EXCAVATION AND SURVEY AT DINEFWR PARK, LLANDEILO, CARMARTHENSHIRE

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Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

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ILLUSTRATIONS

SUMMARY

During the summer of 2008 the Dyfed Archaeological Trust undertook a variety of survey work and excavations in Dinefwr Park, Llandeilo, a property in the ownership of the National Trust. The projects were funded by the David and Christopher Lewis Foundation, the National Trust and the Cambrian Archaeological Association.

Test pitting was undertaken around Dinefwr Castle to try and ascertain the location of 'Dinefwr Old Town'. No evidence for the town was discovered in the test pits. However, a topographic survey mapped earthworks almost certainly associated with the town.

Following a geophysical survey around Newton House, four small trenches were opened, to investigate a variety of features to ascertain the location of 'New Town' (Newton) on top of which Newton House was built, and to investigate the survival of early garden features. Evidence of the medieval settlement and 17th century garden features was revealed. Some of the excavated features and ceramic dating evidence may suggest the presence of a high status building on the site from the founding of Newtown.

In the vicinity of the North Heronry Dam, thirteen trenches were opened to investigate a variety of features indicated on a geophysical survey of the area, and to look for evidence of a possible Roman building suggested by surface finds from the area. Evidence of activity in the area ranging from prehistoric flints, to possible Roman structures and later garden and estate features were revealed. Strong evidence for a substantial Roman building was revealed, but its exact location could not be pinpointed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks are due to Dyfed Archaeological Trust staff, National Trust staff, who facilitated the work, and to the many volunteers who participated on the investigations. These include: Louise Austin, Gwilym Bere, Keiron Crane, Pete Crane, Richard Jones, Richard Ramsey, Frances Murphy, Ken Murphy, Nigel Page, Andrew Shobbrook, and Hubert Wilson (DAT); Elaine Collins, Wyn Davis, Gemma Dymond, Hywel Evans, Paul Faulkner, Carl Morgan, Emma Plunkett-Dillon (NT); Neil Matthews (CCW); Menna Bell, Gwilym Hughes, Mark Middleton, Fred Kirkup, Greg Howes, Lesley Cresswell, Mike Cole, Maureen Cole, A. May, Kelvin Hanks, Susan Stalinsky, David Harrison, Sam Humphrey, Tom Copps, Tamzin Craine, Jennie Craine, Rowanne Lewis, Liz Thomas, Briony Nixon, Huw Nixon, Tom Davies, Liz Godber, Michaela Lewis, Melody Rickwood (volunteers).Peter Webster, Paul Courtney (pottery specialists).

INTRODUCTION

During the summer of 2008 the Dyfed Archaeological Trust undertook a variety of survey work and excavations in Dinefwr Park, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, a property in the ownership of the National Trust. The projects were funded by the David and Christopher Lewis Foundation, the National Trust and the Cambrian Archaeological Association.

The fieldwork undertaken in 2008 aimed to locate and characterise evidence for the medieval towns of Dinefwr and Newton and to locate a possible Roman building near the North Heronry Dam. In addition to the excavations, several geophysical surveys were undertaken, and a detailed topographical survey of part of Dinefwr Park was undertaken.

This report presents the results of the 2008 excavations, topographic and geophysical surveys.

Public involvement in the projects was encouraged, with local volunteers, archaeology students and work experience placements undertaking the majority of the excavation and recording work, under supervision from DAT staff.

Several public events were held, providing tours of the excavation on National Trust open days and during National Archaeology Week.

PART ONE: EXCAVATIONS AROUND NEWTON HOUSE (PRN 94534)

SITE HISTORY

The old and new towns at Dinefwr

A comprehensive history of the towns of Llandeilo Fawr and Dinefwr has been published by Ralph Griffiths (1991). Unless otherwise stated this source is used in this summary. Other sources consulted include: Griffiths (1993), Lewis (1911) and Colvin and Moggridge (2003).

Rhys ap Gruffydd founded Dinefwr Castle soon after he came into possession of Cantref Mawr (the district in which Dinefwr was located) in 1163, although what survives of the masonry castle belongs to later centuries. The castle remained (largely) in Welsh hands until 1280 when it passed into the possession of the English Crown and later to individuals loyal to the English Crown. The castle seems to have been maintained throughout the 14th century, but as military needs receded during the 15th century, the castle passed into the hands of the Standish family. They were essentially absentee landlords, and the castle fell into decline.

In common with other similar sites in Wales, a settlement would probably have developed around the gates of the castle. At Dinefwr in 1280 Edward I's surveyors recorded a *villa de Scleygon* - 'vill of the Clerks', later in 1318 called 'Trefscoleygyon'. Ralph Griffiths suggests this was a settlement of priests attached to the court of Dinefwr, possibly located close to the castle or even in its outer bailey. Up to 1280 it would seem that the 'vill of the Clerks' could hardly be graced by the term town. However, soon after the castle came into English hands in 1280 the justiciar of West Wales proclaimed a weekly market and annual fair at 'the town of Dinefwr'. Development was rapid, for by 1298 the town contained 26 burgages and a court to dispense justice. However, it is argued below that not all of these burgages were located close to the castle.

Although it is likely that the old town of Dinefwr lay close to the castle, the presence of three properties recorded 'near Llandavyson' in 1532-32 (Griffiths 1993, 214) raises the possibility that the town was perhaps located close to Llandyfeisant Church.

Ralph Griffiths argues that the events of around 1280 allowed for the augmentation of the existing population by immigrants and for the reordering of the settlement, eventually leading to a 'twin-town' settlement with Dinefwr becoming the 'old town' and the new town (Newton) located on the site of the present Newton House. This reordering did not happen immediately, as in 1300 it is recorded of Newton: 'Of this town nothing for the burgages and lands, because they are not yet arrented'. It seems likely, therefore, that 26 burgages recorded in 1298 consisted a combination of rented burgages in the old town of Dinefwr and freshly laid but unoccupied burgages ready for settlers in the new town, as in 1302-03 it is noted that the old (or upper) town of Dinefwr consisted of just 13 burgages and the new (or lower) town of Newton had 35.

The tenants of the old town were Welsh; the new town was of immigrant origin, apart from one Welsh tenant. Clearly the English Crown was both securing its hold on south Wales by promoting immigration and maximising its profits by encouraging tenants to settle in a new town away from the cramped and rather inconvenient quarters around the castle.

Surprisingly both settlements survived the population crash and economic downturn of the mid 14th century following the ravages of the plague during the

1340s. In 1360 the rent of the old town was 25s 4d, whist in the more populous new town at least 46 burgesses paid a shilling each in rent with non-burgesses paying 10s 6d. The granting of a charter in 1363 strengthened the position of the town. Privileges in the charter were extended in a second charter of 1392. However, it was mainly the privileges and rights of the 'English' burgesses that were strengthened, as the charters enabled them to monopolise commercial and administrative affairs and gave them some legal immunity: they could not be fined by Welshmen in the Royal courts of Cardiganshire and Carmarthenshire. However, as Ralph Griffiths points out the charters mark the high point of the town for in 1394-5 the rental of the old town remained at 25s 4d but the number of burgages in the new town had fallen slightly to 40.

The charters, though marking the high point for the new town, spelled the death knell for the old Welsh town around the castle, and although the date of its abandonment is not known. Even the more successful new town seems to have succumbed to competition from the more advantageously located Llandeilo Fawr, for in the mid 1530s it was described by John Leland as 'sumtime a long streat nowe ruinus'.

Another document of 1532 (Lewis 1912) states that 'The Mansion of Newton stendeth within the town of Newton, and hath but small commodities apperteyning to the same'. This is the first mention of the mansion but the description mentions that some of the out buildings were in a state of disrepair, perhaps suggesting the property had earlier origins. These descriptions have traditionally been interpreted as suggesting that the mansion was built upon the ruins of by the then abandoned town.

In 1804 Richard Fenton recorded: 'Behind the House to the West was the town called Trenewydd (Newton) – and indeed the daily appearance of fragments of buildings as dug up in almost every part confirms it.' The current Lord Dynevor recalls that the army came across old foundations during construction of Nissen huts during WW2 to the southeast of Newton House.

Newton House and gardens

The date and exact location of the first mansion house built at Newtown, is uncertain. A survey of Newton made in 1532 (Lewis 1912) provides useful details of a substantial building complex. The house lay on an east west axis with eight chambers, loo and study grouped at both ends of a slate roofed hall, 33ft by 20ft and paved with Flanders Tiles. Somewhere on the south side was a stone tower including a chapel. Also kitchen, larderhouse, bakehouse, brewhouse, corn store, buttery and a wine cellar beneath the hall, substantial outbuildings, slate roofed stable, adjoining thatched barn and 2 further derelict stables.

The register of Parks and Gardens in Wales mentions unnamed sources that suggest the house described in 1532 was replaced with another or re-modelled, sometime between 1595 and 1603 (Cadw/ICOMOS 2002).

The present house was built in c.1660 as part of a wholesale re-modelling of the estate; this included the establishment of formal gardens around the house. These gardens are depicted in two oil paintings dated to c. 1700-3 (Plates 1 and 2). The details of these paintings are explored in relation to the discussion section (below). The now ancient Spanish Chestnut trees (in the vicinity of the present day visitors' car park) are thought to have been planted c 1600-1660. In 1720 the house was modernised, but the formal gardens are thought to have been retained.

Between 1750 and 1780, the formal gardens were replaced by a 'naturalistic' landscape, in accordance with the fashion of the time. The appearance of the house and landscape at this time is depicted in James Bretherton's painting of the House from the northeast c.1790 (Plate 3).

The present 'heavy gothic skin' was added in 1856-9. The gardens as they appear today, along with the parapet walls and ha-ha, are also thought to have been constructed at this time.

METHODOLOGY

Four trenches measuring approximately 10m x 2m were opened (using a Tracked excavator) in the area surrounding Newton House. The trench locations were chosen in order to sample a variety of features identified on the geophysical survey (see Figures 1, 2 and 3). Trenches were machine excavated to the top of archaeological deposits, then features were cleaned and excavated by hand. Standard excavation and recording techniques were used, and the majority of work was undertaken by local volunteers, archaeology students and work experience volunteers under the supervision of DAT staff.

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

A geophysical survey of the areas around the house (Figure 1) revealed numerous features some of which were targeted by the subsequent excavation trenches. Features of possible significance and relevance are indicated in Figure 2. Other anomalies have not been selected either because they are thought likely to be of natural origin, are of doubtful existence, or cannot be usefully interpreted. Possible interpretations of the selected features are suggested below:

A - A substantial boundary ditch possibly marking the original western limit of the burgage plots of Newtown. To the west of this ditch, less clear linear features approximately 10m apart may represent a subsequent westward expansion of burgage plots.

B - Possible wheel rutting, aligned roughly east-west. Probably recent, but possibly of earlier origin.

C - Ditches on the same alignment as feature A, defining probable burgage plots. These examples are approximately 10m wide and at least 50m long.

D - Probable building remains on frontage of burgage plots. These presumably mark the line of the main street running through Newtown.

E - Possible vestiges of roadside ditches? These appear to coincide with the end of boundary ditch A, marking the western entrance and the line of the main street running through Newtown. There is some suggestion of burgage plots and possible house plots to the west of feature A, marking an expansion beyond the original limits of the town.

F - Probable vestiges of formal garden features. These are on a different alignment to the burgage plots, are aligned with the Newton House and may correspond with features represented in Plates 1 and 2.

G - Numerous apparently structural features.

H - Possible field boundaries/burgage plots?

I - Rectangular? Ditched enclosure.

J - Rectangular? Ditched enclosure.

K - Possible burgage plots?

L - Former tennis court.

M - Location of WWII field hospital.

N - Track/road/path?

O - Linear ditch/path?

P - Linear ditches?

An explanation of geophysical survey methodology is included in Appendix 1.

EXCAVATION RESULTS

Trench 1 (Figures 4 and 5; Photos. 1-3)

Trench 1 (10m x 2.40m) was machine excavated through the plough zone, to a depth of 0.35m. This marked the top of natural bedrock, a reddish shale. The trench was located to sample part of the interior and boundary of an apparent three sided ditched enclosure identified from the geophysics survey.

At the eastern end of the trench a sequence of three intercutting ditches (108, 109 and 112) were revealed. A fourth ditch (107) was apparently on the same alignment and is thought to be part of the same group of features (H). A fifth ditch (106) on a slightly different alignment may be associated with a different sub-rectangular enclosure (I) that is suggested on the geophysical survey to the east of the multi-ditched feature.

Ceramics recovered from the fills of ditches suggest range from the 12th-18th century for 106 and 107 and the 16th-18th century for the ditch fill 104.

Other finds include animal bone, nodules of ferrous material.

Trench 2 (Figures 6 and 7; Photo. 4)

Trench 2 (10m x 2.40m) was located to sample an apparently substantial rectilinear ditch indicated on the geophysical survey. At a depth of 0.50m, the ditch edges became visible. The ditch (209) was approximately 5m wide and 1.5m deep, cut into silts overlying natural shale bedrock. Neither ditch edge was particularly steep although the western ditch edge was more gradual a slope than the eastern edge. There was no clear surviving evidence for a bank having been present on the western (interior) side of the ditch, although this need not mean none was ever present. Ceramics recovered from the ditch fills span a date range from 12th-15th century.

Part of a shallow, possibly natural feature (207) was excavated at the eastern end of the trench.

Trench 3 (Figures 8 and 9; Photos. 5-6)

Trench 3 (10m x 2.40m) was located to sample a linear feature indicated on the geophysical survey. Natural geological silts were encountered at 0.20m below ground level. In addition to 'U'-shaped ditch 303, which was 2.2m wide and 0.80m deep, there was another narrow, shallow linear (305) running parallel.

Ceramics dating from the 12th-17th century were recovered from the ditch fill, along with a piece of possibly 18th century window glass.

Trench 4 (Figures 10, 11 and 12; Photos. 7-17)

Trench 4 (13m x 2.40m) was located to sample an area thought likely to contain evidence of relict garden features associated with an earlier phase of Newton House, and remains of medieval Newton.

Parts of two robbed out garden boundary walls were revealed (407 and 410) with a possible third robbed out wall represented by context 425. At the south end of the trench the remains of a rough pitched stone surface (417) overlay an earlier cobbled surface of finer construction (418). Both these surfaces were cut by a

circular feature (419), which may have been truncated by a later robber pit (406). It was only possible to partially excavate these features.

Deposits 404 and 412 are thought to have been deposited against the garden walls (only part of wall 408 survives), while deposit 416 appears to run right up to the wall construction cut 407. Evidence of truncated postholes was observed beneath deposit 416.

The interface between the base of deposit 416 and the top of natural 415 is considered to be a construction cut for the garden, of which cut 407 represents the edge against which the garden walls were built.

To the west of wall 408 were a series of laminated deposits (403 and 413) overlying a thin spread of yellow clay (426) through which were cut numerous stake holes and post holes (422). These were bounded to the north by linear feature 424 - a possible beam slot. These deposits and features were underlain by natural silt 415, and were cut by robber cut 407 (the western edge of 407 also effectively equates with the construction cut for garden wall 408).

Ceramics recovered from features and deposits in Trench 4 generally appeared mixed and ranged from the 15th-16th centuries (415), 15th -18th centuries (402, 403, 404, 413), 12th-18th centuries (405), and 16th-18th centuries (409, 410, 411, 412, 414).

DISCUSSION

Trench 1

The features (H) in Trench 1 have been interpreted as some form of enclosure, the use of which required it to be re-defined or re-constructed on a periodic basis. A reasonable suggestion for a likely function, might be as a temporary or seasonal enclosure for holding livestock. At face value the dating evidence suggests ditch 107 is earliest (12-15th century), while other dating evidence suggests a 12-18th century range. It therefore remains unclear whether the feature originated with the town of Newton, or with Newton House.

The westernmost ditch, which appears to be on a slightly different alignment to the other ditches, may in fact be part of a different sub-rectangular enclosure indicated on the geophysics plot (I).

Trench 2

Based on the evidence of its and size and what can be extrapolated of its form, the large ditch in Trench 1 was at first thought to be of Roman origin, and of unknown function. In the absence, however, of any Roman period dating evidence, it is impossible to substantiate this. As it appears today, although wide, the ditch is not particularly deep, and would not have had much defensive potential without a bank along the inside edge of the ditch.

The recovery of two fragments of 12-15th century pottery from the fill of this ditch may suggest a medieval or earlier date for its original construction. If indeed of medieval date, its function is thought most likely to be a substantial boundary ditch surrounding a high status house or other significant building of unknown function, but presumably associated with the founding or later development of Newtown (the earliest recorded date for a large house at Newton is 1532). Alternatively, the ditch may be the remnant of a deer-proof boundary perhaps surrounding an orchard or garden. The ditch appears likely to pre-date the Spanish Chestnut trees that are thought to have been planted between 1600 to 1660.

Trench 3

The ditch sampled in Trench 3 is more substantial than might be expected for a simple field boundary or burgage plot. A likely explanation for this is that it represents a former limit to the original burgage plots of the original Newton. Scrutiny of the geophysics survey, coupled with documentary evidence for the growth of the settlement, may suggest that additional burgage plots were subsequently added to the west of the ditch.

Despite reservations regarding scale, veracity and accuracy, it is possible that the white gate and hedge boundary represented on the right hand edge of the c.1700 depiction of Newton House from the North (Plate 1), corresponds to ditch in Trench 3. The gate may even mark the line of the former road through Newtown which intersects with the ditch to the west of feature 'E' in Figure 2.

The ditch is likely to have remained open until the landscape was remodeled in c.1750, accounting for a ceramic dating range from 12-18th century.

Trench 4

The robbed out north-south oriented wall footings in Trench 4 correspond with a linear feature indicated on the geophysics survey which is considered most likely

to relate to the western limit of the formal gardens depicted in Plates 1 and 2. The lack of bonding mortar in the footings (408), certainly suggests the walls would not have been part of a substantial building. The excavated evidence suggests that the southernmost east-west aligned wall (represented by robber cut 410) defines the southern limit of the formal gardens. South of this wall are two phases of cobbled surface, perhaps a courtyard (a cobbled courtyard appears to be depicted behind the house in Plate 1). Circular feature (419) is possibly the cut for a well-head, which was later robbed out by cut 406).

To the west of wall footings 408 are several features, including post and stake hole group 422, a possible beam slot (424) and a clay floor surface (426). These are presumably remnants of buildings of medieval Newtown.

The excavated evidence shows there are no foundation trench cuts on the inside of the garden walls), suggesting that when first constructed, the ground level within the area of the formal gardens was reduced to provide a flat horizon to facilitate the construction of the various formal garden features. The boundary walls defining the limits of the garden were then built against the outer edge of this cut (represented by cut 407) and improved soil was imported to raise the ground levels within the garden. Although deposits 404, 412 and 414 are not typical of cultivated garden soils, they may have been overlain by a garden soil that was truncated when the formal gardens were removed.

As a consequence of the construction of the formal gardens, the majority of the surviving remains of the medieval town will have been significantly truncated. Evidence of two truncated cut features was found within Trench 4 to the east of the garden wall, sealed below deposit 416. Deposits and features associated with the medieval town (including floor surfaces) do, however, survive to the north and west of the garden wall.

Wall footings exposed during excavations undertaken in 1995 during the renovation of the present gardens, are assumed to be remnants of the original mansion that was demolished prior to 1660. That these footings remain, may suggest that the reduction of ground levels, the construction of the garden walls and the lower of the two cobbled surfaces were actually constructed when the 1532 house was built. The 'fragments of buildings' observed by Richard Fenton in 1804 may therefore have been the remains of the former mansion rather than of the medieval town. Remains of a cobbled surface exposed within the inner courtyard (se Appendix 2), may also be associated with the earlier building.

The garden walls may have been retained (and the second cobbled surface constructed) when the gardens were redeveloped in c.1660. Alternatively, when the 1660 gardens were created, the ground level may only have been reduced in wide (wider than for wall footings alone) trenches along the inside of the garden walls to contain imported soil for planting.

In addition to the features revealed in Trench 4, it is possible (with the eye of faith) to perceive anomalies in the geophysical survey that may equate with some of the details of the formal garden layout (paths and planting areas) depicted in the early 18th century paintings of Newton House. Whether these features do indeed survive below ground, would, however, require further excavation.

Considering the range of feature types the phases represented, and their intercutting nature, ceramic dating evidence is unsurprisingly mixed and covers a wide date range. The range of pottery is typical of the region and not especially high status, although two sherds of late 17th -?18th century *lattimo* glass indicate a high status household.

The building material (brick, floor and ridge tiles), however, derive from a site of manorial status. Also striking are the Droitwich-type floor tiles. These are not closely datable but a late 14th to mid 15th century date has been suggested (see Appendix 4). They were probably used in the 1532 manor house, but could be residual from an earlier structure. The relative rarity of yellow slipped tiles seems to be a characteristic of this type of plain tile does not suggest use a 'Flemish' style (chequer board?) pavement, mentioned in the 1532 description of the house. The Malvernian ridge tiles also date from 15-16th century.

The medieval town

The geophysical survey has revealed several details that contribute to previous speculations. The 10m x 100m burgage plot dimensions assumed by Colvin and Moggeridge (2003) may well be correct, since the burgage plots suggested on the geophysics survey are 10m by a minimum of 50m.

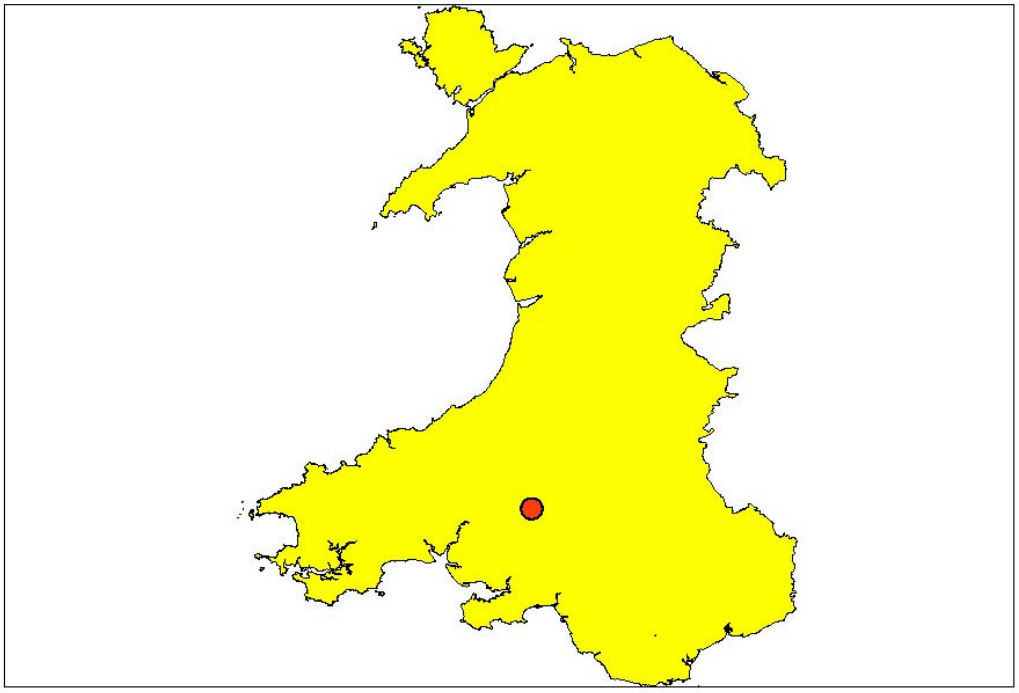
Of potentially greater significance, Colvin and Moggeridge suggest a north-northwest by south-southeast alignment for the town of Newtown, on the assumption that it followed the course of the assumed old road route. (Colvin and Moggeridge 2003 figure 1). On the geophysical evidence it appears that both the roads through the town and the burgage plots are roughly oriented east-west. If so, the path that leads through the deer park, past the Rookery and towards the Heronry Dam, may have been the main road. It is also possible that there were two road axes to the settlement. This would account for the reports of traces of the town also being revealed during the construction of Nissen huts to the southeast of Newton House.

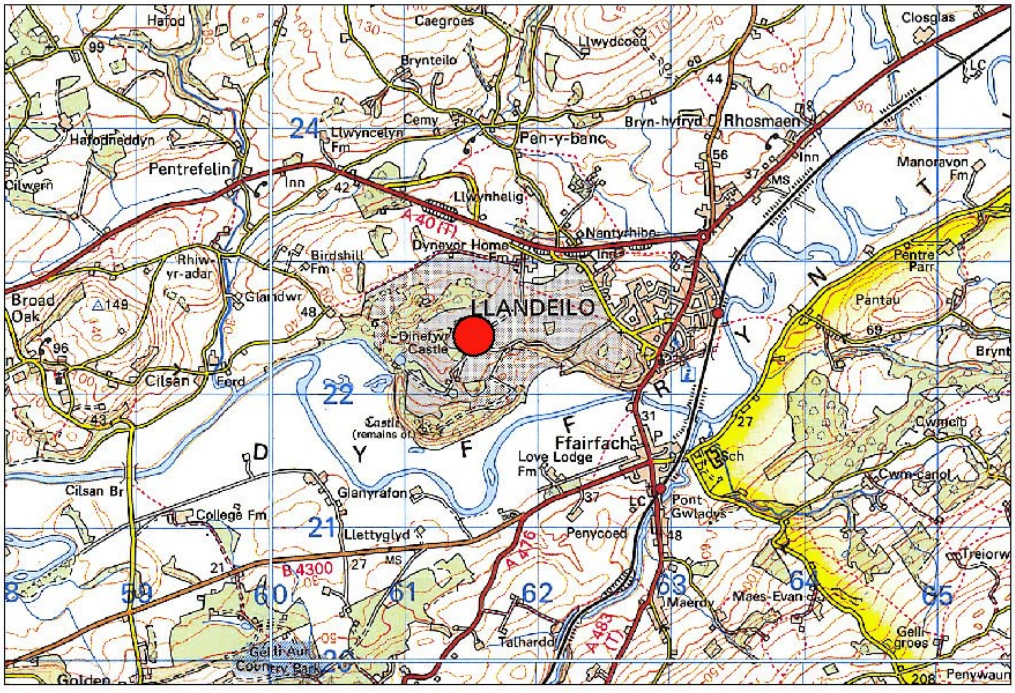
CONCLUSIONS

The excavations have shown that a considerable quantity and variety of archaeological features relating to various phases in the development of the 'new' town of Dinefwr and the buildings and grounds of Newton House still survive below ground. The ditch in Trench 2, with its possible 12-15th century date may suggest the presence of a high status building located in Newton from the establishment of the settlement. The 1532 description that 'The Mansion of Newton stendeth within the town of Newton' need not suggest it was built upon the ruins of the abandoned settlement. The Droitwhich-type floor tiles also dating from the 14th-15th centuries may also suggest the presence of a high status house on the site prior to 1532. To what extent the grounds around this house may have been designed and landscaped prior to 1660 (as may be suggested by the features in Trench 4) remains uncertain.

This project has raised several interesting questions about the early history of the site. However, since none of the remains are under threat of disturbance or destruction from development, there are unlikely to be any future opportunities to excavate these remains in circumstances other than archaeological research excavations.

Considerable potential remains to further investigate the early history of Newton House, the 13th century planted settlement of Newtown, and for research into 17th century garden design and construction. It is hoped that future opportunities for further excavation and research will be possible in the future.





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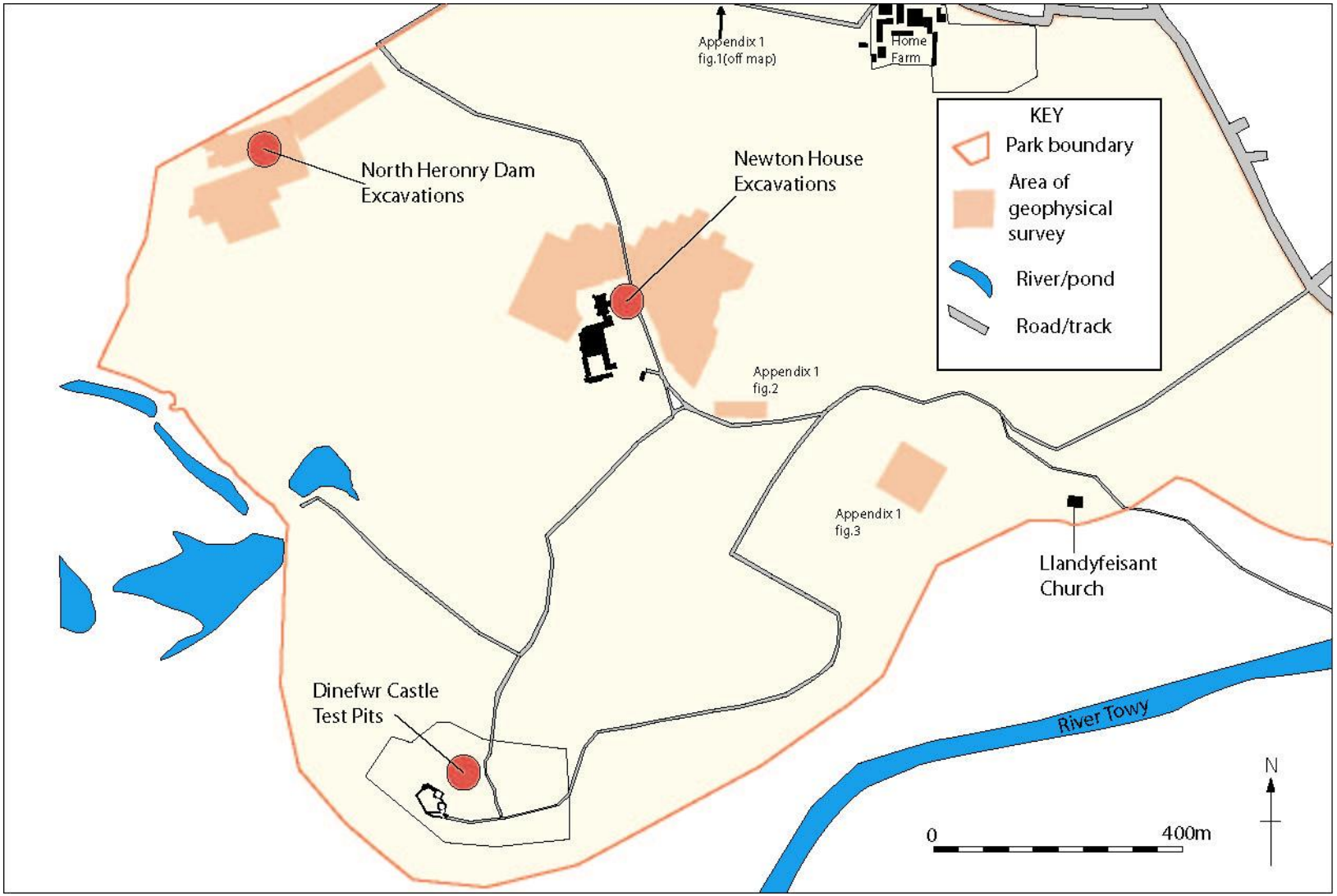
Map 1: Location map



Map 2: Locations of Excavations and Surveys

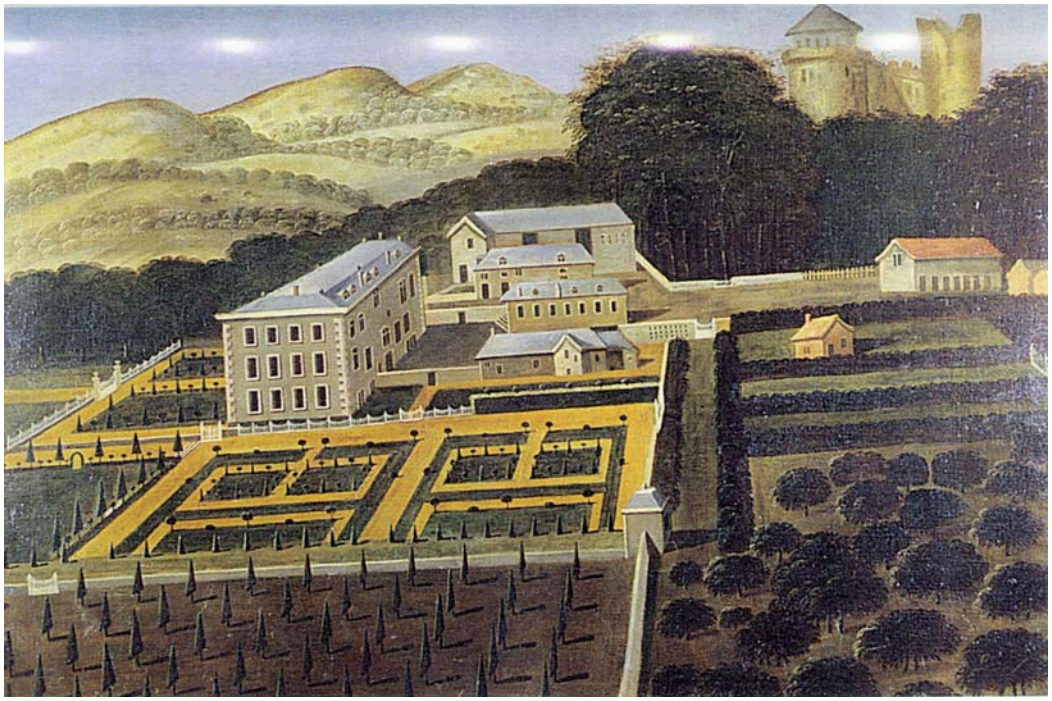


Plate 1: Newton House from the North c.1700

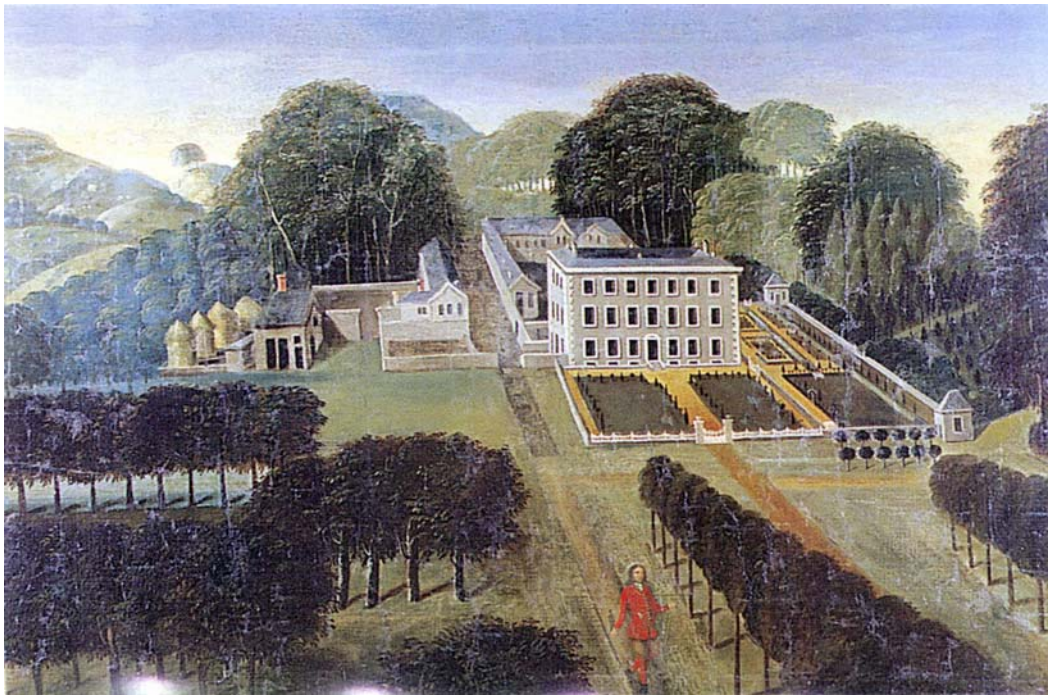


Plate 2: Newton House from the east c.1703

Plate 3: James Bretherton Newton House from northeast c.1790

Figure 1: Magnetometry survey around Dinefwr Park (See Map 2 for location)

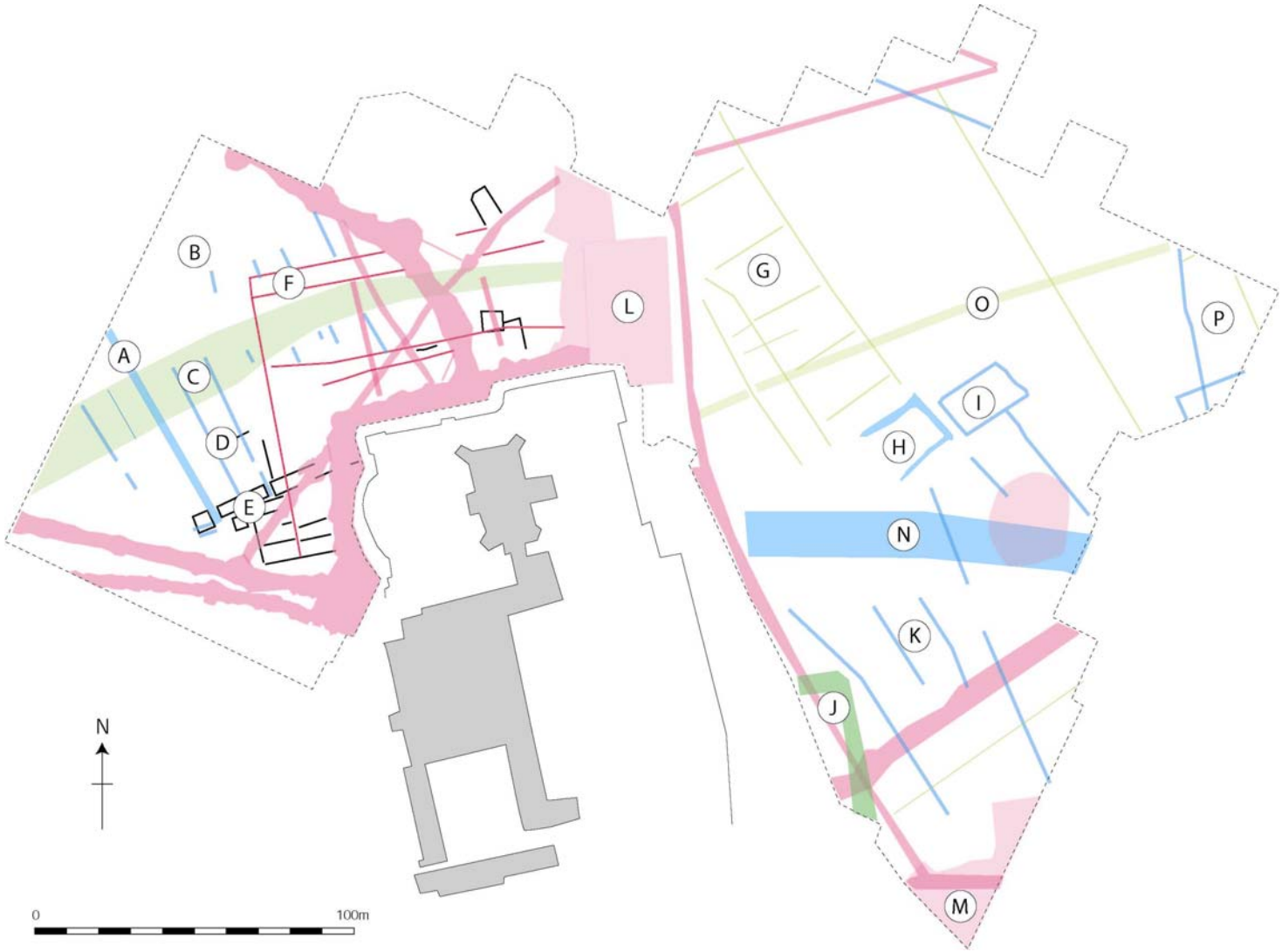


Figure 2: Interpretation of Geophysical survey (see text for descriptions)

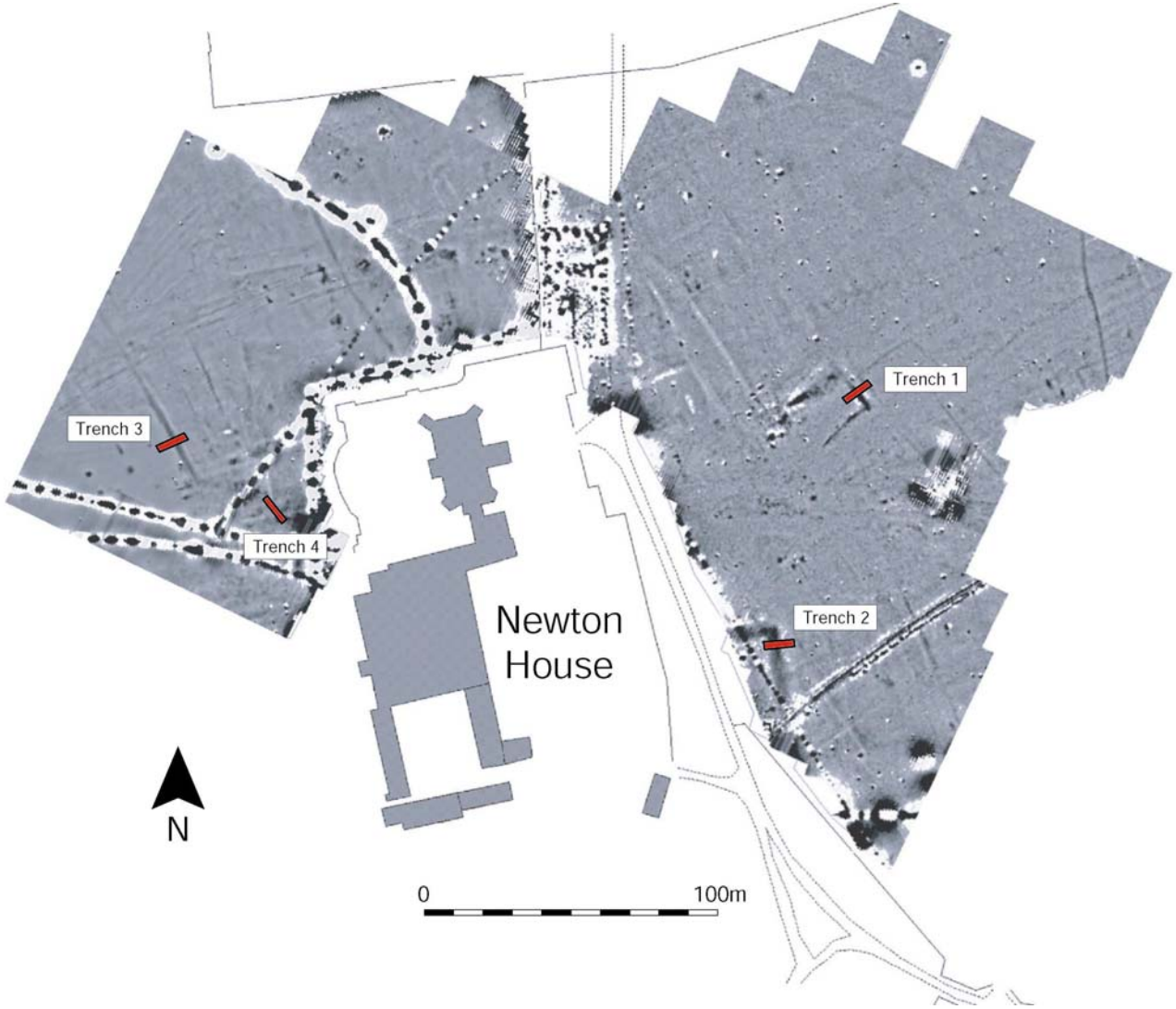


Figure 3: Location of excavation trenches

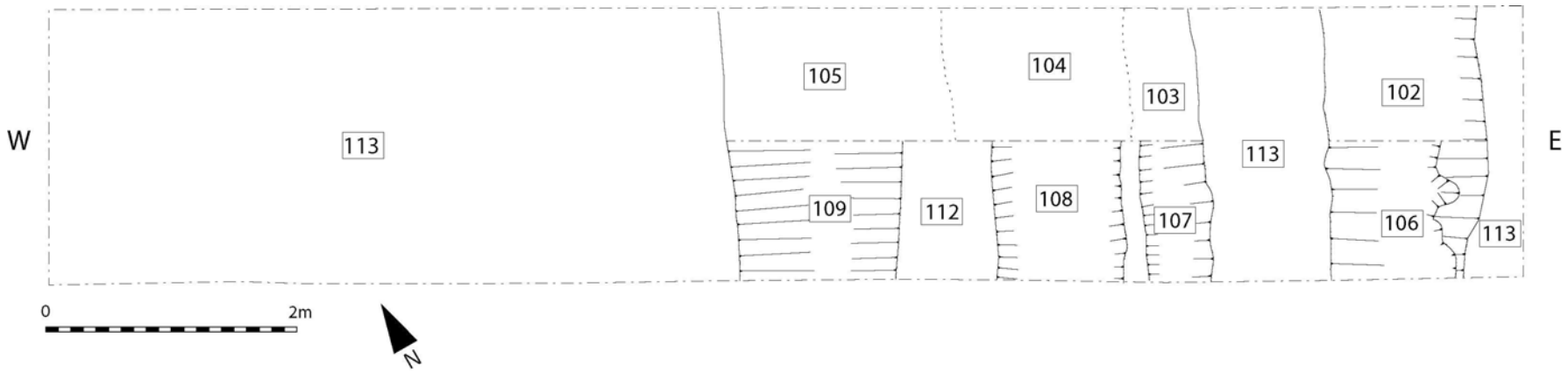


Figure 4: Plan of Trench 1

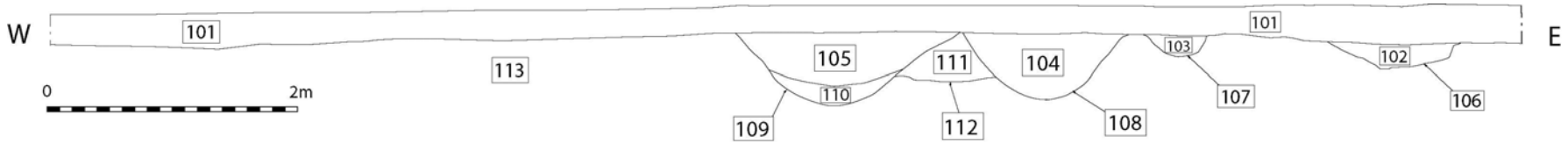


Figure 5: South facing section of Trench 1

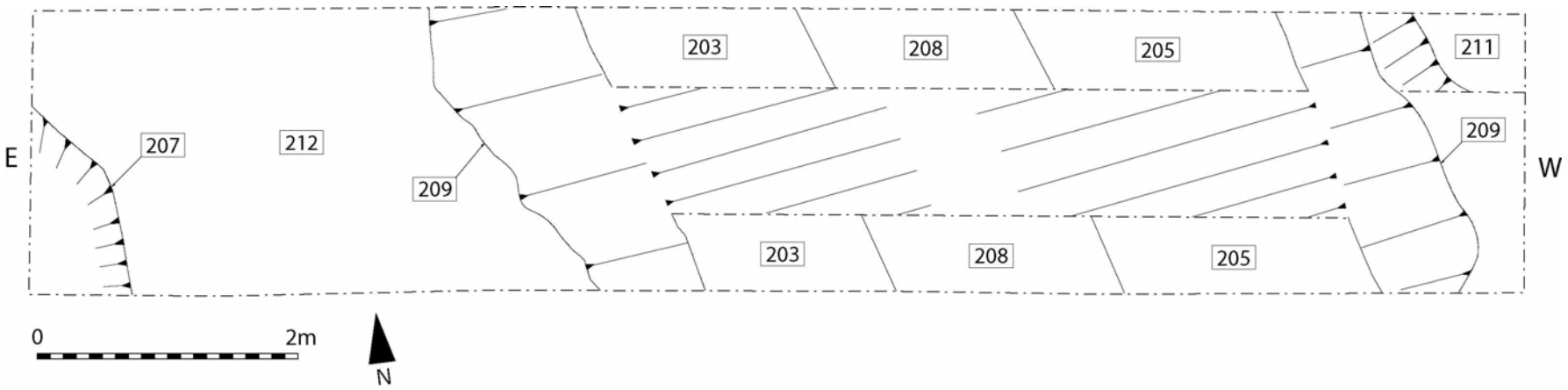


Figure 6: Plan of Trench 2

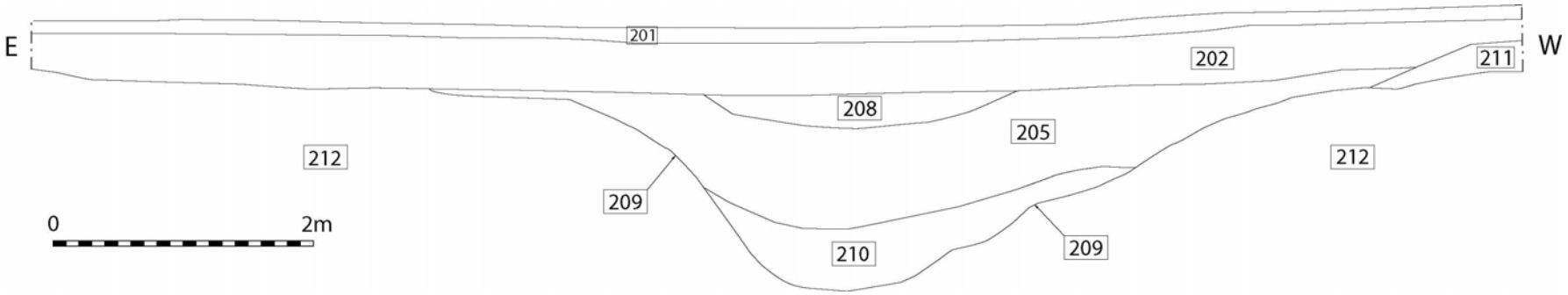


Figure 7: North facing section of Trench 2

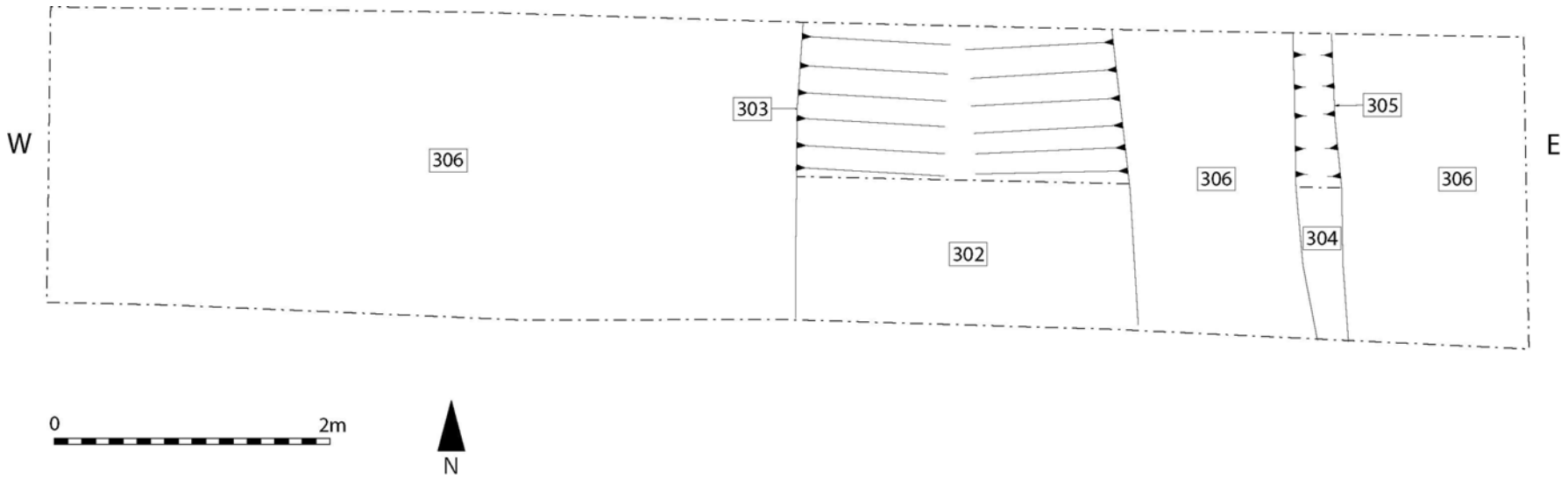


Figure 8: Plan of Trench 3

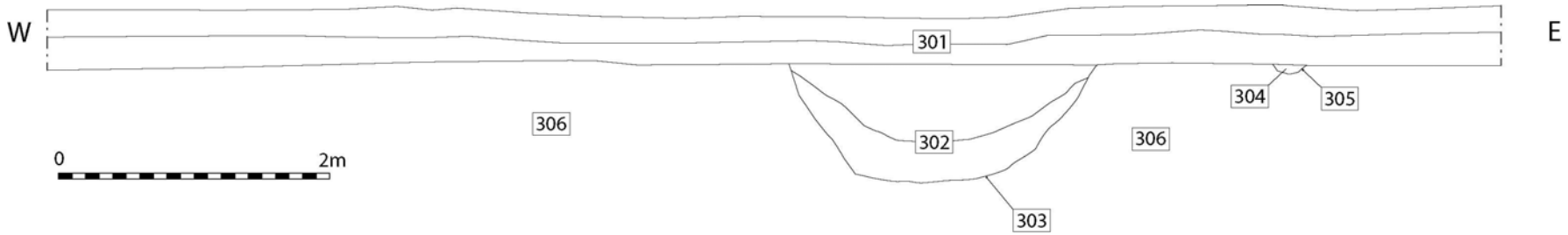


Figure 9: South facing section of Trench 3

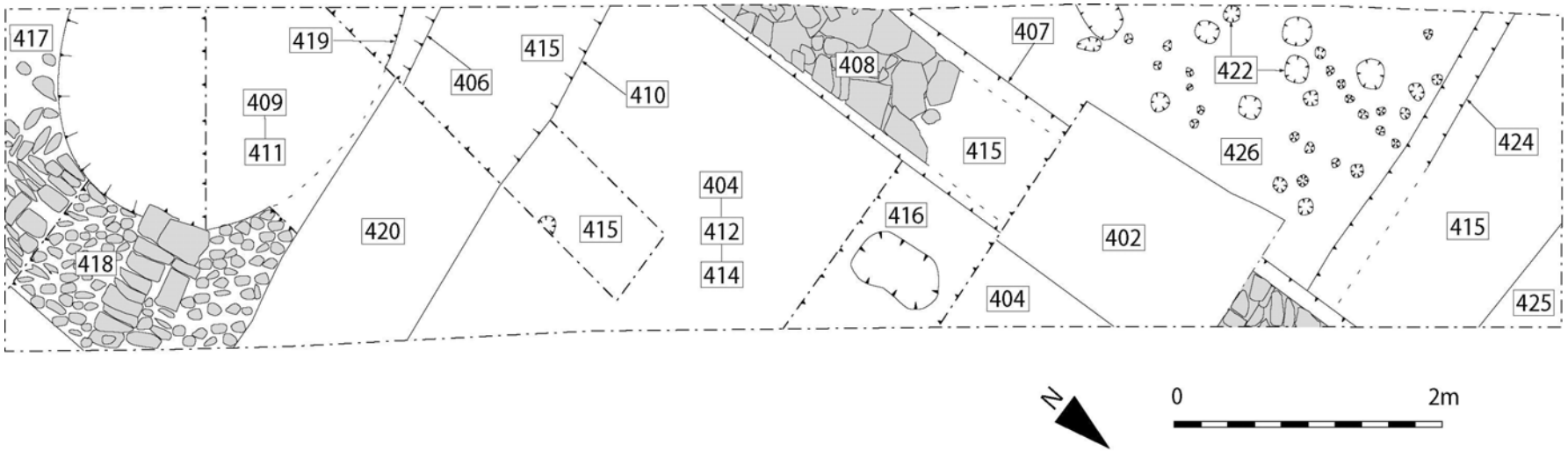


Figure 10: Plan of Trench 4

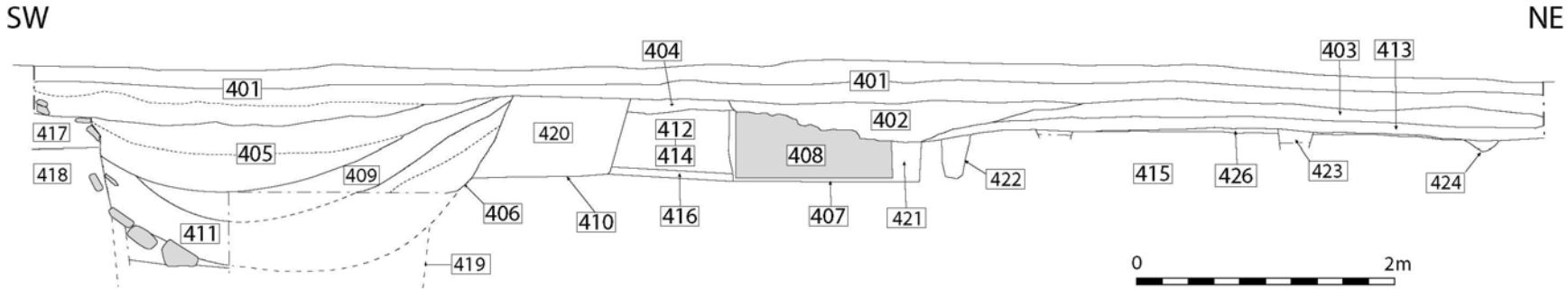


Figure 11: South facing section of Trench 4

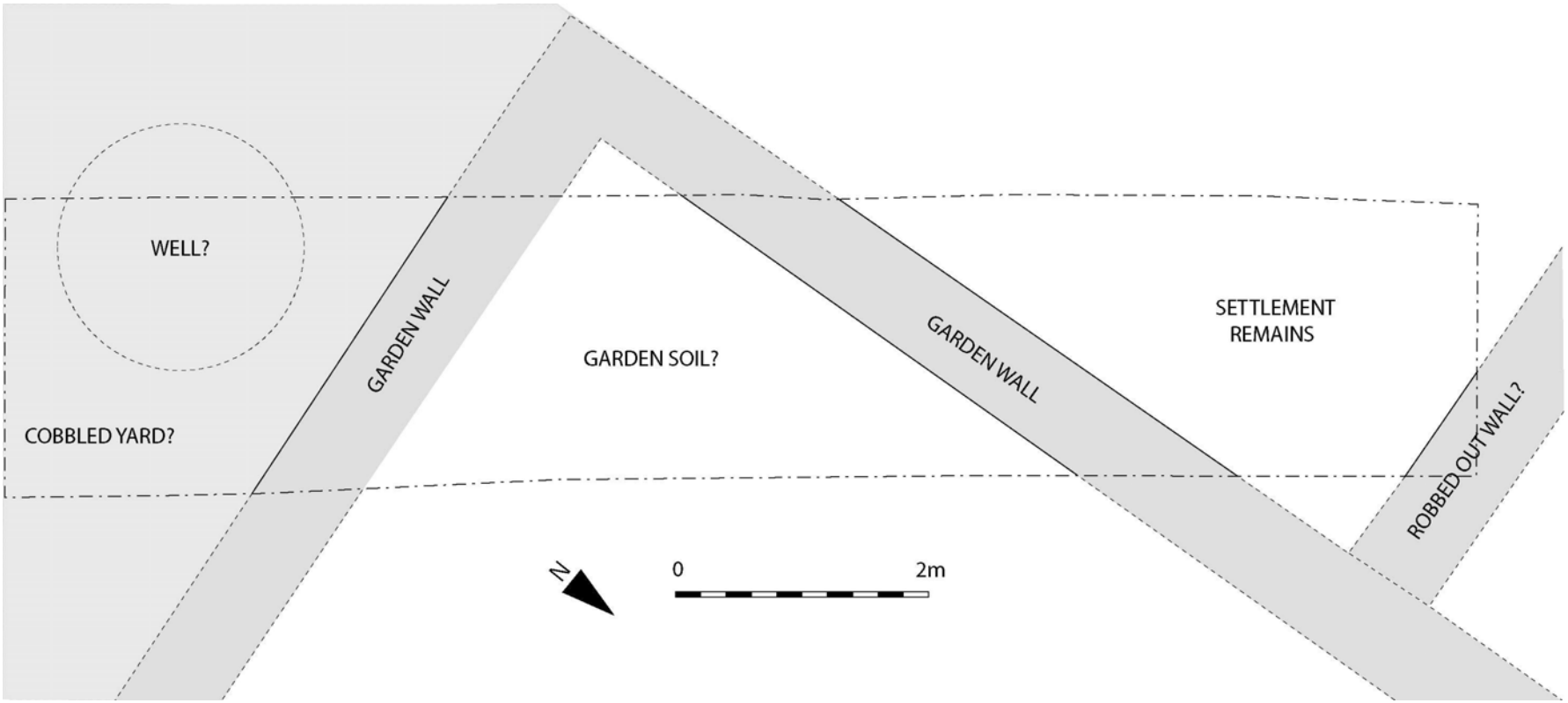


Figure 12: Hypothetical plan of Trench 4

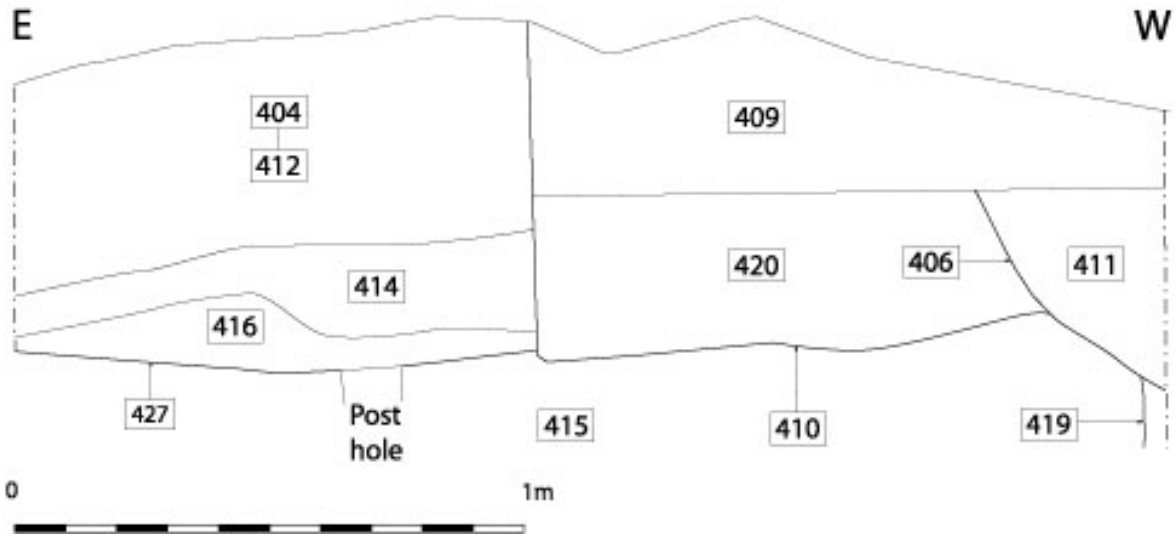


Figure 13: North facing section through robber trench 410 etc

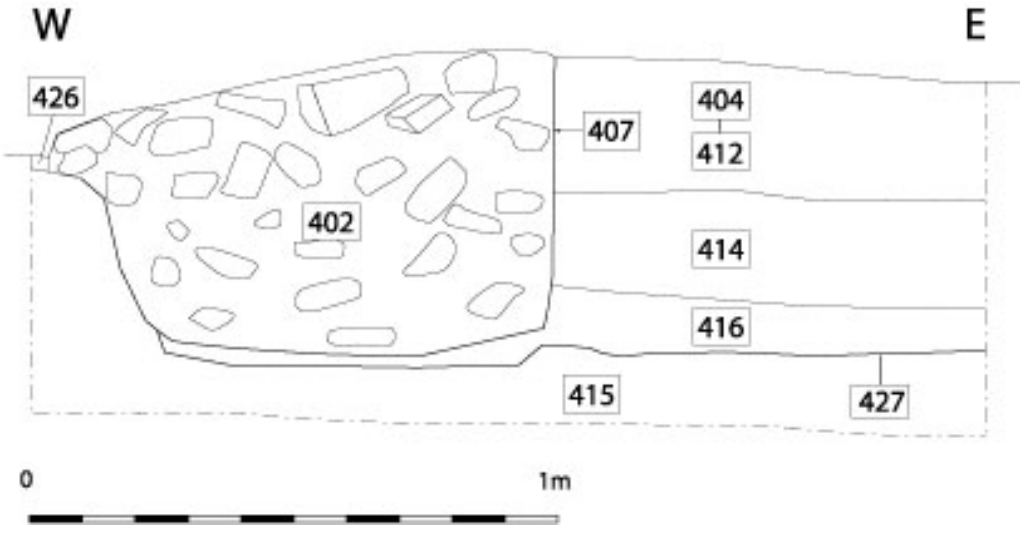


Figure 14: South facing section through robber trench 407 etc

Photo. 1: Trench 1. Fully excavated ditches looking west

Photo. 2: East end of Trench 1 looking south at ditches 106 (left) and 107

Photo. 3: Middle of Trench 1 looking south at ditches 108 (left), 109 and 112

Photo. 4: Trench 2 looking southeast at ditch 209

Photo. 5: Trench 3 looking east (ditch 303 partially excavated)

Photo. 6: Trench 3 looking north (ditch 303 partially excavated)

Photo. 7: Trench 4. Section through robber cut 410

Photo. 8: Trench 4. Wall foundations 480 looking north

Photo. 9: Trench 4. Base of wall foundation trench 410 cut by pit 406 and 419 (under scale). Looking northeast

Photo. 10: Trench 4. Possible robber cut fill 425 in northeast corner of trench (looking south)

Photo. 11: Trench 4. Yellow clay surface 426 with post and stake holes 422, cut by robbed out wall foundation trench 407 (looking southwest)

Photo. 12: Trench 4. Possible beam slot remnant? 424 (looking south)

Photo. 13: Trench 4. Section through robber trench rubble backfill (see fig 14)

Photo. 14: Trench 4. Section through robber trench rubble backfill (see fig 13)

Photo. 15: Trench 4. Partially excavated well? 419 and robber pit 406, looking northeast

Photo. 16: Trench 4 section through possible robbed out well? 419 looking northwest. Note rough pitched stone surface 417 on left side

Photo. 17: Trench 4. South end, looking east. Lower cobbled surface 418 (upper surface 417 to right) truncated by robbed wall cut 410 and ?well? robber cut 406

Photo. 18: A site tour approaches unsuspecting delving archaeologists

PART TWO

EXCAVATIONS AROUND THE NORTH HERONRY DAM (PRN94535)

INTRODUCTION

A strong Roman presence in and around Dinefwr Park has been known since at least the 17th century when a milestone bearing an inscription to the Emperor Tacitus was recorded. Antiquarians also refer to a possible Roman structure below Llandyfeisant Church and to two coin hoards. More recently pottery and coins from fields to the south of Home Farm indicate the possible location of a long suspected Roman fort. The presence of this fort was confirmed by geophysical survey in 2003. A subsequent excavation in the summer of 2005 undertaken by the National Trust and the Dyfed Archaeological Trust, and involving members of the local community and other volunteers, successfully investigated parts of the fort.

In addition, sherds of Roman pottery and tegulae (Roman tile) have been found by National Trust Staff in a streambed close to the western boundary of the park. These finds suggest the presence of nearby substantial Roman building. The finds come from a stream running in a narrow, steep-sided valley. The spring-source of the stream was dammed during 18th century. The pond is now dry, but the National Trust has plans to restore the dam and pond. The dam seems to have been party constructed over an old road. It seems likely that the finds from the stream were derived from a building located somewhere close to the head of the spring at the east end of the pond.

Outside forts and the town of Moridunum (Carmarthen) stone-built Roman structures are rare in south-west Wales - a possible villa is known close to Llangadog, a few miles up the Tywi valley from Llandeilo and three or four structures have been recorded in west Carmarthenshire/Pembrokeshire.

LANDSCAPE HISTORY

The history of the excavation is intractably linked with the long and complex wider history of the Dinefwr estate.

The course of the Roman road linking Llandeilo fort with the fort at Carmarthen 15 miles west down the Tywi valley is not known close to Dinefwr. To the west and east of Dinefwr aerial photography has established its line, but as the road approaches Llandeilo fort its course becomes speculative. However, what was considered to be a Roman road was recorded beneath a lane during pipeline construction in 2007 a few hundred meters to the west of the excavation site. It is therefore possible that the Roman road roughly follows line of the medieval road, see below.

During the 12th and 13th centuries (and earlier?) the main road down the Tywi valley ran from Llandeilo to Llandyfeisant Church to Dinefwr Castle/Dinefwr Town and on west towards Carmarthen, passing some distance to the south of the excavation site. As the importance of Dinefwr Castle and Town faded and as the role of the new town of Newton became more significant from about 1300 the medieval routeway shifted from its original course. It now ran from Llandeilo to Newton and on to Carmarthen, passing through the site of the excavation. The line of this road can be traced as earthworks in the deer park – as a terrace and as a holloway running beneath the deer park wall. To the west of the deer park the line of this road is shown on Ordnance Survey maps. In 1659 the line of this

road was moved to the north side of the present deer park boundary (Colvin and Moggridge 2003, 13), and the deer park wall built at this time or soon after.

Prior to the establishment of the deer park the area of the excavation consisted of an agricultural landscape of fields associated with Newton. Traces of boundaries within the park can still be seen, but whether these represent the remains of a communal open field system or privately held fields is uncertain.

METHODOLGY

The proposed methodology was to conduct a geophysical survey and then, depending on results, hand excavate a series of 1m x 1m test pits. However, the good results of the geophysical survey allowed for more targeted excavation. Therefore five machine-excavated trenches were open supplemented by several smaller hand-dug trenches.

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY (Figure 15)

The geophysical survey was carried out using a Bartington Grad 601-2 dual Fluxgate Gradiometer. Readings in the survey were taken along parallel traverses of one axis of a 20m x 20m grid. The traverse interval was 0.5m with readings logged at intervals of 0.25m along each traverse. The data was transferred from the data-logger to a computer where it was compiled and processed using ArchaeoSurveyor 2 software.

Most of the geophysical survey was undertaken in May 2008, before bracken growth. A second area was surveyed during the excavation in early July (included in Fig. 15).

The first survey area encompassed an area to the east and south of the former pond. The irregularly-shaped area is due to the presence of large trees and fences erected to protect saplings. Complex archaeological remains are visible on the first survey area – most of these were sample-excavated and are therefore described in detail in the relevant trench descriptions. Apart from a boundary ditch, little evidence of buried archaeology is visible on the second survey.

THE EXCAVATIONS

Trench numbering ran on from the four excavation trenches around Newton House. The first trench described here is therefore no. 5. Because the excavation results are so different in each trench, descriptions are in each case followed by a discussion. A report on the Roman pottery is presented in Appendix 3.

Trench 5 (Figures 16 and 17; Photos. 19-24)

Trench 5 was positioned to examine two linear geophysical anomalies. One of these, the most easterly of the two, is visible as an earthwork bank and is most likely a boundary associated with the agricultural landscape erased during the creation of the deer park. The second anomaly runs from north to south, turns a right angle to the east at its southern limit and runs off the edge of the survey area. It seems to consist of two parallel ditches between which lies a bank. As the more easterly boundary is an earthwork it is considered that this second anomaly is the earlier of the two. Topsoil was removed by machine.

The excavation demonstrated that the more easterly of the two boundaries, the one visible as an earthwork (508) was, indeed, the later of the two. The earlier boundary comprised a c.4m wide band of rounded boulders (502). These boulders

were at their most dense on the east side where they were retained by a kerb of very large boulders. On the west side they became more patchy and there was no retaining kerb. There were no stray boulders in the topsoil or surrounding deposits to indicate that this band of boulders had been part of a larger boulder-construction. The boulders were laid on a buried soil (513) that was only present below the boulders. A shallow ditch (505) ran parallel to the boulder spread on its west side. It is unknown whether the ditch is associated with the boulders. There was no ditch on the east side of the boulders. However, a heat-reddened patch of subsoil was probably the remains of a hearth (511). A deposit of shattered shale and soil (503) had accumulated against the kerb on the east side of the boulders. A similar deposit was present on the west side; the location of this deposit perhaps indicates the former location of a western kerb.

There were no structural remains associated with the later boundary, and on initial excavation it appeared that the earthwork was composed of a thicker topsoil deposit. However, closer examination showed a bank (508) at the east end of the trench. This bank became progressively more clayey to the east, but overall its composition was very similar to adjoining deposits. Indeed, it was virtually impossible to distinguish the bank from an underlying deposit (506). Bank 508 sealed a very shallow ditch (510) running across the trench parallel to the bank and to the boulder spread.

Fourteen small, eroded pieces of Roman tile/brick came from deposits 506/508, a sherd of Roman pottery was found in the fill (509) of ditch 510 and one sherd came from 506. A flint flake was also found in 506.

Discussion

The remains in Trench 5 are difficult to interpret. Nothing was found to assist in the dating of boulder spread 502. The feature has the appearance of the foundation of a Roman road or track, but the lack of small (gravel) surfacing material and fact that the geophysical survey indicates it turns a sharp right angle south of the trench would seem to preclude this interpretation. Another explanation is that it was the foundation for an earthen bank. If correct, this would have been a substantial bank, larger than what was required for agricultural purposes. It could have been associated with Roman military activities, an estate boundary of the medieval Dinefwr Castle, or an earlier deer park boundary. Following the excavation, further scrutiny of the geophysics survey may suggest that 502 is actually a discrete localised feature (visible as a paler area in Figure 15). The apparently parallel linear ditches may equate with bank 508.

Pottery and tile indicate that bank 508 and ditch 510 are Roman or post-Roman in origin. The bank seems to have accumulated slowly, rather than to have been constructed. It may be a lynchet or headland formed in medieval and early post-medieval fields prior to establishment of the deer park.

Hearth feature 511 may be of prehistoric origin.

Trench 6 (Figures 18 and 19; Photos. 25 and 26)

Trench 6 was excavated across a low, straight earthwork bank that also shows as a geophysical anomaly. Prior to excavation it was considered that this bank could be the line of a Roman road. However, no such feature was present. Approximately 0.4m – 0.5m of topsoil/upper deposits were removed by machine and the remaining deposits by hand.

Topsoil in this trench gradually became less dark and more clayed with depth, but no definite changes in horizon were apparent and therefore one context number

(601) was assigned to the 0.8m thick deposit during excavation. However, following profile cleaning this deposit was sub-divided into 601, 602 and 603, and other features became apparent, though none of them was obvious. The low earthwork bank (612) seemed to consist of a slightly darker material than that surrounding it, and that there was possibly a silted ditch (610) to its north side, and a very shallow ditch (611) to its south. Below topsoil, cut into silty-clay subsoil, was a shallow pit/gully (605) – this may be a natural feature, although it did contain worked flint.

All finds from this trench were assigned to context 601. They comprised 22 small pieces of eroded tile/brick, 23 Roman pottery sherds, three worked flints, one sherd of Roman green/blue glass (probably part the base of a flagon) and a lead weight.

Discussion

The earthwork bank that is clearly visible as a surface feature was found to have an associated ditch on its northern side and a possible ditch on its south side. This feature extends beyond the limits of the deer park wall, suggesting it is a remnant of the pre-park agricultural landscape. It is, however, on a different alignment to the banks and ditches excavated in Trench 5, suggesting the features in the two trenches belong to different phases of activity.

The top of natural deposits exposed in the trench indicates that the contours of the stream valley that was dammed to form a lake in the 18th century, were, in earlier times, more steep than it appears today.

The depth of deposits suggests a considerable build up of colluvium from the slopes of the stream valley. This is presumably a consequence of erosion (possibly as a result of deforestation and agricultural activity) prior to the emparkment of the area. The quantity of abraded Roman period finds from this trench suggests that this material was deposited along with the colluvial silts.

The presence of well preserved worked flint of probable Late Mesolithic date, possibly in association with cut features, may indicate prehistoric activity in this location.

Trench 7 (Figures 20 and 21; Photos. 27-29)

Trench 7 was excavated on a slope at the east end of the pond in order to examine an apparently rectilinear geophysical anomaly. Topsoil was removed by machine.

This was a difficult trench to excavate owing to constantly rising ground-water and heavy rain. There was no obvious evidence for the linear geophysical anomaly. Deposits on the lower, northern, end of the trench were deep – the bottom was not reached. Here, below topsoil (701) a silty clay loam (702/708) overlay a silty clay (703). Beneath 703 at a depth of c.1.4m was a lens of charcoal, below which was a clay loam (707) containing a large quantity of Roman tile/brick and occasional large stones. This deposit (707) was only reached on the afternoon of the final day of excavation. It seemed as if these deposits lay within a steep-sided cut running across the approximate centre of the trench, but further excavation showed that the cut (704) may have lain several meters to the south and contained deposit 705. If this is the case then virtually the whole of the trench was filled with archaeological deposits

Deposits 701, 702/708 and 703 contained c.43 small pieces of eroded Roman brick/tile. A sherd of Roman pottery was also found in 702. Nine large, non-

eroded pieces of brick and tile were recovered from deposit 707 as well as two sherds of Roman pottery.

Discussion
As in the previous trenches, it would appear that the geophysical survey has detected differences in soil morphology that are not easily identified by eye or distinguished by excavation.

It would seem that most of this trench is taken up by colluvial deposits (containing abraded Roman period ceramics) filling a large, deep cut (704). The colluvium has a higher proportion of clay than the deposits encountered in Trench 6. Deposit 707 at the maximum depth of excavation seems to be demolition material from a Roman building.

Whether a Roman building lies within cut 704, or is located close by, could not be ascertained within the constraints of this excavation. If located elsewhere, however, it is difficult to imagine why a building would have been so thoroughly demolished and deeply buried in a cut. It seems more likely that there is indeed a Roman building in this location but that was constructed within a substantial construction cut. A considerable quantity of colluvium accumulated on top of the building, possibly as a result of erosion following tree clearance and agricultural activity in the surrounding area.

Trench 8 (Figures 22 and 23; Photos. 33-36)

Trench 8 was located to examine geophysical anomalies. These delineate a 'grid' or ladder-shaped feature of six cells, each cell c.16m by 13m, and two parallel ditches.

Topsoil was removed by machine. Vertically-pitched shale bedrock lay at the northern end of the trench; this abruptly gave way to a silty-clay that became progressive softer to the south.

The two parallel ditches lay exactly 4m apart. The northern ditch (805) was rock-cut with a sharp V-shaped profile. It was 0.9m wide and 0.6m deep and filled with a homogeneous silty-clay (802) that contained seven pieces of Roman tile/brick and four sherds of Roman pottery including a piece of mortarium and piece of Samian ware. The southern ditch (806) was cut through silty-clay subsoil and had a more open V-shaped profile, 1.6m wide and 0.6m deep. It had a silty-clay fill (803).

A shallow, rock-cut ditch 0.45m wide and 0.3m deep was thought to equate with the northern side of the ladder shaped feature. An attempt was made to trace the southern side of the ladder feature by hand-excavating a 3m x 1m trench (Trench 8a). Here the silty-clay geological deposits were very soft and disturbed by root action and animal burrows and no evidence of a ditch or other feature was discernable.

Discussion
Although it was not possible to establish a relative chronology between the 'grid' feature and the parallel ditches. Roman pottery and tile from one of the parallel ditches strongly suggests a Roman date. Despite differences in their profiles, these ditches are most likely to have been drainage ditches flanking a Roman road or track, for which all other evidence such as metalled surfaces has been lost to plough activity. However, a width of 4m between ditches is narrow for road of Roman date. It is also uncertain where this road would have led. The eastern end of the feature appears to be sealed beneath colluvium, while its western continuation, especially in relation to the local topography, is unclear.

It is possible that the ladder-shaped feature formed stock-pens, perhaps for deer, dogs or pheasants but this explanation remains speculative. Although it was not possible to demonstrate the stratigraphic relationships between the ditches in Trench 8, the evidence in Trench 9 does offer clarification of the sequence.

Trench 9 (Figure 24; Photos. 37-39)

This trench was positioned to investigate the 'grid' feature and the parallel ditches, identified in Trench 8 with the aim of establishing a chronology between the features and a building indicated on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st Edition map (1886). The building is c.7m x 7m, with similar sized open area on its east side and is approached by a track from the east. By the publication of the 2nd Edition map in 1906 the building was roofless. The building was not easily discernable on the geophysical survey but may be represented by a large pale coloured anomaly on Figure 15. On excavation, however, the building remains were found to be so substantial that further excavation (which would have required destruction of parts of the building), was resisted.

The whole of the trench was occupied by building remains which lay close to the surface, less that 0.10m below the vegetation. The building was represented by mortared stone walls (903, 904) demolished to ground level, defined by a well-preserved, good-quality pitched stone floor (905) with a repaired patch (906). To the east (the open area on the 1886 map), lay a rough stone surface (902), while to the south lay a further pitched-stone floor (907), well-preserved, but not quite of the quality of the above, and repaired area (908). This floor was bounded to its east by a continuation of wall 903 and to the south by a shallow drain (909) formed from pitched stones. A very rough stone surface (910) lay to the south of this drain. Finds from this trench came from the loose rubble and soil above the building and consisted of stone roof tiles and a sherd of late 19th/early 20th century pottery.

Discussion

The building in Trench 9 was agricultural in character, and seems to have been at the end of its life when shown on the 1886 map, as the excavation demonstrated that it was formerly much larger. The excavation suggests that there was an enclosed building to the north with an adjoining structure (possibly originally roofed?) to the south, with an open southern side. It is possible that the large geophysical anomaly to the southeast of the building is a silted pond.

Despite no direct evidence of a relationship, it seems reasonable to assume that the 'grid' or ladder-shaped feature is associated with the building and cobbled surfaces. The absence of cobbling in Trench 8, however, suggests only the cell sampled by Trench 9 was cobbled. The geophysical survey suggests that the cobbled surface almost certainly overlies and post-dates the parallel ditches revealed in Trench 8.

Although it is tempting to interpret the building and 'grid' feature as deer-pens and a deer feeding station established for the deer park, there is no direct evidence for this. Further research into deer management systems would be needed support the theory. It is equally possible that other animals were housed there, and that the complex had a variety of uses throughout its life.

Trench 10 (Figures 25 and 26; Photo. 30-32)

Numerous fragments of apparently Roman period tile and brick were noted during excavation lying amongst stones and gravels at the head of the dry pond – at the extreme high northeast corner of the former pond. These seemed to be lying in slight artificial terrace. In order to assess these finds a trench (10) was excavated across what would have been high water mark of the pond and onto the slope above.

It quickly became apparent that the tile and other material formed deposits (111, 114, 116) that had washed into or been dumped in the pond. There was some evidence of digging into the nearby slope. The deposit overlay a c.0.2m thick band of pale yellow clay (113), which was assumed to be pond lining. At the northern end of the trench, above what would have been the maximum height of the pond lay a foundation pitched, rounded stones, laid herringbone fashion (112). This could be the foundation for a field bank, or, more likely, a firm edging to the pond.

Discussion
This trench demonstrates that the deposit containing eroded Roman period material post-dates construction of the pond. The material may, however, have been disturbed by the pond construction or the collapse of deposits surrounding the pond as it went out of use.

Trenches 11 and 12

These two trenches, each 2m x 1m, were excavated to examine slight geophysical anomalies in the second geophysical survey. No archaeological features were detected and no artefacts found. In each trench topsoil overlay a soft sitly-clay layer which faded into similar but more compact layer at 0.5m depth. They may indicate that the cultural material found in Trenches 5, 6 and 7, was not washed in from a building located to the east of Trenches 11 and 12, and is therefore most likely to have washed in from the south and north slopes of the stream valley.

Trench 13

This 3m x 1m hand-dug trench was excavated between Trenches 6 & 7 to sample a visible linear bank-like feature. Below topsoil a compact clay loam faded into slightly stony clay-loam subsoil at 0.7m below the ground surface. There was no evidence of archaeological features and no artefacts were present.

CONCLUSIONS

The survey and excavations around the North Heronry Dam have revealed that in earlier times, a surprising range of activities have occurred in what today seems like a remote and secluded corner of Dinefwr Park.

The excavated evidence suggests that the stream valley in which trenches 5, 6, 7 and 10 were located was a possible focus of activity during the Mesolithic period. The presence of a Roman building in the vicinity has been confirmed, although it was not possible to establish its character or exact location. The probably location of the building, however (in what would then have been a relatively steep sided stream valley), is unusual, and may suggest the building was located here specifically because of the presence of the stream and springs, possibly for ritual purposes. The Roman pottery assemblage demonstrates that this building was not used at the same time as the nearby Roman fort, but was established soon after the fort's closure in the 2nd century and continued in use into the 3rd- 4th centuries. The building is clearly, therefore, not a bathhouse associated with the fort.

Relict field boundaries and veteran trees belonging to the pre-park medieval agricultural landscape account for some of the visible landscape features in the area, but other banks and ditches on different alignments would appear to be vestiges of likely pre-medieval land divisions, of unknown date or purpose.

From the Roman period until the establishment of the park, a substantial quantity of colluvium appears to have accumulated in the stream valley. This may suggest an absence of tree cover and an intensity of agricultural activity resulting in erosion of soil from the surrounding slopes.

Finally, in the 18th century, a dam was built across the stream valley to create a decorative landscape feature. While significant landscaping of the surrounding area may have occurred at this time, and that this is responsible for the depth of deposits that overlie the remains of the Roman building, this perhaps seems unlikely.

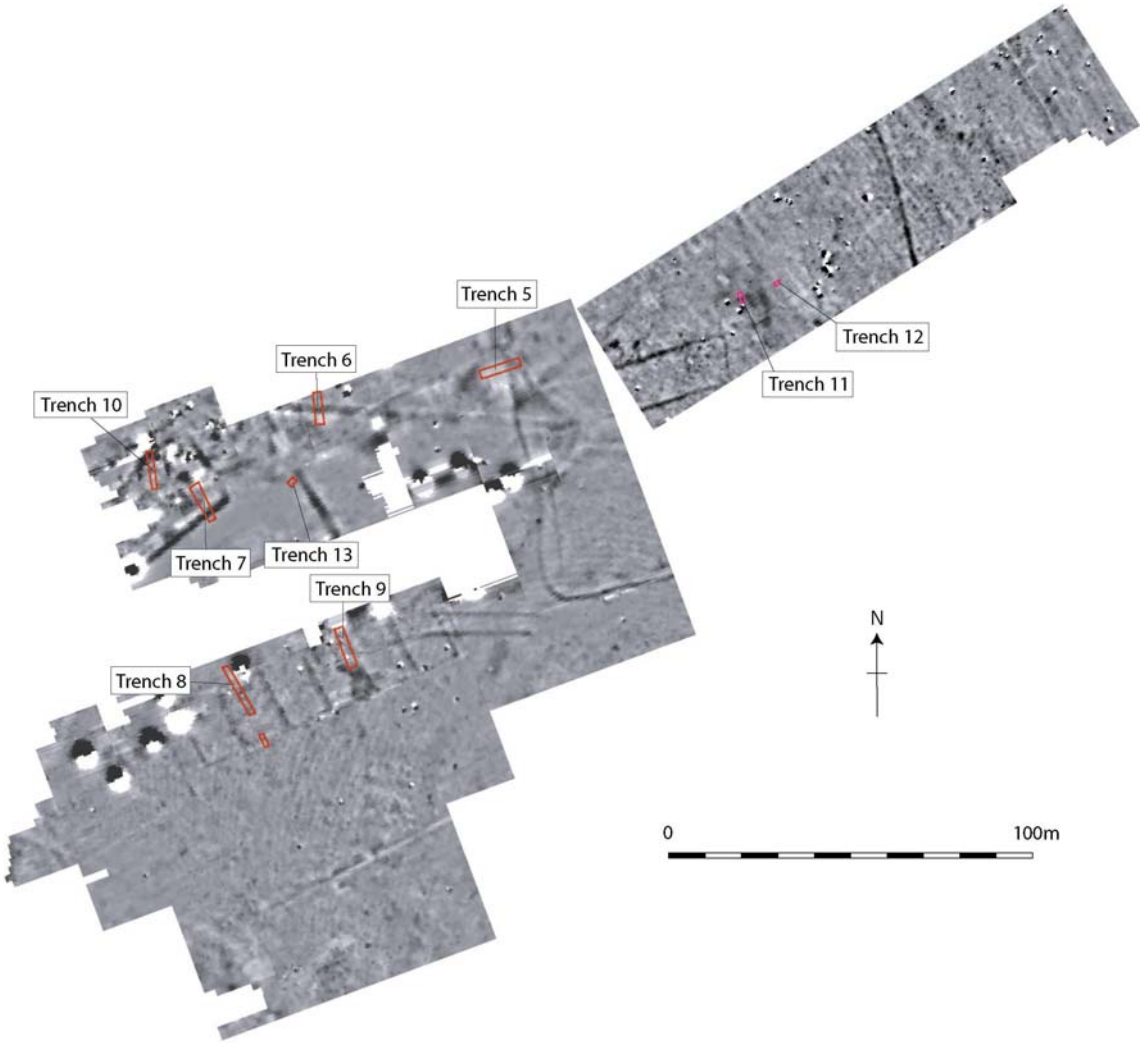


Figure 15: Geophysics survey and trench location plan (See Map 2 for location)

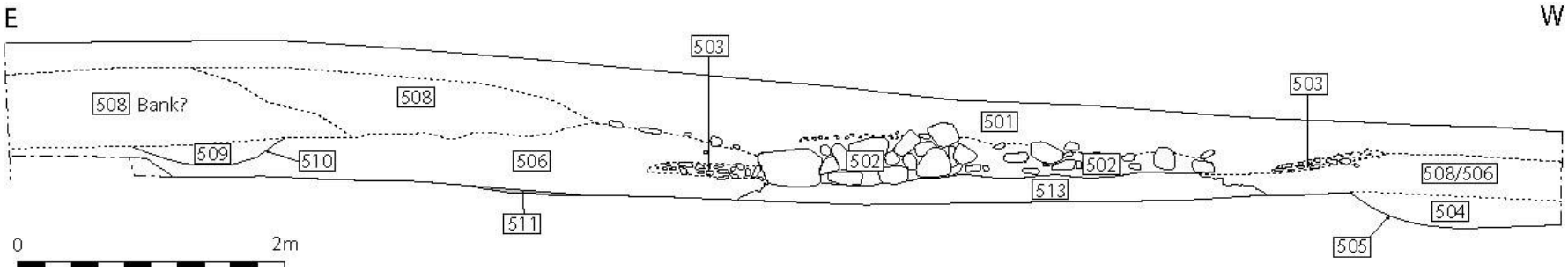


Figure 16: North facing profile of Trench 5

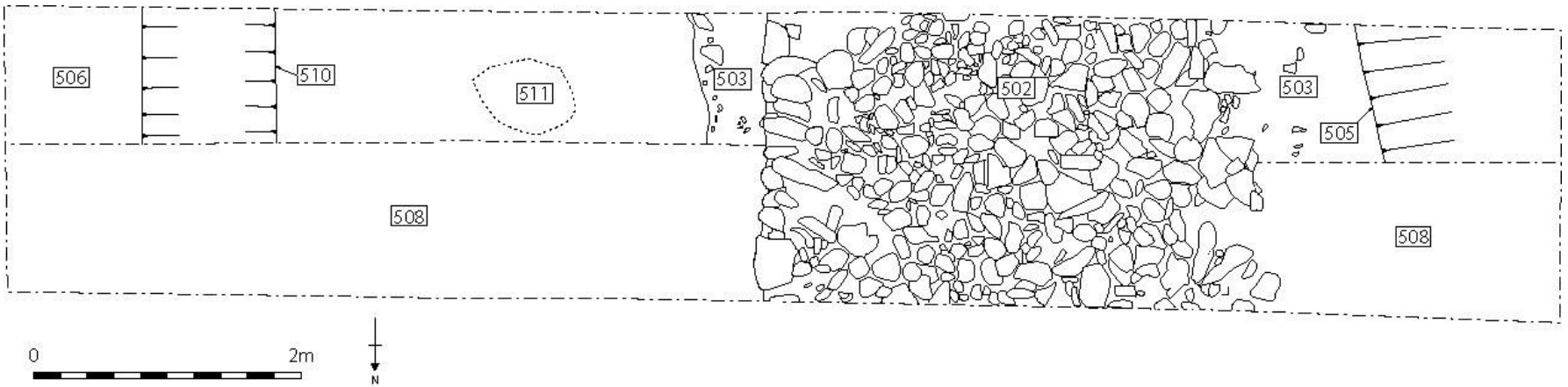


Figure 17: Plan of Trench 5

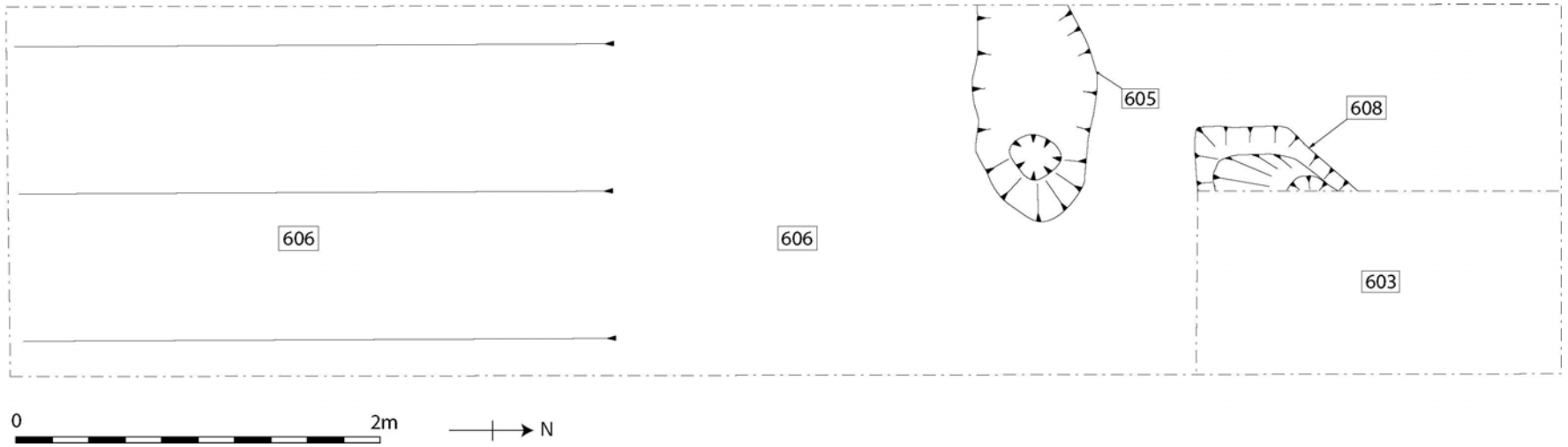


Figure 18: Plan of Trench 6

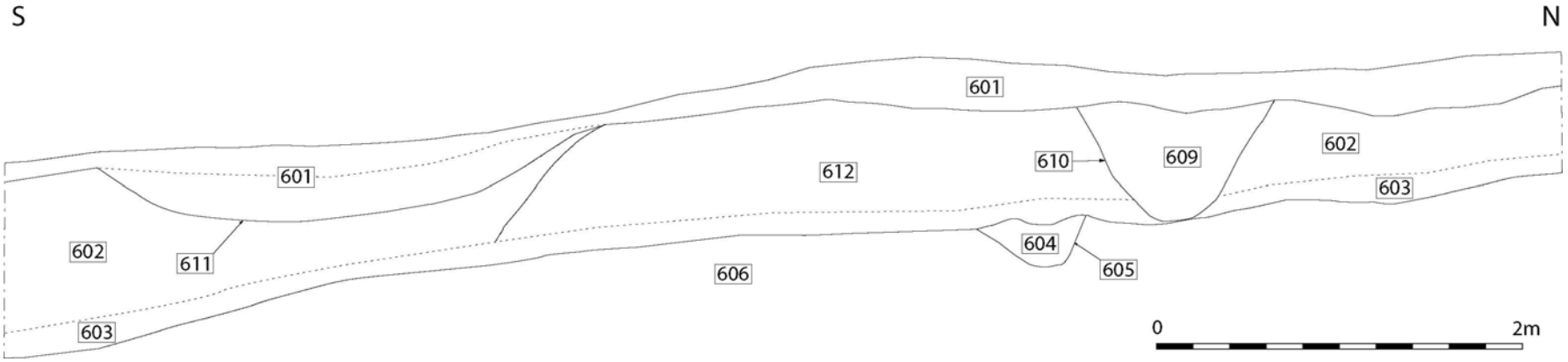


Figure 19: East facing profile of Trench 6

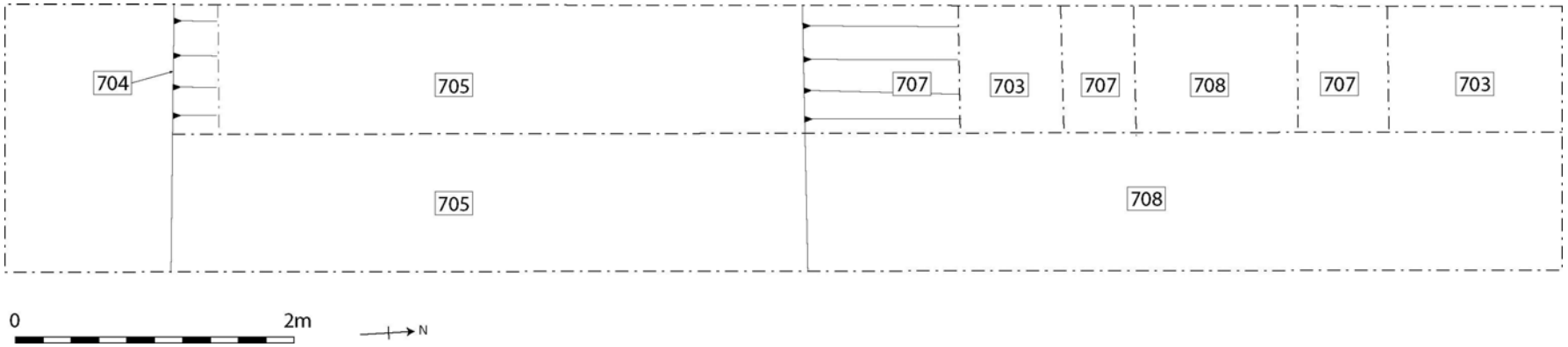


Figure 20: Plan of Trench 7

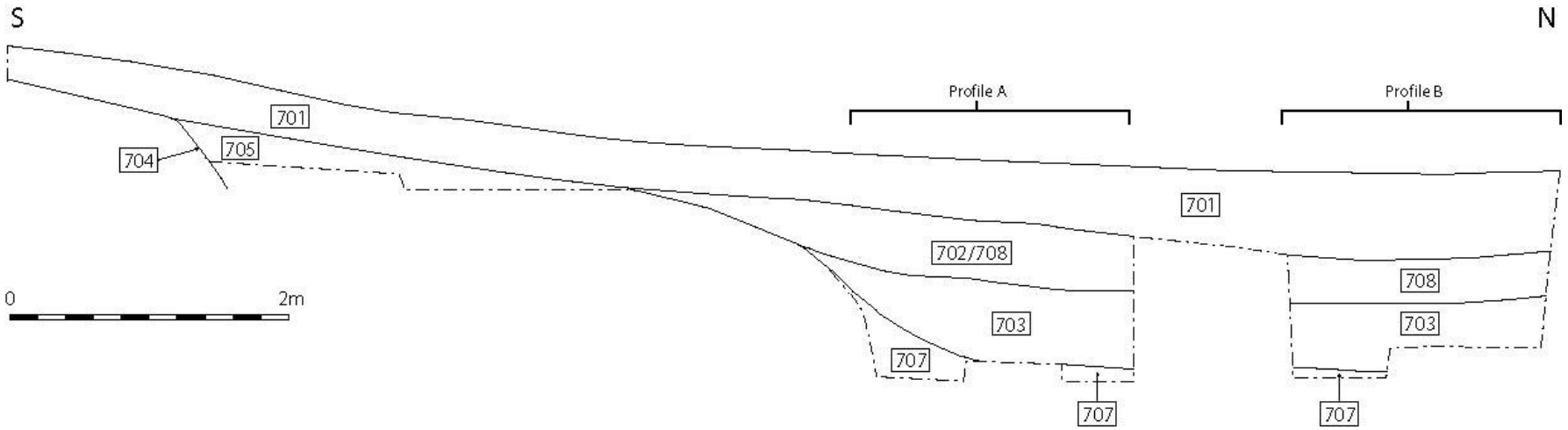


Figure 21: East facing profile of Trench 7

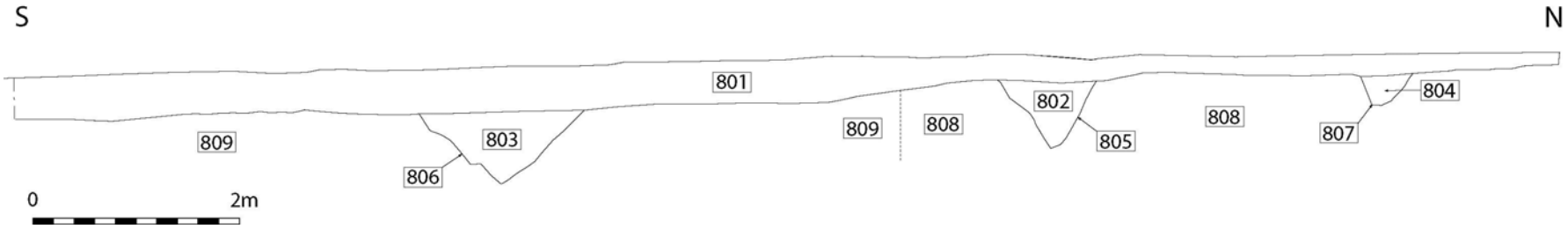


Figure 22: East facing profile of Trench 8

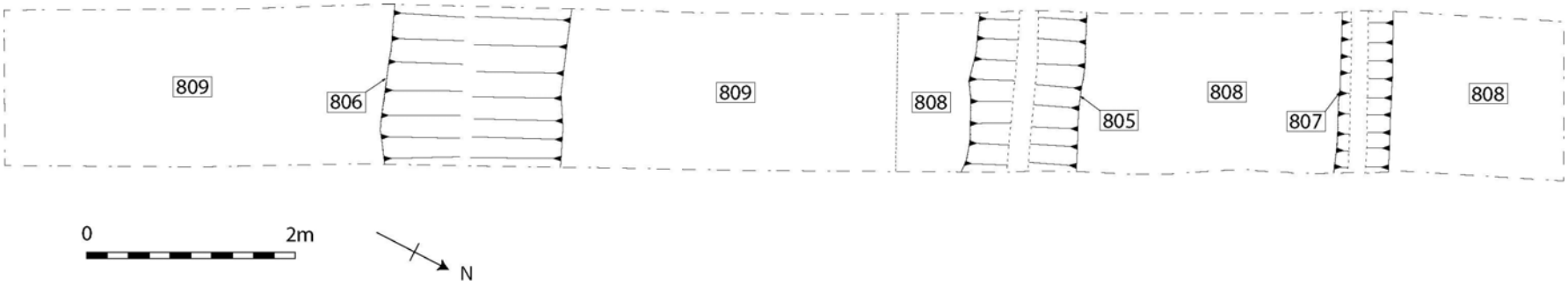


Figure 23: Plan of Trench 8

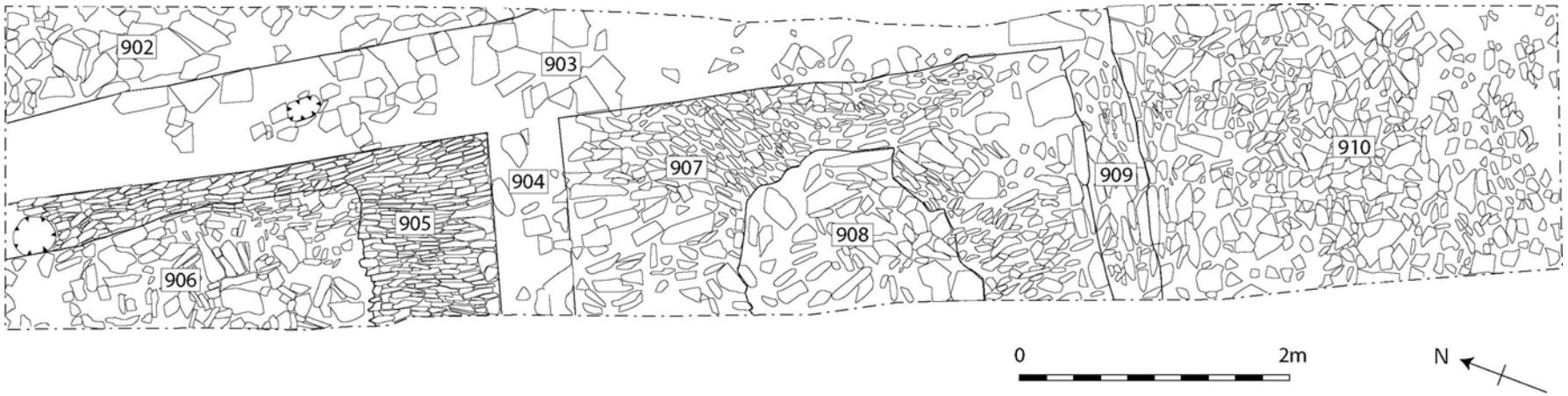


Figure 24: Plan of Trench 9

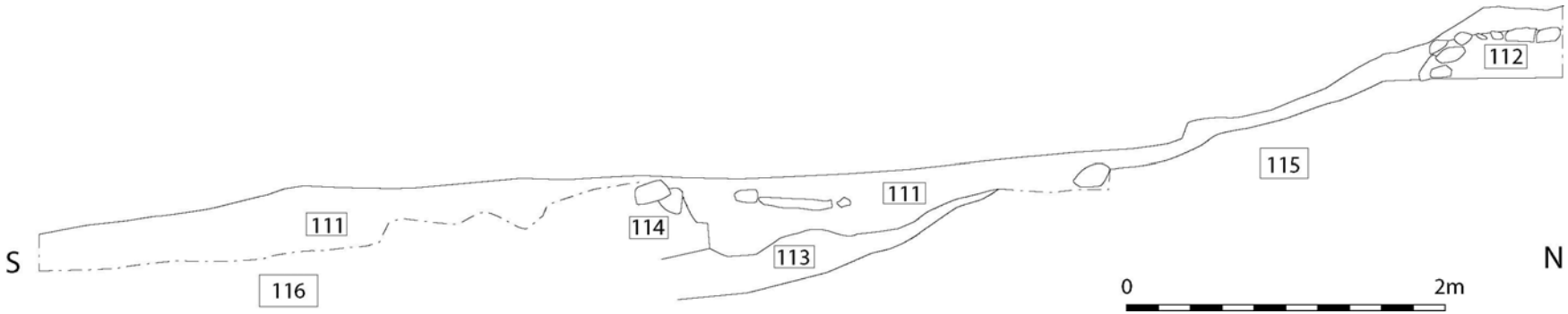


Figure 25: East facing profile of Trench 10

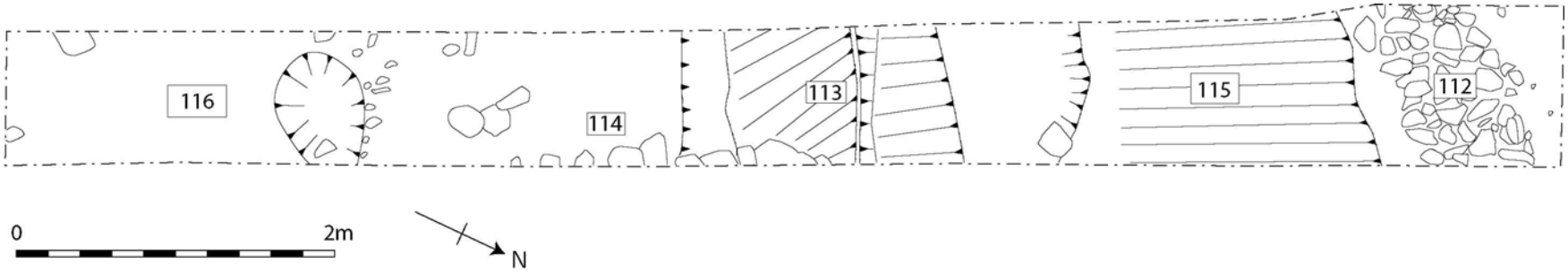


Figure 26: Plan of Trench 10

Photo. 19: Trench 5 looking north showing stone feature 502

Photo. 20: Trench 5 looking west showing feature 502

Photo. 21: Trench 5 looking west showing detail of facing stones of feature 502

Photo. 22: Trench 5 looking south showing section through feature 502

Photo. 23: Trench 5 looking south, ditch 510

Photo. 24: West end of Trench 5 looking south

Photo. 25: Trench 6 looking north

Photo. 26: Trench 6 looking north with linear feature 605

Photo. 27: Trench 7 looking south

Photo. 28: Trench 7 looking southwest. Profile A (fig. 22)

Photo. 29: Trench 7 looking west. Profile B (fig. 22)

Photo. 30: Trench 10 looking south

Photo. 31: Trench 10 looking southwest. Feature 114

Photo. 32: Trench 10 looking west, showing clay pond lining 113

Photo. 33: Trench 8 looking south

Photo. 34: Trench 8 looking west. Ditch 805

Photo. 35: Trench 8 looking west. Ditch 806

Photo. 36: Trench 8 looking west. Ditch 808

Photo. 37: Trench 9 looking north

Photo. 38: Trench 9 looking east showing 907, 908 and 909

Photo. 39: Trench 9 looking west, showing 903, 904, 905 and 906

Photo. 40: A site tour during National Archaeology Week.

PART THREE

TEST PIT EXCAVATIONS AROUND DINEFWR CASTLE (PRN 94533)

INTRODUCTION

The medieval old town of Dinefwr is considered by all authorities to lie close to Dinefwr Castle. Documentary sources and earthworks are taken to confirm this. The earthworks were surveyed as part of this project, and on the 19th and 20th May 2008 twenty-three 1m x 1m test pits were hand-dug in the woods around Dinefwr Castle with the aim of locating the medieval 'old' town of Dinefwr. Because of the prevalence of tree cover and the area's SSSI status, geophysical survey and open area excavations were not possible, a full topographic survey does, however, place the results in context. A fuller account of the history is provided in Part 1: Excavations Around Newton House, above.

SITE TOPOGRAPHY

The earthworks outside Dinefwr Castle are not easy to characterise owing to deciduous woodland with dense bracken, bramble and scrub ground cover. A modern track and 18th-21st century paths confuse issues. The topographic survey has, however, helped clarify some issues (Fig. 29).

There are two possible locations (both of which may have been used) for the old town of Dinefwr, assuming that it did no lie wholly within the castle wards, or more distant from the castle: one on a sloping terrace below and to the north of the castle (A); and the other (B) on either side of the track leading up to the castle from the east (B).

Land slopes steeply away to the north, west and southwest from the terrace (A); higher ground overlooks it from the south. A bank runs around part of the terrace on the north and southwest sides; this seems to be a defensive feature, but if this is so then its defensive qualities are diminished by easy access onto the terrace from the east. There is no trace of building foundations or minor boundaries on the terrace.

The modern access track up to the castle probably follows the course of the medieval road into the castle (B). It runs up the middle of a ridge top, from which the ground falls steeply away to the south to the flood plain of the Tywi and less steeply to the north. The ridge top slopes down away from the castle at the west end to the east. A series of terraces running across the ridge top on both sides of the track are likely to be former boundaries, possibly defining burgage/house plots. There are however no obvious house foundations/platforms.

To the north and below the terrace (A) a curving, sloping shelf marks the line of the old road from Dinefwr to the west. However, it is unclear how this road linked with the road running up the ridge top at B, as a series of terraces (C) run across its probably course. These terraces are lynchets or other agricultural boundaries, possible remnants of the field system associated with Dinefwr town.

The course of a picturesque walk, laid out in the late 18th century under the guidance of Capability Brown (known as Brown's Walk), can traced around the castle. It is not now in use. To the northwest of the castle it runs along a constructed terrace. It then probably ran along the ditch to the north of the castle (the route followed by a modern path) before passing through a gap in the south wall of the outer ward. From this point it runs east along a terrace cut into the steep valley side. A terrace running west-east along the steep slope to the

northeast of the castle marks an alternative route for this walk, with a path leading diagonally up the slope to the ridge top offering another alternative.

METHODOLOGY

The test pits were excavated through topsoil to the top of archaeological deposits or subsoil, whichever was the higher. Excavation of any archaeological features encountered was not intended since little understanding could be obtained from such small test pits. It was anticipated, however, that pottery and other material culture such as charcoal, burnt bone, ash, indications of former occupation, would be found in the topsoil so helping to locate the former town. Samples of excavated topsoil were sieved to assist the recovery of artefacts.

RESULTS

Test Pits 1 – 6 and 19, 20 were located alongside the track leading up to the castle from the east in woodland with dense bramble and nettle ground cover. In all eight pits 50mm thick leaf and root mat overlay a 100mm – 250mm very dark brown fine sandy loam soil containing c.30 – 50% angular stones. This soil became increasingly stoney towards its base. It sat directly on vertically-pitched, hard bedrock.

The sequence in two pits, 3 and 20, was slightly more complex. On the south side of Test Pit 3 a reddish-brown pebble surface lay directly beneath the root mat. It is unlikely that this surface is of great antiquity as it overlay the dark brown topsoil – it is most probably a surface associated with the track. In Test Pit 20 a layer of angular stones lay directly on the bedrock below topsoil. It was unclear whether this was just a more dense layer of stones similar to those encountered in the other test pits towards the base of topsoil or a deliberately laid layer. No artefacts or other evidence for occupation was discovered in these test pits.

Four pits, 7-10, were excavated in young beech and sycamore woodland to the northeast of the castle. In all pits a 300mm thick mid brown clay-loam, mottled grey in places, lay beneath a 30mm thick layer of leaf mould and over pale brown silty-clay subsoil. No artefacts or other evidence for occupation was discovered in these test pits.

Pits 11 – 16, which lay on a bramble-covered terrace (A) to the north of the castle, were all excavated to c.600mm deep. In each pit a c.300mm thick mid brown silty-clay-loam soil lay beneath a 50mm thick layer of leaf mould and faded into silty clay subsoil. The soil became stonier towards its base. A few stones had been heat reddened. It was not possible to detect the exact boundary between soil and subsoil. A small sherd of hand-made black Roman pottery (probably dating to the 1st-4th centuries AD) was found towards the base of Test Pit 12, a very small sherd of cream-coloured Roman pottery was found in 13, a flint flake was found in 11, and slag and a possible piece of burnt bone in 16.

Test Pits 17 and 18 where excavated on a terrace under pasture. The 250mm thick silty-clay-loam overlay a grey-brown fine sand/silt colluvium. This colluvium continurd below the 700mm depth of Test Pit 18. No artefacts or other evidence for occupation was discovered in these test pits.

Test Pits 21-23 were excavated to the west of the castle on a bracken covered flat-topped ridge. Pits 21 and 22 lay in a shallow saddle. Here a c.300mm thick grey-brown silty-clay-loam soil overlay an orange-brown silty-clay. In Test Pit 23, which lay at a slightly higher elevation, a 50mm – 100mm thick black silty-loam lay directly over vertically pitched bedrock. No artefacts or other evidence for occupation was discovered in these test pits.

CONCLUSIONS

Documentary sources and topography are a strong indication that the old town of Dinefwr lay close to the castle. Test pitting did not confirm this; indeed no clear evidence for occupation was discovered around the castle. There are several explanations for this:

The old town was very small, never more than the 13 burgages recorded in 1302-03 and was specialised, housing just clerks and priests serving the castle, and was accommodated in the outer ward of the castle.

The old town was located outside the castle, but was small (13 burgages maximum), specialised, and declined after 1302-03. The inhabitants possessed very little in the way of pottery and other artefacts and therefore the site of the town was invisible in the small test pits.

The old town was not located at the castle but elsewhere, perhaps by Llandyfeisant Church. This is unlikely as the alternative term 'upper town' for the old town indicates a location at the castle.

It is also possible that the test pits were not in sited in the same location as the settlement.

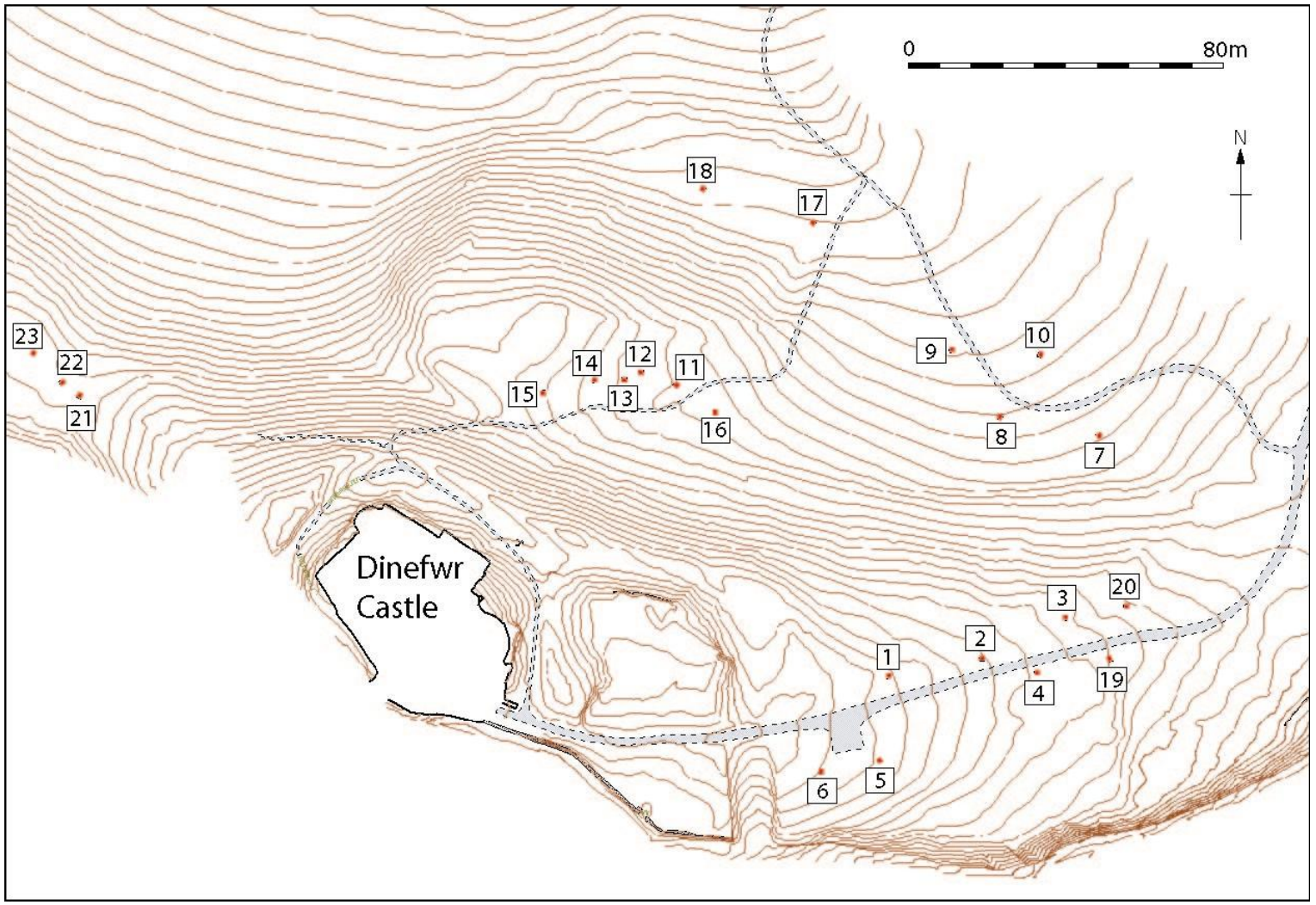


Figure 28: Location of test pits around Dinefwr Castle

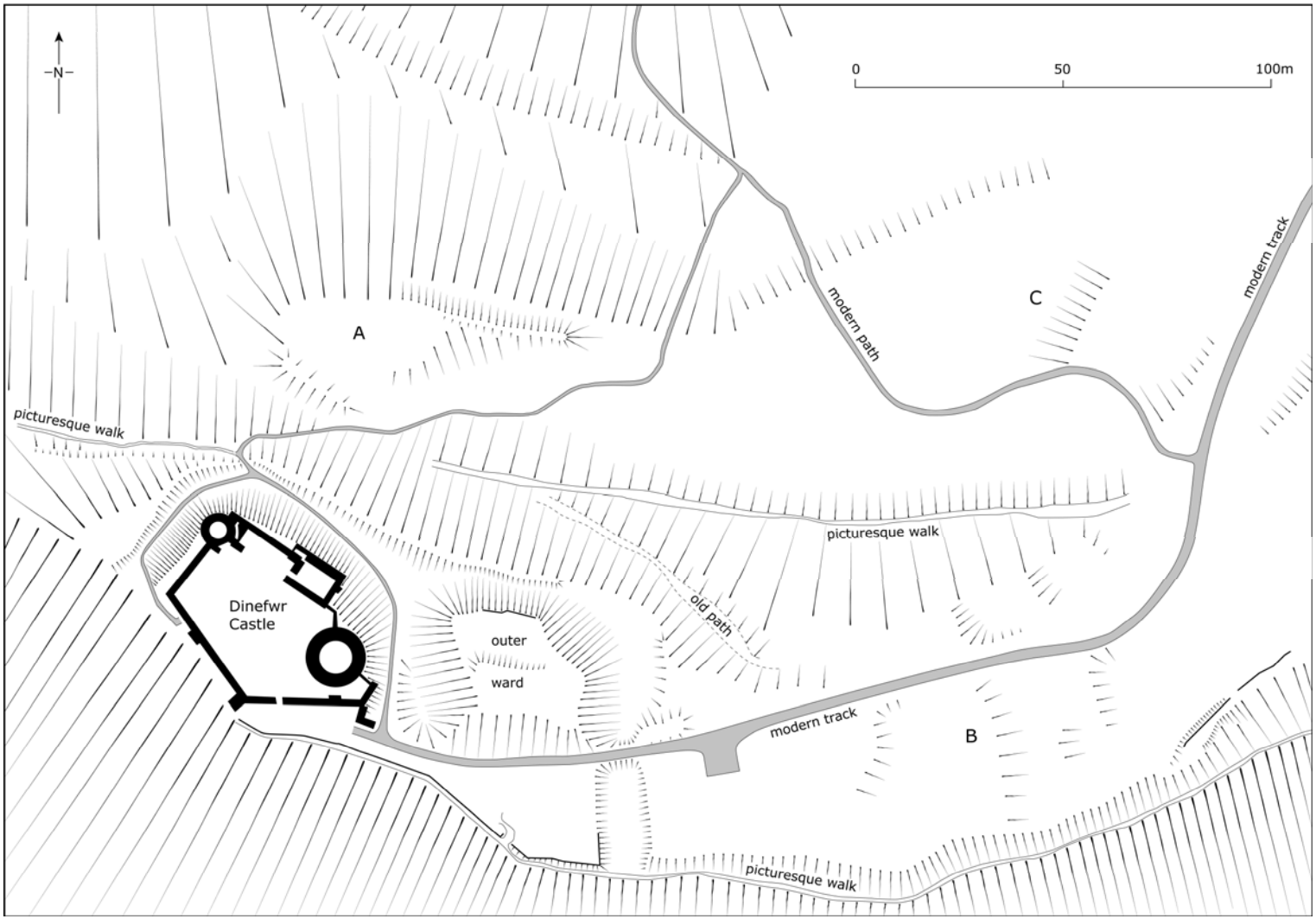


Figure 29: Topographic survey

Photo. 41: Test pit excavation

Photo. 42: A test pit illustrating the typical soil profile

TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY

Dyfed Archaeological Trust in 2003 carried out a topographic survey of much of the western portion of Dinefwr Park; this was added to in 2008 and was carried out in conjunction with the excavations. The survey in 2008 concentrated on the area around the castle, with some addition work to the east of Newton House. As in 2003, a Trimble electronic theodolite was used with data logger. The data was manipulated using Geosite. This data was then translated into a series of MapInfo GIS tables for presentation, distribution and archive purposes. Owing to the large area of the survey it is not practicable to present the full survey in this report. An A1 map is provided in the rear of the report showing the area of the survey. More detailed, larger scale maps can be provided on request, as can DVDs of the MapInfo tables.

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NLW Dyn C1. Copy of letter re: Mr Rice's intentions and Mr Brown's directions (c.1776)

Old series Ordnance Survey 1831, 1" to 1mile survey edition sheet no XLL

Original Ordnance Survey 1813, 2 1/2" : 1 mile surveyors drawings sheet 188

Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1885, 1:10560

Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 1906, 1:2500

ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

The archive for this project will be stored at Dyfed Archaeological Trust Offices in Llandeilo until alternative arrangements have been made. The archive contains:

A printed and digital copy of the report
Site record sheets
Site plans
Survey data
Non publication drawings
CD of digital site photographs
CD of the digital archive
Finds
Correspondence
Miscellaneous documents

APPENDIX 1

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY METHODOLOGY and ADDITIONAL SURVEYS

Methodology

The surveys were carried out using a Bartington Grad 601-2 dual Fluxgate Gradiometer, which uses a pair of Grad-01-100 sensors. These provide a strong response to anomalies to a depth of approximately one metre.

The instrument detects variations in the earth's magnetic field caused by the presence of iron in the soil, usually in the form of weakly magnetised iron oxides. Features cut into the subsoil and backfilled or silted with topsoil contain varying amounts of iron that can be detected with the gradiometer. Other processes and materials can produce detectable anomalies, including pieces of iron in the soil or above ground. Archaeological features such as hearths or kilns also produce strong readings because fired clay acquires a permanent thermo-remnant magnetic field upon cooling.

Anomalies can also be masked by magnetic variations in the bedrock or soil or high levels of natural background "noise". A lack of detectable anomalies cannot therefore be taken to mean that that there are no below ground archaeological features.

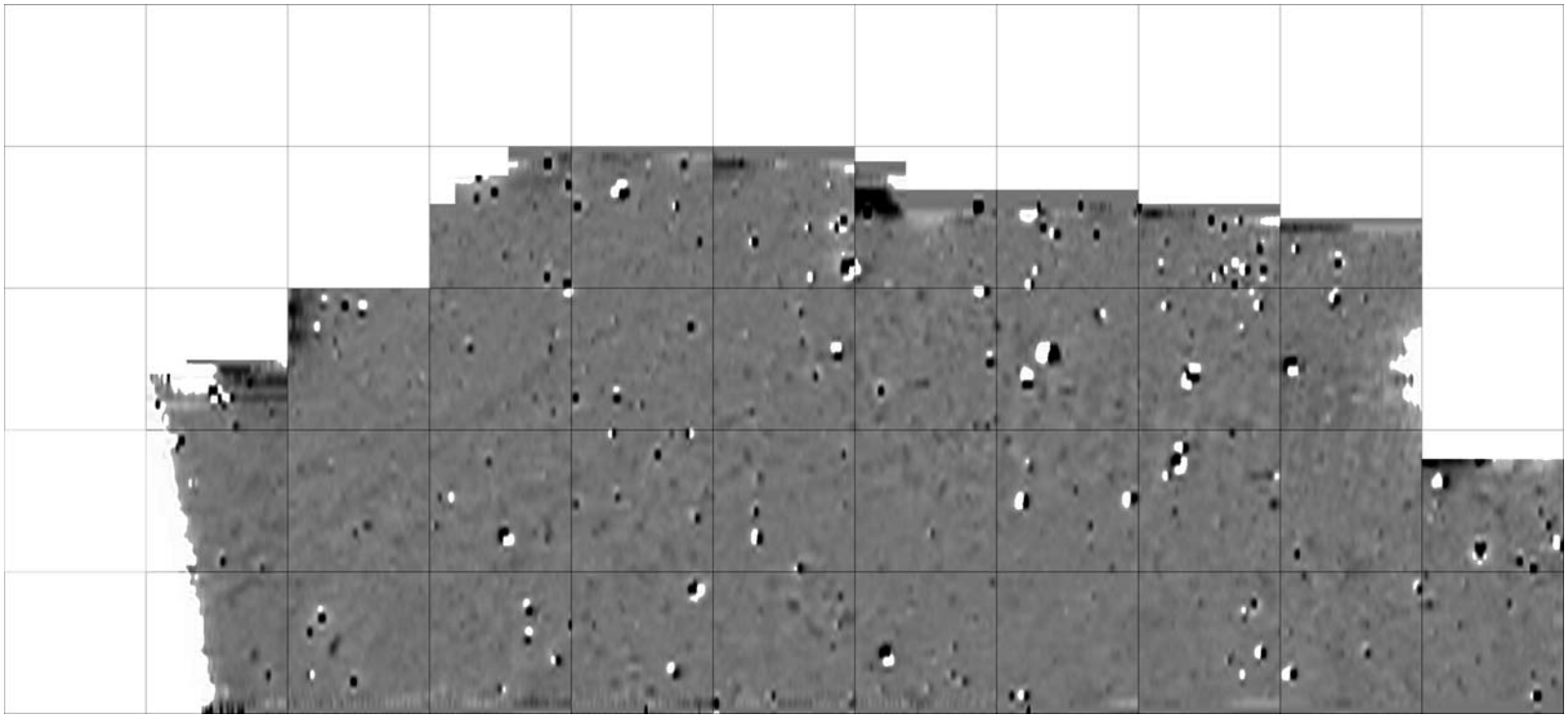
The survey grids were made up of 20m x 20m squares. The traverse interval was 0.5m. Readings were logged at intervals of 0.25m along each traverse giving 3200 readings per grid square (medium resolution). The data is presented as a grey-scale plot and was processed using ArchaeoSurveyor 2 software. The survey grids were located by measurements to fixed points such as field boundaries. The survey locations are included in the topographic survey.

During the 2008 fieldwork, three additional areas of geophysical survey were undertaken. The results are presented in the following figures.

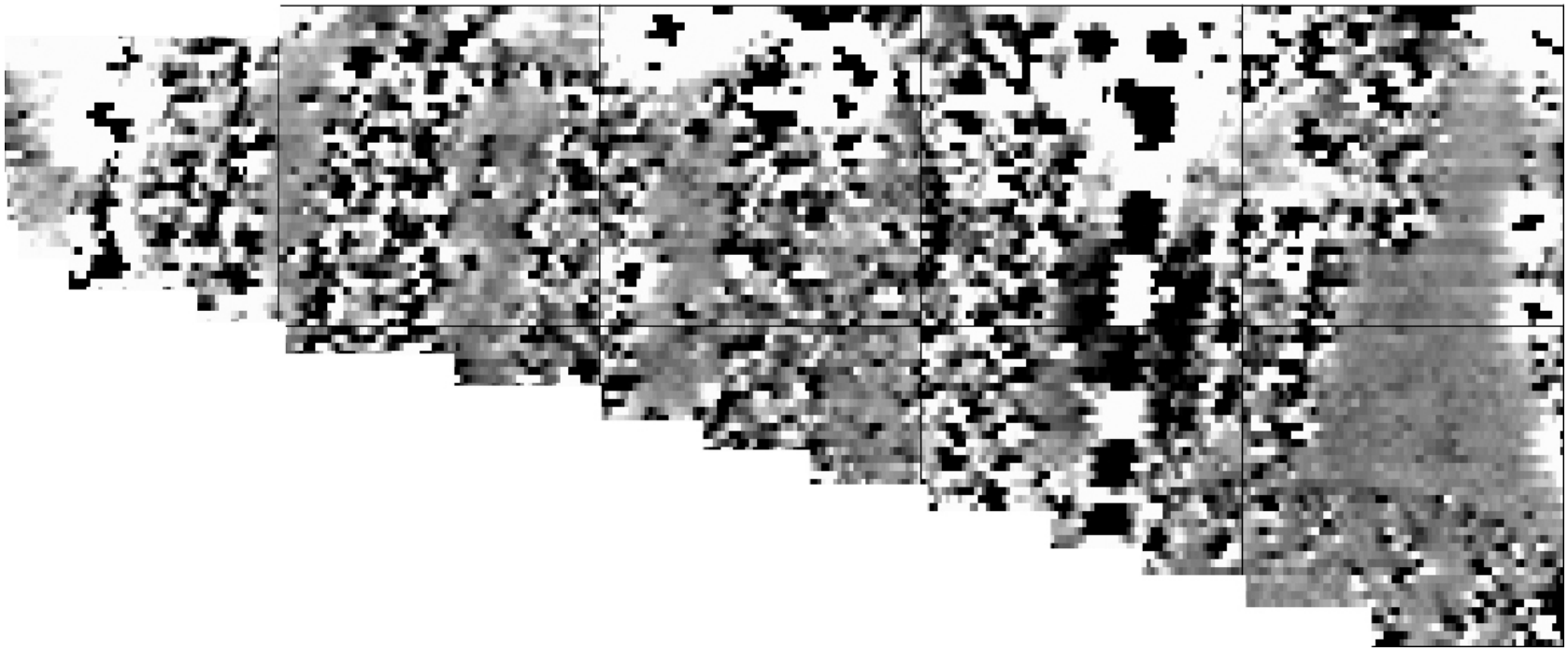
The survey in Figure 1 was in an area soon to become community allotments. No features of archaeological significance were apparent.

Figure 2 presents the results of a survey undertaken in the area of the WWII field hospital (see Map 2). Ferrous interference from former Nissan huts masks any earlier features, but the locations of the huts can be discerned.

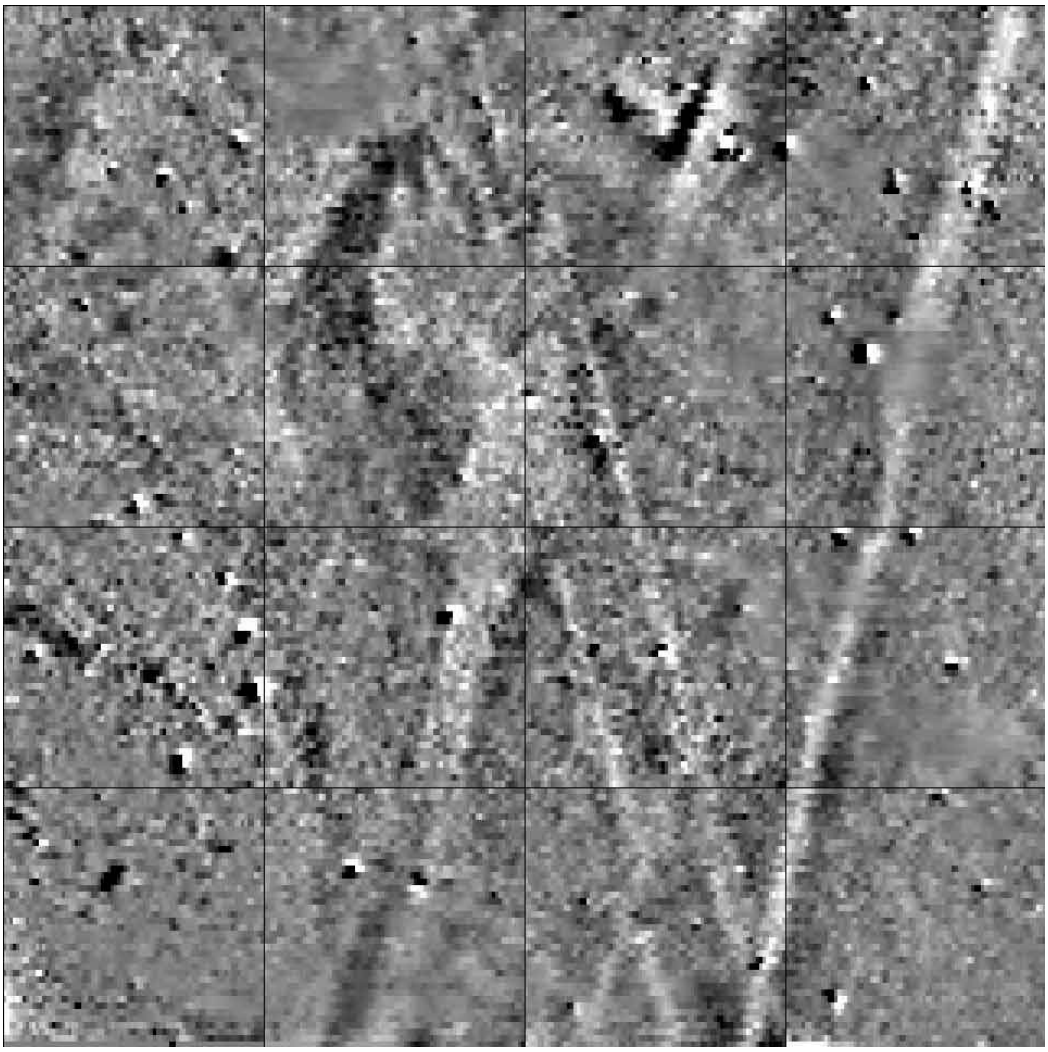
The survey presented in Figure 3 was originally intended to be located close to Llandyfeisant Church, but because the area was too overgrown for a survey to be undertaken, another area was selected, where surface undulations suggested buried features might be present (see Map 2). No features of likely archaeological significance could be discerned. The linear features are thought most likely to be field drains and pipework leading to a nearby sewage treatment unit.



Appendix 1 Figure 1: Geophysical Survey on land at Home Farm. See Map 2 for location (grid squares 20m, north to top)



Appendix 1 Figure 2: Geophysics on the WWII hospital site See Map 2 for location (grid squares 20m, north to top)



Appendix 1 Figure 3: Geophysical survey at Llandyfeisant Church See Map 2 for location (grid squares 20m, north to top)

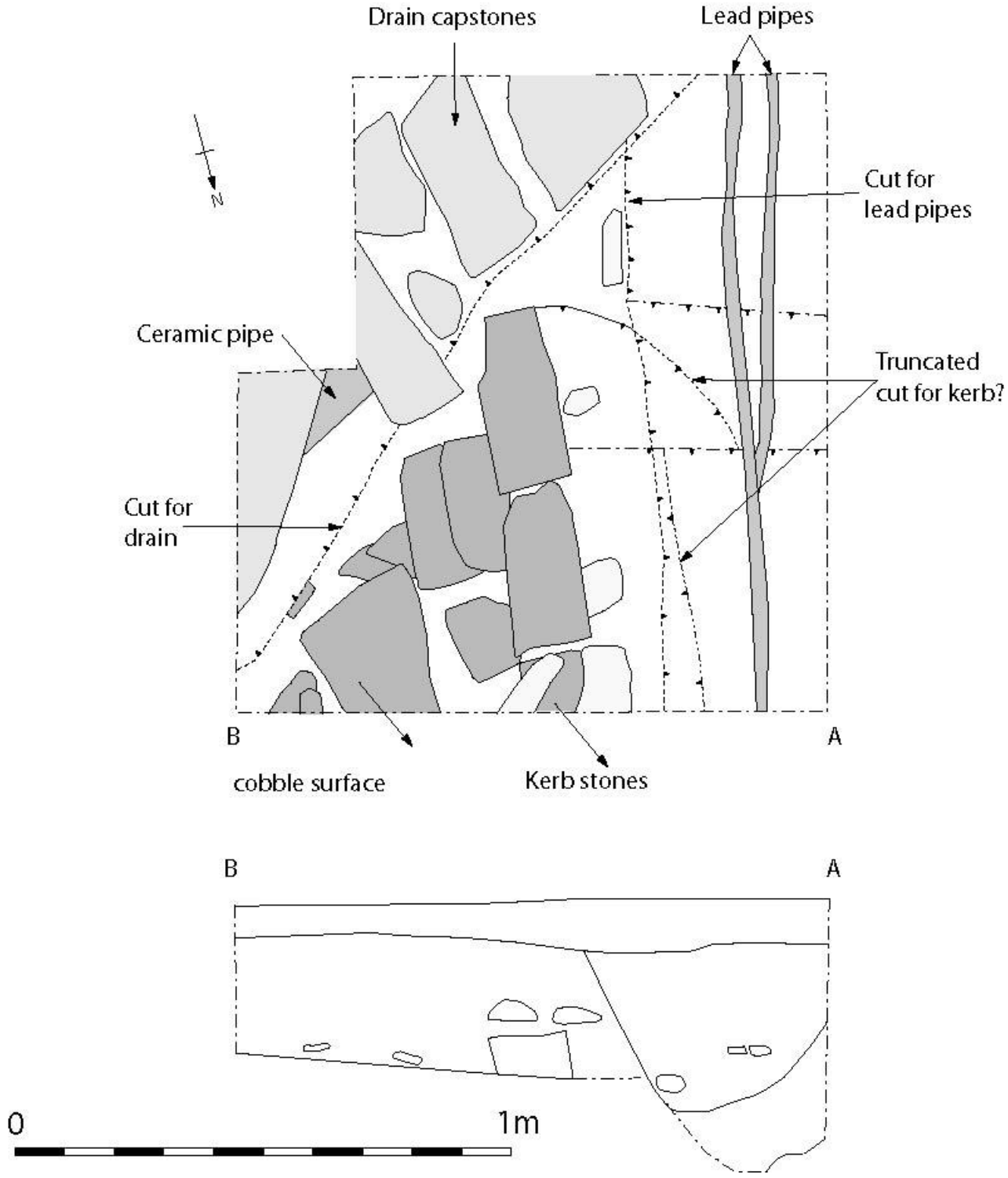
APPENDIX 2

TEST PIT IN THE NEWTON HOUSE INNER COMPLEX

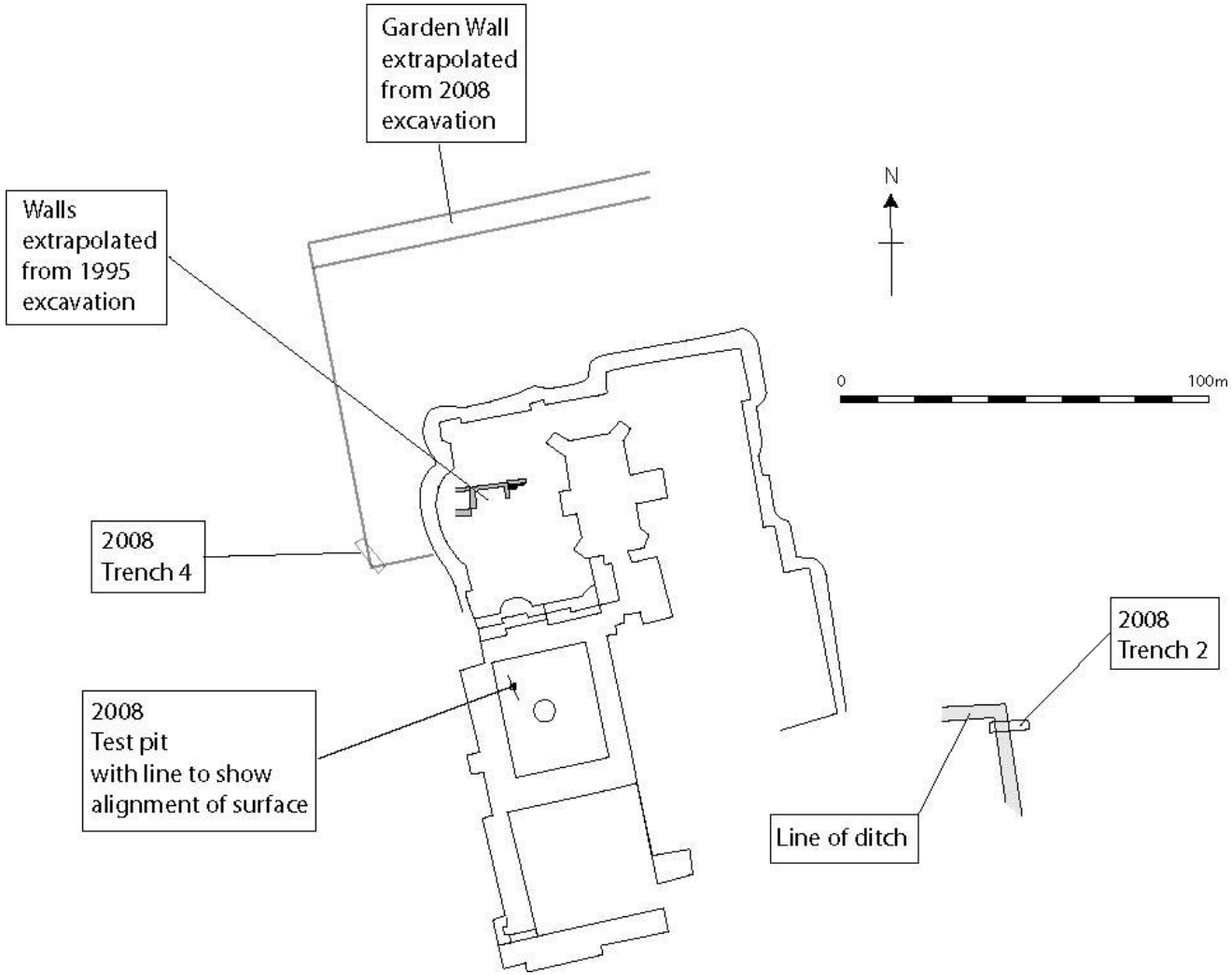
A small test pit was dug in the Inner Courtyard at Newton House at the beginning of December. The purpose of the test pit was to ascertain the presence, depth and state of preservation of an earlier courtyard surface.

The excavation revealed what appeared to be part of a coarse cobbled surface. A row of probable edging stones indicate that the surface was constructed on a different alignment to the present courtyard buildings. There was some suggestion of a later surface of compacted cinders, but two service trenches within the excavated area had effectively destroyed coherent evidence of this. Natural soil deposits were not revealed within the test pit.

Although part of a substantial cobbled surface was identified, this would appear to relate, perhaps, to an earlier building phase than that represented by the buildings of the Inner Courtyard. The test pit demonstrated that substantial and complex deposits lie within the courtyard; deposits than cannot be understood in such a small investigation.



Appendix 2 Figure 1: Plan and section of test pit in inner courtyard



Appendix 2 Figure 2: Plan showing location of Test pit, 2008 trenches 1 and 2 and the 1995 excavations

APPENDIX 3

Dinefwr Park 2008
Roman Pottery Archive List

Peter Webster

Introduction

The list below is designed as an archive suitable for interim dating purposes.

- The archive is designed so that it can be adapted for publication purposes. This would consist of the comments on publishable/drawn pieces and a revision of the discussion if necessary.
- Meanwhile, the assessment below is intended to provide information which can be extracted for the purposes of an interim report.

Archive Catalogue

Trench 5

Context 503
- Black-burnished jar sherd.

Context 506
- Redware fragment

Context 509
- Two small fragments of jar in Black burnished ware or similar fabric.

Trench 6

Context 601
- Samian bowl rim, probably Form 18/31 and Central Gaulish. Probably c.A.D.120-150.
- Abraded samian bowl fragment, Central Gaulish and probably form 31. Probably Antonine.
- Bead rim jar in brown fabric with plentiful filler including quartz and made without use of the potters' wheel. Two joining fragments are part of a Malvern-type jar. The general type is summaries in Manning 1993, 232, no.5.1. 1st to 2nd century.
- Bead rim jar in grey fabric.
- Jar in Black burnished ware burnt light grey to light orange; cf. Gillam 1976, no.9 (mid to late 3rd century).
- 9 redware fragments.
- 5 greyware fragments
- Abraded chip probably of Dressel 20 amphora.
- Burnt and abraded mortarium rim fragment, now pink with grey core. The large bead and hooked rim suggests a 1st to 2nd century date. The origin is likely to be Welsh.

Trench 7

Context 702

- Flanged and beaded bowl in Black burnished ware; cf. Gillam 1976, nos.45-6 (late 3rd to early 4th century).
- Small fragment of Mancetter-Hartshill mortarium in off white fabric with angular dark grey and black trituration grits.

Context 703

- Large jar in grey with a red surface.
- Small redware jar fragment.

Context 707

- Large beaker or small jar in Black-burnished ware; cf. Gillam 1976, no.19. (early to mid 2nd century).

Trench 8

Context 802

- Samian bowl fragment, Central Gaulish, Form 31R. c.A.D.160-200.
- Samian cup fragment, burnt. Probably form 33 and Central Gaulish.
- Mortarium sherd in pink to off-white fabric with rounded quartz grits, probably an Oxfordshire product. The edges are very abraded but this appears to join the mortarium sherd from 803.

Context 803

- Small greyware fragment.
- Mortarium sherd in pink to off-white fabric with rounded quartz grits, probably an Oxfordshire product.

Trench 10

Context 111

- Abraded dish rim in red fabric. Probably very abraded samian of form 18/31. Early to mid 2nd century.
- Chip of Central Gaulish samian, probably from a bowl. 2nd century.
- Jar rim red fabric with a slight grey core. Severn Valley Ware; cf. Webster 1976, no.4 (2nd to 4th century). Six other sherds are probably from the same vessel.
- Grey flagon or jar fragment with off-white surface.
- Mortarium in granular off-white fabric; broken close to the spout, but probably as Frere 1972, no.550. (c.A.D.110-145; this amended date is given in Frere 1984, 271.)

General Comments

The material from the 2008 Dinefwr excavations form an interesting contrast to those from the 2005 fort evaluation. The date range is very different. Although some of the pieces could be 1st century, there are none which need be this early. South Gaulish samian appears to be totally missing with all samian being Central Gaulish and 2nd century. Noticeable were the presence of certainly 3rd and 4th century pieces. It seems likely that this site was not occupied at the same time as the forts but must have been establish soon after their closure and continued in occupation until at least the late 3rd/early 4th century.

The quantities of pottery recovered are not sufficient to make meaningful comments about sources and status. There appears to be a predominance of kitchen wares and it is noticeable that the samian does not include decorated forms. However, this may simply be a product of the small sample.

It should be noted that soil conditions have not been kind to the Dinefwr pottery. Original surfaces (and some slips) are missing and edges eroded by soil action. There do also appear to be a number of vessels which have been burnt prior to final deposition.

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APPENDIX 4

MEDIEVAL AND LATER POTTERY REPORT
NEWTON HOUSE EXCAVATION POTTERY FABRIC SERIES

Paul Courtney

MEDIEVAL AND TRANSITIONAL

CIST Cistercian Ware
A single sherd from a vessel in a fine red fabric with dark brown glaze on the interior and exterior. This ware appears to date to the late 15th-late 16th centuries. The nearest evidence for production comes from north Gwent and W. Herefordshire area and from Falfield, near Bristol (Clarke et al. 1985). The commonest form is the globular cup with flared rim. **1 sherds; 1 g.**

DGTG Dyfed Gravel-Tempered Glazed Wares
This fabric group contains the standard local/regional siltstone tempered fabric range used for jugs. Inclusions were rare to moderate rounded to sub-rounded, ill-sorted quartz up to 0.5 mm, and rare to moderate flattened fine sedimentary rock fragments up to 5mm.occur. Similar wares across Dyfed and multiple kiln sites are likely. Kiln waste has been published from Newcastle Emlyn (Early and Morgan 2004). ?late 12th-15th century (Papazian and Campbell 1992, 56; O'Mahoney 1995, 9-11). **8 sherds; 49g.**

DGTU Dyfed Gravel-Tempered un-glazed Wares
This group comprises predominantly unglazed cooking pots/storage jars. It was uncertain if two unglazed sherds from RDX 166 508056 and 508256 were from jugs, cooking pots or other forms. The fabric is similar to the jugs include moderate rounded to sub-rounded and ill-sorted quartz under 0.5mm and moderate to abundant sub-rounded and flattened fine-sedimentary rock up to 5mm. ?late 12th-15th century (Papazian and Campbell 1992, 56; O'Mahoney 1995, 9-11). **5 sherds; 33g.**

FMWJ Fine Micaceous ware Jugs
Probably from a single vessel, a wheel-thrown, green glazed jug with sparse fine quartz and glistening fine muscovite mica. This can be ascribed to the Old Red Sandstone geology of the Gwent or Herefordshire area (Papazian 1990; Papazian and Campbell 1992, 5 & fig. 29). Probably 13th-early 15th century. **2 sherds; 14g.**

IBRW Iberian Red Micaceous Ware
Two vessels are represented in this fabric. The first is an unglazed hollow ware probably a jar base. The second had a brown glaze on both the exterior and interior and traces of secondary finishing, perhaps with a blade, below the exterior glaze. Rare sherds of IBRW or Merida ware have been excavated in 13th-14th century contexts in Ireland, for example (Meehan 1992, 188-9) and it occurs as late as the 17th century. However, it seems to have been mainly imported into the Severn estuary during the late 15th-early 16th century (O'Mahoney 1995, 37-7: C5). The glazed sherd (Tr 4/403) is likely to be 17th century on parallels from wreck sites (Marken 1994, 197-8). **4 sherds; 10 g.**

MALO Malvern oxidised ware
Oxidised Malvern wares potentially date from c.1400 into the 17th century though most common along the Severn estuary in the late 15th-early 16th century.. This ware is oxidised orange and often has thin and/or patchy glazes. Inclusions

include quartz and occasional Malvernian rock fragments (Vince 1977a and 1985, 48-52). **3 sherds; 24g**

POST-MEDIEVAL WARES

CMBW Coal Measure Buff Ware
A single coarseware vessel in Coal Measures buff-firing fabric with black internal glaze, probably a bowl. 17th- mid 18th century. **1 sherd; 18g**

DEWW Developed White Wares
True white-glazed white-earthenwares used for wide range of decorative and utilitarian wares. One sherd was plain and the other from a cup had brown transfer printing. British manufacture, c.1830- present. **2 sherds; 4g**

EWSG English White Saltglazed Stoneware
White glazed vessels with white stoneware body. This was used for tablewares including small bowls, plates, a flask, cup and mug. Produced c.1700-1820s but largely replaced by Creamware by 1760s (Edwards and Hampson 2005). **1 sherd; 2g.**

ETGE English Tin Glazed Earthenware
Two hollow ware sherds, possibly from the same vessel, with a plain glaze on both interior and exterior. English, c.1600-1770. Major production centres include Liverpool, Brislington, Bristol and London (Archer 1997). **2 sherds; 11 g.**

FREC Frechen Stoneware
A single sherd from a speckled-brown glazed, dark-grey stoneware bottle produced in the Rhineland, late 16t-17th century (Hurst et al. 1987, 214-21; Gaimster 1997, 208-23). **1 sherd; 3 g**

LGRE Lead Glazed Red Earthenware
Red earthenware utilitarian vessels such as internally glazed bowls, probably 17th-18th centuries. The non-micaceous range of fabrics suggests possible multiple sources in Glamorgan and/or Somerset. **9 sherds; 80g.**

FBSW Fulham-Type Brown stoneware
A single handle from a bottle in dark grey stoneware with brown speckled exterior and buff interior surface Black grains in the fabric distinguish this fabric from German stonewares. English, c.1670 –early 18th century (Green 1999). **1 sherd; 7 g.**

MOTW Mottled fine-wares
Vessels with a **MOTW** mottled brown glaze on thinly-potted fine, buff fabric. The majority of recognisable vessels were reeded tankards but larger globular forms (?posset/chamber pots) also occurred. Current dating is c.1675- 1780, though less popular after c.1720. **1 sherd; 2 g.**

NDGF North Devon Gravel Free
Similar to NDGT (see below) but without the coarse inclusions and generally used for jars. It has been found in Dissolution contexts at Haverfordwest Priory. 16th-18th century (Courtney, forthcoming). **11 sherds; 66 g.**

NDGT North Devon Gravel Tempered
Coarsewares in red to grey gravel-tempered fabrics with green to brown glazes. The fabric is tempered with coarse gravel (angular quartz produced in Barnstaple and Bideford in North Devon. Two vessels in this fabric were found in Dissolution deposits at Cleeve Abbey (Allan 1999). However, the main period of export around the Severn estuary seems to have been from the late 16th century

onward. Some vessels may have been exported to Wales as late as the 19th century (Allan 1984, 129-32 and 148-9; Grant 2005). **37 sherds; 856 g.**

NDSW North Devon Slip Coated
Two sherds from posset pots in a North Devon gravel free fabric with a white internal slip under a yellowish-green glaze. Probably decorated in sgrafitto, though no trace survives. Late 16th-18th centuries. **2 sherd; 3g.**

PEAW Pearlware
A single sherd, possibly from a tea bowl, with blue tinged white-glaze (from added manganese) on white earthenware body with blue transfer decoration on the interior, c. 1780-1830 (Miller and Hunter 2001). **1 sherd; 3g.**

RREW Refined Red Earthenware
Two sherds from a cup in fine red earthenware an all-over brown glaze. This type was sometimes referred to as Astbury ware, c. 1720-60 (Barker and Halfpenny 1990, 23-30). ***2sherds; 4g***

SSOM South Somerset Sgrafitto ware
A single sherd from the rim of a sgrafitto (incised) decorated dish. Red fabric with yellow glaze flecked with bright green from added coppery. 17th-18th century, from the South Somerset area where the largest production centre was at Donyatt (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1987). **1 sherd; 9g.**

GLASS

A sherd (2g) of green-tinged window glass of probable 18th century date was recovered from TR3 302. Another sherd of green window glass was found in TR4 404. This appears to have been from the edge of a sheet of crown glass and represents waste from cutting up a spun cylindrical sheet. It is probably 16th -17th century in date and might be English or an import from Normandy. Two sherds from high quality vessel glass were recovered, both from white *lattimo vessels.* The most diagnostic was a solid base from a cup from Tr4 404 found alongside 16th-early 18th century pottery. The heavy construction, influenced by lead glass, would tend to suggest a late 17t- 18th century date rather than earlier. In 1718, Five similarly shaped vessels with saucers in opal glass were inventoried in Rosenberg Palace collection in Copenhagen (Boesan 1960, nos 71-2).

CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL FLTL PLAIN FLOOR TILE

Seven fragments weighing 0.764 Kg were recovered. Most of the fragments appear to come from tiles approximately 28mm in thickness with very dark green to brown, almost blackish, lead glazes on the upper surface. One tile produced a complete cross-section indicting it was probably from a 120mm square or oblong tile. The sides of the tiles were knife-trimmed and the underside of the bases had been sanded in manufacture. One fragment had a white slip on the surface giving a yellow glaze. Two fragments of tile (Tr4 403 and 413) were from triangular shaped piece with a dark glazes; which had been made from a scored tile that was snapped into pieces after firing.

The fabric is hard, brick red with moderate to abundant amounts of rounded and well sorted quartz, and occasionally sandstone, up to 1mm though mostly smaller, and fine mica. One tile had shell fragments. The fabric and manufacturing technique suggests that these are Droitwich-style tiles, probably produced in Worcester or the south Worcetershire area, and shipped down the Severn. A late 14th to mid 15th century date is suggested by Vince for this industry (1984, ch.3; see also Lewis 1999, 33-4). The relative rarity of yellow

slipped tiles seems to be a characteristic of this type of plain tile which does not suggest use in 'Flemish' style chequer board pavements.

MART MALVERNIAN RIDGE TILE

Eight fragments of unglazed Malvernian ridge tile were recovered weighing 343 g. These were made in a hard, pale orange fabric, usually reduced in the core, with quartz sand and occasional Malvernian rock inclusions (Vince 1985, 69). A 15th - 16th date seems likely, the same period as Malvernian oxidised ceramics are most common along the south Welsh coast.

NDRT NORTH DEVON RIDGE TILE

A single unglazed sherd of North Devon ridge tile (NDGT fabric) was found in Tr4 405, probably of 17th-early 18th century date.

BRICK

Eighteen fragments of hand-made brick weighing 502g were recovered. Unfortunately they were too fragmentary to estimate the brick size. The fabric of the brick is soft to hard and ranges from orange to brick red. Inclusions visible under a x20 binocular microscope. include occasional quartz grains and fine glistening minerals (?mica). In this period one would expect the brick to have been made close to site using a clamp kiln.

DISCUSSION

The material from the excavations appears highly mixed. It dated from the medieval period through to the 18th century. The range of pottery is typical of the region and not especially high status. The building material (brick, floor and ridge tiles) though derives from a site of manorial status, Newton house and its 15th century predecessor. Also striking are the two sherds of *lattimo* (white) glass (late 17th century -?18th) which indicate a high status household. The Droitwich-type plain floor tiles and the Malvernian ridge tiles are not closely datable but were probably used in the Perrot/Gruffydd manor house, though the floor tiles could be residual from an earlier structure.

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Abbreviations

cp cooking pot

gl. glazed

FW Flatware

HW Hollow ware

IG Internally glazed

ungl. Unglazed

CATALOGUE

TR1 Cleaning layer

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	1	6	IG	
EWSW	1	2	HW	
Coin	1		Eliz 2 1d	

Date Range of Material: 16th-20th

TR1 102

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	1	4	IG	
FLTL	1	460	Floor tile	Dk. Green gl.; brown on side
MART	1	33	Ridge tile	Olive green gl

Date Range of Material: 12th-18th

TR1 103

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
DGTG	1	7	Jug	

Date Range of Material: Late 12th-15th

TR1 104

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	3	242	Bowl rim & 2 IG shs.	
NDGF	1	17	handle	Green gl.
UNCL	1	2	Soft, reduced, finely micaceous pot	ungl. Date?med
Brick	1	17		
Mortar	1	13		
Fuel ash slag fused to stone	1	15		

Date Range of Material: 16th-18th

TR2 Initial cleaning

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
DGTU	2	2	?c.pot	
NDGT	1	26	Bowl rim	

Date Range of Material: 16th-18th

TR2 203

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
FMWJ	2	14	jug	Thumbed base
DGTG	1	1	jug	

Date Range of Material: late 12th-15th

TR3 ditch fill

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
DGTU	1	4	c.pot/jar	
DGTG	2	11	Glazed jug-reduced	1 vessel
SSOM	1	9	Dish rim	Sgrafitto; Cu in gl

Date Range of Material: late 12th- 17th

TR3 302

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
DGTG	4	30	Glazed jugs	Stabbed narrow strap handle
Window glass	1	2	?C18	Green tinged

Date Range of Material: late 12th-18th

TR 4 topsoil

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
MALO	1	11	HW	ungl.
NDGT	2	67	IG ?bowls	
NDGF	2		2 shs. & posset pot base with trace of int. slip	
NDSC	2		posset pot base with trace of int. slip	
LGRE	2	60	Bowl rim- IG brown & worn ungl. sherd	
MART	1	6	Ridge tile	
Brick	1	58	Red brick	

Date Range of Material: 15th – early 18th

TR4 402

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	10	106	Bowl(s) inc rim	
FREC	1	3		
NDGT				
MALO	1	8		
RREW	2	4	Cup inc handle	
FBSW	1	7	handle	
LGRE	1	2	?	
FLTL	2	49	glazed	
Brick	5	46		

Date Range of Material: 15th -18th

TR4 403

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	1	12	Bowl rim	
NDGF	1	17	Jar base- Ig	
LGRE	3	7	IG & ?frags	
IBRW	1	6	? jar	brown ext gl.
Brick	1	38		
MART	2	85	Ridge tiles	ungl.
FLTL	2	148	Floor tile- 1 triang	gl.

Date Range of Material: 15th-18th

TR4 404

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
DGTU	1	18	c.pot/jar	
MALO	1	5	IG	

CIST	1	1	?thin walled	
Lattimo glass	1	16	Bowl base	
Fe nail head	1	4		
Brick	1	8		

Date Range of Material: 15th-18th

TR4 405

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
DGTU	1	9	c.pot/jar	
Clay pipe	1	1	Bowl frag.	
Crown glass-waste	1	1	Formed edge of crown	waste from window glass
Burnt clay	1	2		
LGRE	1	8	Bowl rim-IG	?Soms/Glam
NDGT	2	34	Bowl rim & base sh.	
NDGF	3	27	Jar- int gl.	
NDSC	1	3	Rim of posset pot	Int slipped
NDRT	1	45	Ridge tile	ungl, sanded base; bevelled edge
MART	1	37	Ridge tile	
FLTL	1	10		Yellow gl on white slip & brown gl. side
Brick	3	283	Red brick	

Date Range of Material: late 12th-18th

TR4 409

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	2	19	IG	
ETGE	1	4	HW cf 411	White glaze int & ext

Date Range of Material: 16th-18th

TR4 410

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	1	48	Bowl rim -IG	
Bottle glass	1	142	base	Early c18

Date Range of Material: 16th-18th

TR4 411

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	8	230	Jug rim & OG bowls	
ETGE	1	7	HW (poss same vessel I 411)	White ext gl; int. gl. lost

Date Range of Material: 16th-18th

TR4 412

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
MOTW	1	2	HW	
Brick	5	19		

Mortar	1	9		

Date Range of Material: 16th-18th

TR4 413

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	4	48	Bowl rim –IG & 3 IG sherds	
IBRW	3	4	Prob base	
FLTL	1	97	Triangular floor tile	Dark green gl.
MART	1	112	Ridge tile	ungl.
mortar	1	11		

Date Range of Material: 15th-18th

TR4 414

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGT	1	12	IG	
CMBW	1	28	Base-IG	Thick black gl
LGRE	2	3	Small frags-ungl.	
Brick	1	3		
Bottle glass	4	42		Green glass

Date Range of Material: 16th-18th

TR4 415

Fabric	Sherd no.	Weight-g.	Form	Description
NDGF	4	5	?	
MART	2	70	Ridge tiles	Ungl.

Date Range of Material: 15th-16th

EXCAVATION AND SURVEY AT DINEFWR PARK, LLANDEILO, CARMARTHENSHIRE

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Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by Duncan Schlee

Swydd / Position: Project Manager

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date 23/12/2008

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

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

Swydd / Position: Trust Director

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date 23/12/2008

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