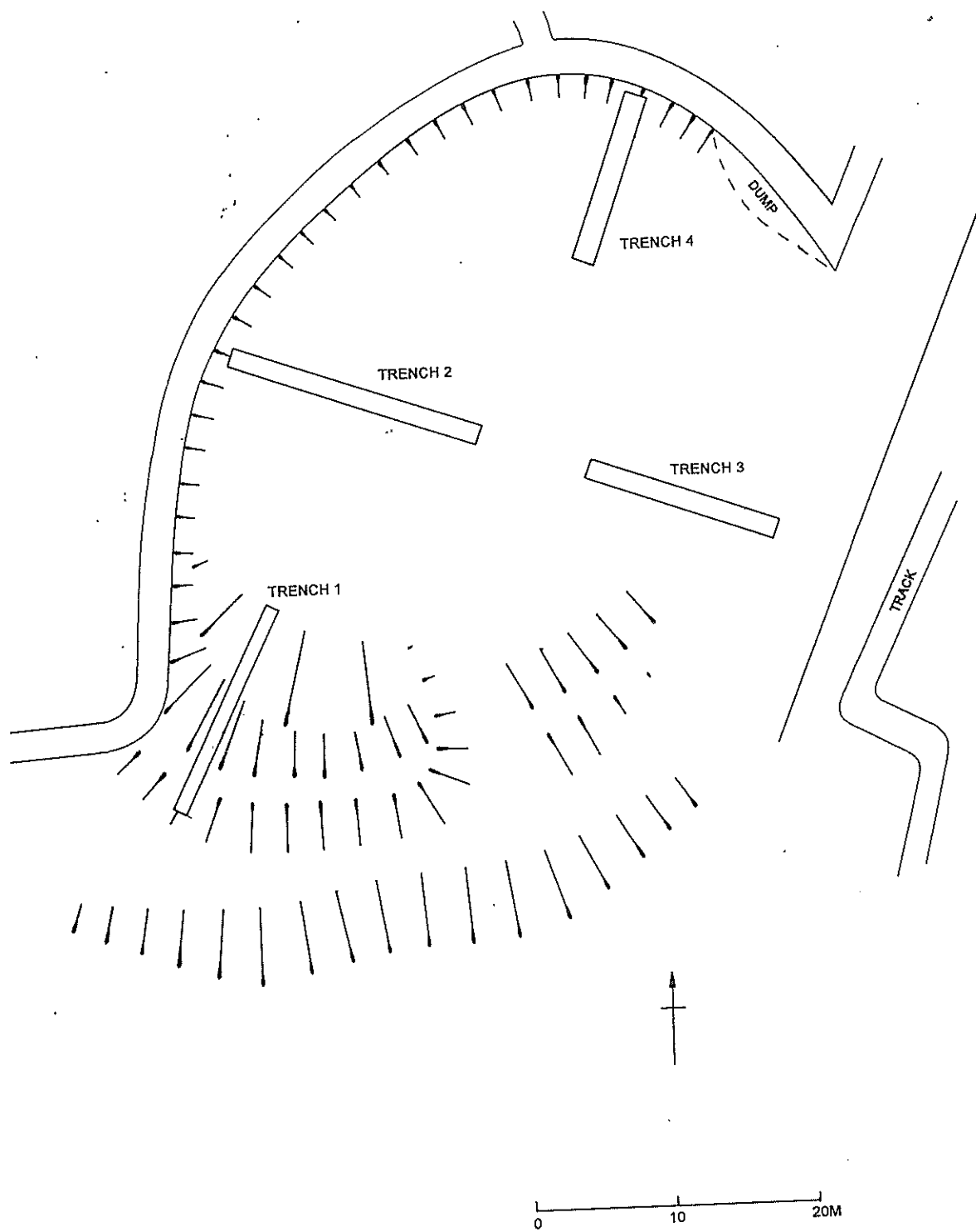


Fig. 2 Plan of enclosure earthworks and location of trenches.

THE EXCAVATIONS

The excavations were carried out during one week in September 1993. Two excavators were involved, the author and R Ramsey.

It was originally intended that a T-shaped trench 4m wide would be dug across the enclosure on the north to investigate the areas to the rear of the rampart where archaeological features may be expected to be well preserved, partly because of the possible presence of colluvial build up, and also to investigate internal areas. A further trench 4m wide on the south was to be sited to investigate the defences. This design was modified in discussion with Mr Morillo for a number of reasons: the presence of a proposed dwelling in the area of the southern trench where the excavation could be expected to go below foundation level; the unexpectedly great depth of overburden (approximately 1m above subsoil in some areas); obstruction by farm machinery. Smaller areas were machined than initially envisaged.

Trenches 2-4, approximately 1.6m wide, were laid out as shown (Fig 2) to investigate the rear of the bank and internal areas. The topsoil was stripped by machine to subsoil level or the level of archaeological deposits as is standard practice. Excavation then proceeded by hand. A narrower trench 1 (1 m wide) and cut through the bank and the area to the rear of the bank on the south-west of the enclosure. Archaeological features in this trench were only recorded in section.

Stratified deposits with varying degrees of preservation remained on the periphery of the site: deposits were ploughed down in the centre

The conditions for excavation were less than optimum. Only one week was allocated and some problems could not be resolved. The removal of topsoil was quicker than was ideal from an archaeological point of view: the observation of the section in trenches 1 and 4 and the thickness of ancient soils suggests that the base of an ancient soil may have been survived internally in trenches 2 and 3 but had been missed during machining (there was, unfortunately, insufficient time to investigate this the base of the topsoil in trenches 2 and 3 in section). Stratified deposits at the west of trench 2, probably immediately interior to the defences, were also overmachined (and a section half-way across the remaining deposits was cut manually without close examination).

Interpretation of the relationship of excavated features was problematical given the limited area excavated and the lack of time for excavation. In particular, the sequence in trench 1 was complex. The following is the most likely interpretation. Other interpretations, considered but on balance rejected, are summarised below.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

The soils were recorded in all trenches but were only recorded in section in trench 1 (fig 4).

The subsoil 6 was variable but, in the main, was a yellowish brown silty loam with some purple patches and containing many small stones. The subsoil was only observed in section in trench 1 (Fig

4). In trench 1 and over much of trench 2 it was a mottled mixture of light yellowish brown (10YR 6/4) and brownish yellow (10YR 6/6) silty loams with many small stones and gravel. In section in trench 1 it became relatively stone free at depth (after about 0.4m) possibly indicating that the upper, stony material is a drift deposit. The stone free material contained purple streaks, possibly the remain of roots. In trench 2 the subsoil became less stony and darker toward the east (closer to the yellowish brown silty loam component in trench 3). The subsoil on the west of trench 3 was a mottled and streaky mixture of a relatively stone free yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty loam, and a purplish sandy clay loam (reaching a dark reddish grey (10/R 4/1) in colour) often with grit inclusions. On the east this gave way to, or was possibly overlain by, a 10YR 4/6 silty loam subsoil, again with gravel and small stones. (The subsoil was probably not reached in trench 4 - see below).

Thick pre-enclosure soils, formed on these subsoils, with well developed horizons (yellowish brown silty loams) and A horizons (brown or dark yellowish brown silty loams), were observed below the rampart in trenches 1, 3 and 4: the A horizons in particular were very similar in all these trenches. A layer 27 (Fig 3) in the far west of trench 2, although similar to the A horizons in the other trenches, contained some redeposited subsoil presumably derived from the rampart and is probably best interpreted as, in part at least, a deposit of colluvial material and material derived from the rampart built-up to the rear of the rampart - the rampart itself lying beyond the limits of the trench. (Again, unfortunately, there was insufficient time to investigate this layer in detail.) Modified equivalents of these soils were noted in the interior of the site in trench 1 and 4, but not in 2 and 3 (although, as mentioned, these may have been missed during machining and there was insufficient time to examine the section).

The ancient soil in trench 1 was observed below the rampart and below deposits immediately to the interior of the rampart (Fig 4). The B horizon 4 was of varying thickness, becoming thicker on the south (reaching 0.4m thick). It was a yellowish brown (10YR 5/4) silty loam with a few stones. On the south as the B horizon became thicker, there was also a purplish B/C horizon 5, a dark reddish grey (10R 4/2) silty loam, more stony than 4 although not as stony as the subsoil. This was not present on the north. The A horizon 3 was a stone free, brown (10YR 5/3) silty loam. It was also of variable depth, reaching 0.2m deep maximum. Above the A horizon in two places was the possible remains of an old turf - a greyish, ? gleyed layer 44 and a yellow layer 45 (although the latter may be a variation in overlying redeposited bank material). Beyond the protection of the rampart and stratified internal deposits the soil lost definition and any distinction between layers but was still visible (layer 15) over the whole length of the trench (the northern end of the trench was not drawn).

In trench 3 (Fig 3) the soil existed as a 'ghost' preserved by the rampart (see below). A B horizon, a yellowish brown (10YR 5/6) silty loam, some 0.1m deep, was overlain by an A horizon, a dark yellowish brown silty loam, some 0.08m deep. Both layers contained few stones.

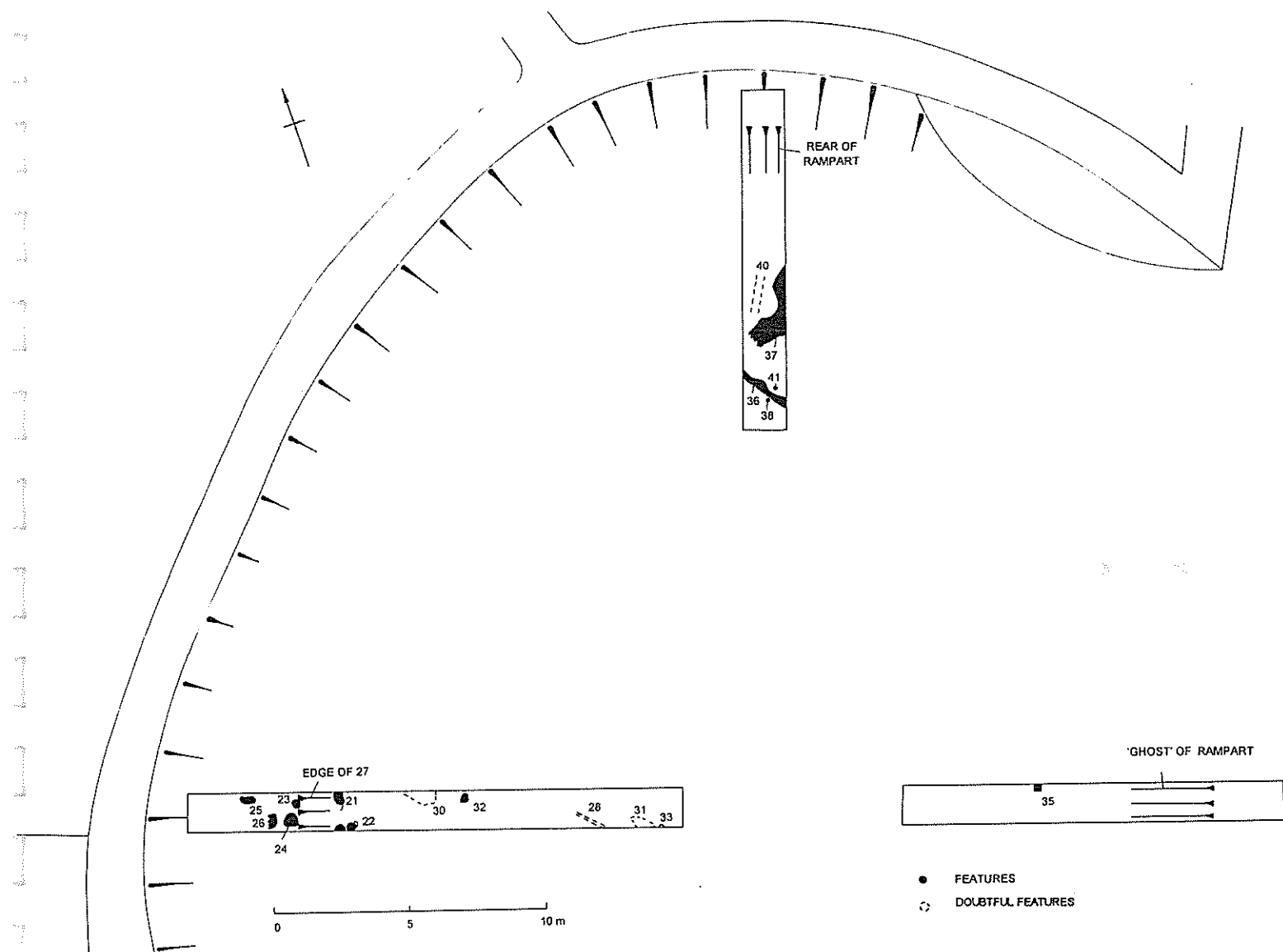
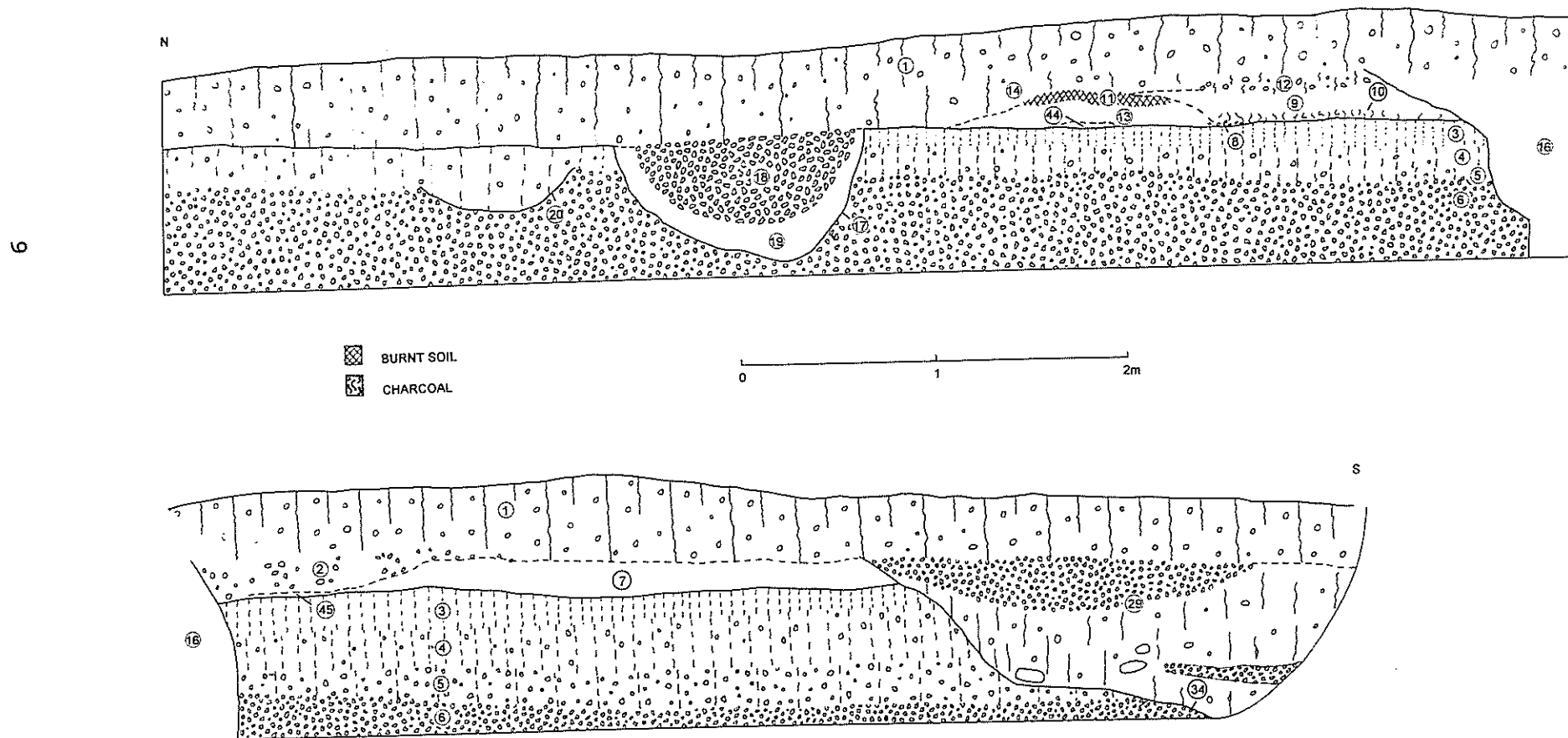


Fig 3: Plan of archaeological features identified in excavation trenches

Fig. 4: Trench 1, west facing section (north of section not drawn)



In trench 4 an ancient soil was preserved below apparently *in situ* rampart. The lowest layer reached was a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/6) silty loam with flecks of yellowish gravelly material like the subsoil, these inclusions increasing with depth: it was probably a B/C horizon.

Below the bank this layer was overlain by a B horizon, a yellowish brown, (10YR 5/6) silty loam 0.13m deep, and by an A horizon, a dark yellowish brown (10YR 4/4) silty loam (0.1m deep). Both layers again contained few stones. On the interior of the site this soil was recognised, in a very modified form, over the whole length of the trench.

The layer 27 to the west of trench 2 apparently immediately overlay the subsoil. It had a flat top and sloped down on the interior to subsoil (Figs 3 and 5). This slope, however, was apparently not solely due to ploughing (see below) (As mentioned, the layer had been overmachined at the very end of trench and manually sectioned to half way along the trench without preexamination). It was a dark brown (10YR 4/3) silty loam, 0.3m deep, very loose and relatively stone free, although with some flecks of redeposited subsoil: apart from the redeposited material it appeared homogeneous. Although similar to the A horizon elsewhere on the site, there were differences - it is much thicker, apparently unassociated with a B horizon, and contained redeposited material. It also had post-holes cut through it and these appeared to be of increasing depth as the layer became shallower toward the interior of the site, therefore the interior slope was, in part, an original feature, not merely the result of ploughing. The layer probably represented, in part at least, soil formation during the build-up of material to the rear of the rampart, probably colluvial material but also wash and collapse from the bank - hence the redeposited subsoil. As mentioned, it was not possible to examine this layer in great detail: if this had been possible some basal zonation, representing pre-enclosure soils, albeit modified within the enclosure, may have been recognised. (The interior of the enclosure sloped down to this area, hence colluvial material would be mobilised to this area. A little redeposited subsoil overlay the rear of the layer: this was possibly bank collapse.)

THE DEFENCES

The bank was sectioned in trench 1 and the rear of the bank excavated in trenches 3 and 4.

In trench 1 (Fig 4) the bank was very reduced, only surviving to 0.35 in height, and was not well defined, apparently being modified by later soil formation. It seemed to be represented, toward the front, by a layer 7, probably a core of redeposited A horizon, which was overlain, toward the rear, by a layer 2 probably of redeposited A horizon and subsoil. The front of the bank had probably been eroded (see below). Its limits at the rear were not certain as it was completely cut away by a modern pit 16. However, layers of redeposited material to the east of this pit may represent bank, possibly cut back during later occupation (see below): these were a lens 8 of redeposited subsoil overlain by a layer of redeposited A horizon 13.

On the far south of the trench the edge of the ditch 34 was noted cut into subsoil. Above the subsoil the ancient soil horizons 3-5 had been further eroded. The erosion of these soil horizons may have been due to increased erosion of the edge of the ditch because the layers were less resistant than the subsoil or may have been due to the fact that a berm had been present - if the former were the case then the face of the rampart itself may have been significantly eroded. The upper fill of the ditch 29 continued up the face of the bank and was apparently deliberate infill (as suggested by Mr. Morillo), consisting of humic material and layers apparently of redeposited subsoil, and including china, mortar etc.

In trench 3 (Fig 3), as mentioned, the bank was largely machined away, only patches of bank material a few centimetres deep remained (Mr. Morillo remembers the bank as well as the hedge having been machined away in 1977/8). The bank was represented by a 'ghost' of pre-enclosure soil which had been protected by the bank from plough erosion. On the west (interior) this had been gradually ploughed away to subsoil level (with a resulting sloping profile).

In trench 4 (Fig 3) the rear of the bank was revealed. It consisted of redeposited subsoil but also included some large stones - glacial erratics, possibly field stones. It survived to 0.6m high maximum in the area excavated. A longitudinal section through the bank on the other side of the hedge immediately to the north of trench 4 (the result of modern building operations) revealed similar make up.

INTERNAL FEATURES

Features, probably internal and contemporary with the enclosure, were noted in trenches 1, 2, 3 and 4.

In trench 1, to the west of modern pit 16, the presence of bank material 8 and 13 has been noted (as mentioned, details of this trench were only recorded in section, Fig 4). This bank material was overlain by the remains of internal occupation layers and may have been cut back to accommodate these. These occupations layers consisted of, nearest to the rampart, a layer of charcoal rich soil 10, with a matrix similar to the A horizon layers on the site and measuring 2.2m long and 0.5m deep (and losing definition on the south). This layer seems to have been accommodated in a slight hollow some 0.15m deep. It was probably contemporary with a layer of burnt soil 11, possibly a hearth, measuring 0.8m long x 0.08m deep, lying just south of the hollow (toward the interior of the site). These layers were sealed by a layer 9 of redeposited subsoil which was possibly rampart collapse (layer 9 was markedly more yellow than the *in situ* rampart layer 2 and possibly originally derived from deeper in the ditch). Layer 9 was overlain in turn by a layer 12 of humic material, stone and redeposited subsoil: possibly modified rampart dump but probably material ploughed off the bank.

These layers were truncated on the interior of the site by ploughing - although, as mentioned, the remains of the pre-enclosure soil 15 continued throughout the length of the trench, albeit very humic and modified by later soil formation. Cut through 15 was a pit 17, measuring 1.3m across x 1.2m deep with a lower fill 19 like the A horizons/soils on the site and an upper fill 18 fill of redeposited subsoil. Further to the interior of the enclosure was a possible pit

20, measuring 0.8m across x 0.2m deep minimum, with a fill indistinguishable from the modified ancient soil 15. Further to the interior were other possible features/areas of disturbance but these were not definable or portrayable (and this last 2.5m of the section was not drawn).

In trenches 2 and 3 there was a natural slope from east to west.

As mentioned, to the east of trench 2 (Figs 3 and 5) was a layer 27 interpreted as resulting, in part at least, from soil formation within colluvial build-up etc to the rear of the rampart.

A number of post-holes, 21-26, were located peripherally within the enclosure in trench 2 (Figs 3 and 5), some of which had been cut through layer 27. They had fill matrices which were very similar to layer 27 and were, therefore, probably broadly contemporary with the layer. The majority contained stones, presumably collapsed packing. Post-holes 24 and 26 were noted from the top of 27; 25 and 26 were noted after the removal of 27 by man and machine; 21 and 22 lay beyond the eastern limits of 27. Large stones, probably packing stones, noted during the machining of the western part of 27 suggested that similar features - which, like 26, had not reached subsoil level - had been destroyed in this area.

Two of the features, 21 and 22, were fully excavated (Fig 5). 21, and possibly 22, proved to consist of three, presumably successive, post-holes - two being relatively deep and one shallow. It was not evident which were the earlier and which the later but it is tempting to suggest the succession of post-holes in each group was contemporaneous. Post-holes 21 were aligned north/south. The two relatively deep post-holes were conjoined; both were oval. The northern post-hole 21a was steep sided, with a flat base, measuring 0.4m across minimum (it disappeared into the section) x 0.32 m deep. The central post-hole 21b was steep to vertically sided, measuring 0.36 x 0.26m across x 0.29m deep. The fills of both features contained many stones, presumably collapsed packing. To the south was a segment of a further shallow feature 21c (destroyed by disturbance on the west) some 0.10 m deep. Post-holes 22 were aligned east west. The two relatively deep (and definite) post-holes were not conjoined (although the area of sub-soil separating them had collapsed). Both were oval with flat bases. The western 22a, measured 0.38 x 0.28m across x 0.4m deep; the central 22b measured 0.34 x 0.3 x 0.35m deep. These post-holes contained fewer stones than 21. To the north-east of the eastern post-hole was a further segment of possible post-hole 22c, 0.13m deep.

The other post-holes were not excavated: all contained possible packing stones. 23 was sub-circular, measuring 0.34m across, and was probably a single post-hole. 24 was also sub-circular, measuring 0.56 x 0.50m across. 25 and 26 were elongate features, possibly multiple post-holes: 25 measuring 0.54 x 0.26m across and 26 measuring at least 0.6 x 0.26m across; the last was truncated on east and north by overexcavation and may have been a much larger feature. Its base did not reach subsoil level.

As mentioned, further east in trench 2, toward the centre of the enclosure, any ancient soils dug have been missed. There was a scatter of features (Fig 3). 32 and 33 also had loose fills like 27

and were presumably of an approximately similar date. 32 (unexcavated) was a triangular post-hole with rounded corners and apparent packing stones, measuring 0.36 x 0.28m across. 33 was a stake-hole (excavated); also triangular with rounded corners, measuring 0.18 x 0.16m across x 0.33m deep. 30 and 31 were probably natural features. Both disappeared into the section. 30 measured 1.27 x 0.53m across; 31 measured 0.94 x 0.40m across. 31 was very shallow: 30 was deeper but only partly excavated. They had very similar fills: relatively compact (compared to the fills of the other features), with a lighter inner area (10YR 4/4) of clay loam and darker outer areas (10YR 3/4) - of clay in the case of 30 and of clay loam in the case of 31.

Also in trench 2 was a linear feature 28, with a dark fill, 0.07m wide and disappearing into the section, possibly a gully but very probably an old plough mark.

In trench 3 any build up to the rear of the rampart had been ploughed away but modified internal soils may have been missed. Only one feature 35 - a possible post-hole - was present (Fig 3). Again it had a loose fill like 27. It was sub-square, measuring 0.30 x 0.28m across, and disappeared into the section. It contained possible packing stones.

It is possible that in trenches 2 and 3 other, shallow features had been ploughed out or missed due to the overmachining of modified early soils.

In trench 4 there was a natural slope downward from north to south across the trench. There was no surviving build-up on the interior of the bank, although the pre-enclosure soils survived in a modified manner throughout the length of the trench. This modified soil formed the fill of and the matrix of internal features.

These features (Figs 3 and 5) were the best preserved on the site. They included a segment of gully 36, running north-west/south-east across the trench, some 0.2m across where best preserved and 0.1cm deep. The gully was slightly curved with a marked change of direction on the east. (It was reminiscent of the segment of a semi-polygonal 'roundhouse' gully, although if it were a 'roundhouse' gully its projected diameter would have underlain the rampart). On either side of the gully were two stake-holes 38 and 41. Further north was as a further, more massive, segment of gully 37, 0.9m across and up to 0.46 m deep. The bottom showed irregularities. It had a marked change in direction, running south-west/north-east across the trench and, on the east, turning to run north-south (much of this latter part of the gully lay under the eastern section). The northern edge of the south-west/north-east section was higher than the southern, because of a ? later platform cut into the natural slope. The fill of the gully contained some stones. A further possible gully 40 ran north-south to the north of the north-east/south-west section of 37. (There were other possible features in the area, not fully excavated due to lack of time and not recorded). The fill of these features was identical to the modified pre-enclosure soil.

A level platform had been cut into the natural slope in this area, its northern edge co-terminous with that of gully 37 (and, as mentioned, as a result the northern edge of gully 37 was higher than the southern). This platform was noted in the subsoil. On it were

two successive layers of stone - the lower a definite, the upper a probable, surface (Fig 5). Both were some 0.3m across and were, in total, some 0.3-0.4m thick. Both also ran diagonally south-east/north-west across the trench. The lower layer 42 was of paving - a roughly flat-topped layer of largely flat slabs, including some slate, but also with some more rounded stones. These had, in part, become tipped at an angle where they had sunken into the underlying gully 37 (but they were clearly distinct from the stones within the fill of the gully.) The edge of the layer was clearly defined on the north where the stones had sunken into and terminated at the northern edge of gully 37: the edge was less distinct on the south. The layer may have been more extensive: beyond the well defined layer a further scatter of flat stones may mark the remains of further paving (and again on the north these were preserved where they had sunken into the top of the continuation of gully 37 and also ? gully 40). The matrix of the layer was the modified, pre-enclosure soil.

These stones were, in part at least, separated by a layer apparently of the same soil from a further probable surface 43. This was a layer of more rounded stones - glacial erratics, possibly field stones. However, they were still relatively closely packed - with an overall flatish top - and appeared to be deliberately laid. (The limits of the layer were well defined and planned on the south: on the north they were planned and removed after only superficial cleaning although their limits were clear). Their matrix was again the modified and humified old soil which had obviously sunken into air gaps within them. Coal and post-mediaeval pottery/clay pipe occurred superficially amongst these stones - not deep within them (although, probably fortuitously, this was the largest concentration of post-mediaeval finds on the site - see below).

The northern part of the trench - which was excavated up to and just below the rampart - was featureless.

ALTERNATIVE INTERPRETATIONS

Other interpretations of the features described above, particularly of their stratigraphy and relationships, were considered but, on balance, rejected. These included the suggestion that the majority of features excavated belonged to pre-rampart phases, being preserved below or near the ramparts due to the protection afforded by the rampart, but ploughed away on the interior. According to this hypothesis layer 27 in trench 2 represented a 'ghost bank' consisting of A and B horizons of a ploughed out soil through which pre-enclosure post-holes were cut. Similarly, in trench 1, it could be suggested that the rampart had also been completely ploughed, away leaving a 'ghost' of pre-enclosure soil; that layers 7 and 13 formed a further, upper horizon of this pre-enclosure soil; that layers 10 and 11 were pre-rampart, 11 forming the lower fill of a large, pre-enclosure pit cut through layers 7 and 13; that layers 2, 9 and 12 were the upper fill of the pit, possibly deposited at the same time as the bank was constructed. This would also explain the fact that the continuation of curvature of gully 36 in trench 4 also suggested it was possibly pre-rampart.

But various problems arise given this hypothesis. These problems include, in trench 1, the resulting extreme overall thickness of ancient soil if 7 and 13 are interpreted as part of this soil and

also the presence of redeposited subsoil 8 and ? gleyed turf 46 under layer 13: in trench 2 problems include the presence of redeposited subsoil in layer 27 and the original sloping edge to this layer on the interior of the site. The original interpretations are to be preferred.

Another rejected suggestion is that layer 27 in part was the basal deposit of bank material consisting of redeposited ancient soil A horizon.

RECENT HISTORY

Plough damage to the enclosure was best documented in trench 1, where the section was examined in detail (Fig 4). As mentioned, layers on the interior of the rampart were truncated by ploughing and a layer 12 may represent material ploughed off the rampart. These were overlain by an old ploughsoil 14, a humic layer which was relatively stone free. This was overlain by the modern ploughsoil 1, which contained a moderate amount of stone, derived from the bank and representing an increased level of modern ploughing. To the north of the section the distinction between layers 1 and 14 disappeared.

As mentioned, there was a considerable depth of topsoil (some 0.45-0.55 m) overlain, over much of the enclosure, by some 0.25 m of redeposited material - a variable mix of topsoil and subsoil with brick, concrete etc - representing the builders debris and bulldozed hedges. Trenches in the topsoil lined with plastic pointed to the recent use of the area as a garden. The depth of topsoil may suggest the use of the enclosure as a garden for some considerable time: but, if this had been the case, a much greater amount of post-medieval pottery and other debris would be expected than was, in fact, present: the reduction of the southern bank, by ploughing, points to the incorporation of the enclosure into the adjacent field. As mentioned, the enclosure is described locally as having been a 'little field'. There is a considerable depth of topsoil in fields in the area (inf V. Morillo).

A few fragments of C17/C18 and C19 pottery, and a fragment of C19 clay pipe, occurred largely at the base of the ploughsoil, representing earlier ploughing/mark spreading etc. This material occurred, with fragments of coal, largely in trench 4, above the stone spread 43 - but here it may have been derived from adjacent cottages, having been tipped over the hedgebank.

A modern pit 16 was cut into the rampart in trench 1: this had been filled with china, bottles and tins by V. Morillo. (Other such pits were present in the area as surface features: these are not illustrated.)

DISCUSSION

The site seems typical of the small defended settlements of Iron Age date which characterise central Pembrokeshire and south-western Carmarthenshire (Williams 1988). However, sites of this type are relatively rare south of the coalfield, including the Milford Haven area (in spite of the possible concentration of such sites at Hill Mountain), and may have had a different socio-economic function from those further north. It is therefore to be regretted that the opportunity has been missed to fully investigate this example, particularly as it has proved to contain some well preserved deposits (as was suggested might be the case in the earlier report on the archaeological implications of proposed development).

Little can be said regarding the features discovered given the limited area excavated. The gully 36 in trench 4 is possibly a round-house wall gully, but if this were the case would underlie the rampart. A complex arrangement of gullies and paved flooring is associated with some of the roundhouses excavated at Walesland Rath (Wainwright 1971). The peripheral post-holes are perhaps comparable to those interpreted as four-post storage structures, at Walesland and other defended enclosures in the area (Williams 1988). The absence of Romano-British pottery can be commented on as this is commonly found in defended enclosures in south-west Pembrokeshire (*ibid*: Simpson 1964).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank Mr. V. Morillo for his co-operation during the excavation.

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LIST OF CONTEXTS

	Trench
1. Topsoil	
2. Redepositd subsoil - bank material	1
3. B soil A horizon	
4. Buried soil B horizon	
5. Buried soil B/C horizon	1
6. Subsoil	
7. Redeposited ancient A horizon - bank material	1
8. Redeposited subsoil - ? bank material	1
9. Redeposited subsoil - ? slump from bank	1
10. Charcoal layer	1
11. Burnt soil layer	1
12. ? Material ploughed off bank	1
13. Redeposited subsoil - ? bank material	1
14. Old ploughsoil	1
15. Modified ancient soil	
16. Modern pit	1
17. Pit	1
18. Redeposited subsoil - upper fill of pit 17	1
19. Lower Fill of pit 17	1
20. ? Pit	1
21. Post-hole	2
22. Post-hole	2
23. Post-hole	2
24. Post-hole	2
25. Post-holes	2
26. Post-hole	2
27. Soil layer	2
28. ? Gully; ? plough mark	2

29. Fill of ditch	1
30. Pit: ? natural	2
31. Pit: ? natural	2
32. Post-hole	2
33. Stake-hole	2
34. Ditch	1
35. Post-hole	3
36. Gully	4
37. Gully	4
38. Stake-hole	4
39. Bank	4
40. ? Gully	4
41. Stake-hole	4
42. Stone spread - paving	4
43. Stone spread	4
44. Grey, ? gleyed layer - ? turf	1
45. Yellow layer - ? turf	1

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1. Topsoil	
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13. Redeposited subsoil - ? bank material	1
14. Old ploughsoil	1
15. Modified ancient soil	
16. Modern pit	1
17. Pit	1
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41. Stake-hole	4
42. Stone spread - paving	4
43. Stone spread	4
44. Grey, ? gleyed layer - ? turf	1
45. Yellow layer - ? turf	1

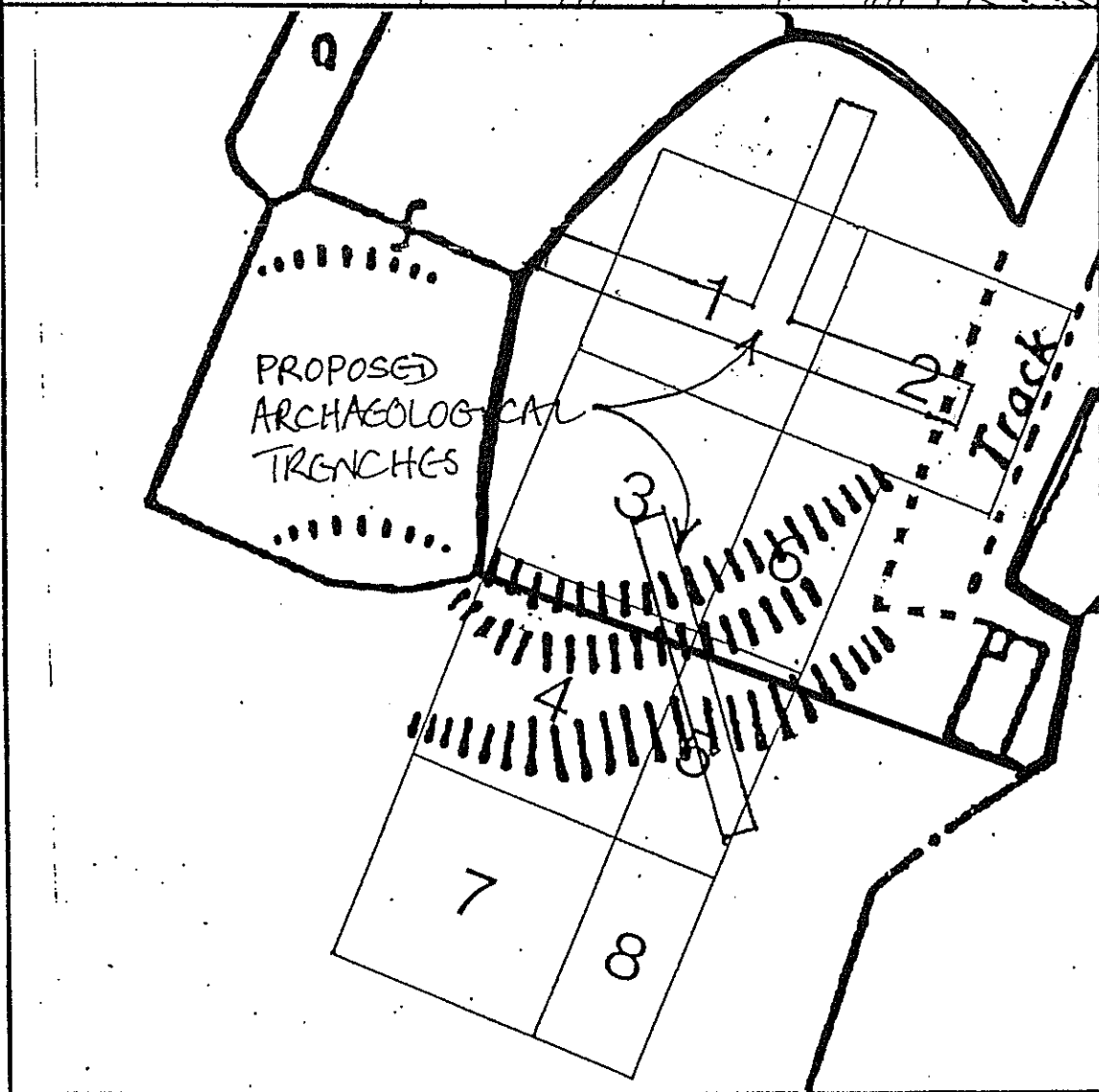
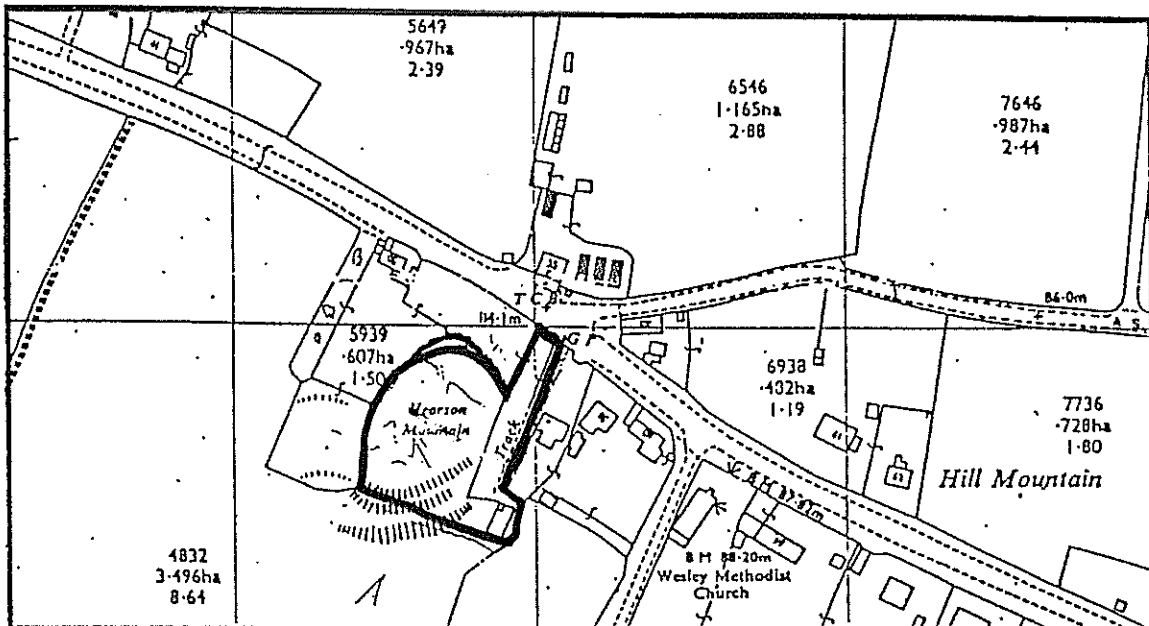
THIS AGREEMENT is made the day of
One thousand nine hundred and ninety three BETWEEN
PRESELI PEMBROKESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL of Cambria
House Haverfordwest in the County of Dyfed
(hereinafter called "the Council") of the first part
V MORRILLO and M MORRILLO both of
Ferry Glen 66 Hill Mountain Houghton Milford Haven
in the County of Dyfed (hereinafter called "the
Owners") of the second part and DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL
TRUST LIMITED of
(hereinafter called "the Trust") of the third part
W H E R E B Y it is agreed as follows:-

(1) The Owners are seised in fee simple of the
property known as Ferry Point Hill Mountain Houghton
Milford Haven in the County of Dyfed which property
is shown edged red on the plan annexed hereto
(hereinafter referred to as "the Property")

(2) The Owners are desirous of obtaining planning
consent for the purpose of constructing three
dwellings on the Property

(3) The property is a site of archaeological
interest and the Trust have requested that certain
archaeological investigations be carried out by them
when construction of the three dwellinghouses
(hereinafter referred to as "the Development")
commences

(4) Pursuant to Section 106 of the Town and
Country Planning Act 1990 the Council and the Owners
have agreed to complete this Agreement and the Trust



has agreed to join in in manner hereinafter appearing

NOW THIS DEED WITNESSETH as follows:-

1. Pursuant to Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and in consideration of these presents the Owners hereby jointly and severally covenant with the Council and with the Trust in consideration of planning consent being granted for the Development as follows:-

- (a) prior to the commencement of the Development the Owners will provide a JCB or HyMac excavation vehicle with a wide grading bucket to strip off topsoil from the Property along the lines of the three trenches shown edged in blue on the plan annexed hereto
- (b) the Owners will allow the Trust sufficient time up to a maximum of three working weeks (hereinafter referred to as "the Specified Period") after topsoil stripping as specified in (a) above and after agreement as specified in 3(a) below to excavate and record any archaeological features revealed in the excavation of the said trenches on the Property
- (c) any other areas of the Property outside the trenches which will be topsoil stripped before the Development takes place shall be machine stripped by the Owners at the same time as the operation specified in (a) above so as to

enable such areas to be inspected by the Trust during the Specified Period

- (d) the Owners shall give the Trust a minimum of three working weeks notice of commencement of the Development
- (e) the Owners shall provide a machine for the initial topsoil stripping at the Property as specified above and for further machine excavation for parts or all the said trenches as required by the Trust and the Owners shall carry out the backfilling of the said trenches

2. The Trust hereby covenants with the Council and the Owners as follows:-

- (a) the said trenches shall be dug to no greater depth than the proposed maximum depth of the Owners' foundation trenches unless consent to do so is given by the Owners within the Specified Period
- (b) the Trust shall provide all archaeological labour at the Property
- (c) the Trust shall ensure that it is fully insured for all aspects of the excavation work at the Property including liability for damage or injury to persons and property and will comply fully with all the current Health and Safety statutory requirements and will indemnify the Owners from and against all loss damage actions proceedings suits claims costs

demands and expenses in respect of any injury to or death of any person or animal or damage to any property movable or immovable or otherwise by reason of or arising in any way directly or indirectly out of the Trust's activities at the Property

- (d) the Trust shall provide a written report to the Owners and the Council recording the location of the said trenches and areas excavated and with appropriate plans and sections of the archaeological features together with a photographic record of the work undertaken and such report shall be provided and a copy deposited in the County Sites and Monuments Record maintained by the Trust within 3 months of completion of the archaeological investigations by the Trust

3. The Trust and the Owners hereby agree and declare:-

- (a) where the said trenches coincide with foundation and service trenches and access roads for the Development the Owners and the Trust will make mutually satisfactory arrangements for the width alignment and depth of those trenches or parts of trenches
- (b) the Trust and the Owners will arrange a programme of works which causes the minimum delay within the specified period

(c) in the event of any dispute arising or lack of agreement under (a) or (b) above between the Owners and the Trust the decision of the Director of Planning of the Council as agent for the Council shall be final

4. In consideration of Clause 1 hereof the Council hereby agree with the Owners that planning consent for the construction of three dwellinghouses at the Property shall be granted concurrently with this Agreement subject to such conditions and provisions regulating the same as are contained in the pro forma of planning permission of even date herewith

5. The expressions "the Council" and "the Owners" shall where the context so admits include their respective successors in title

IN WITNESS whereof the Council has caused its Common Seal to be hereunto affixed and the Owners have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first before written

THE COMMON SEAL of PRESELI)

PEMBROKESHIRE DISTRICT)

COUNCIL was hereunto)

affixed in the presence)

of:-)

Custodian of the Seal

Chief Executive

Seal No.

SIGNED as a DEED by the)
said V MORRILLO)
in the presence of:-)

SIGNED as a DEED by the)
said M MORRILLO)
in the presence of:-)

THE COMMON SEAL of DYFED)
ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST)
LIMITED was hereunto)
affixed in the presence)
of:-)