

Archaeology Wales

Caerfarchell, St David's Pembrokeshire

Archaeological Watching Brief



By
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Report No. 1246



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Archaeological Watching Brief

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Non – Technical Summary

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during groundworks associated with undergrounding of overhead lines in Caerfarchell, Pembrokeshire (SM 795 270). The work was carried out by Archaeology Wales Ltd at the request of Western Power Distribution. The work was recommended by Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Planning Services who act as planning advisors for the local planning authority, in this case the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority.

The groundworks cut along the edge of a field containing an upright stone to the south of the village. Generally the works revealed a typical sequence of plough soil overlying natural subsoil. A small collection of possible prehistoric flints was recovered from the plough soil, some distance to the south of the stone, and a late post-medieval or modern animal burial pit was revealed on the edge of the field.

Within the village, the remains of a late post-medieval wall were revealed close to the south-western corner of the village green. Elsewhere, the groundworks revealed a relatively uniform sequence of topsoil containing 19th – 20th century finds overlying natural subsoil. Some areas of 20th century building debris and a modern cobbled yard surface were also identified. No further finds, features or deposits of archaeological significance were revealed by the groundworks.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 In October 2013 Archaeology Wales (AW) was commissioned by Western Power Distribution to undertake an archaeological watching brief during groundworks associated with the undergrounding of overhead lines in Caerfarchell, Pembrokeshire (NGR SM 795 270, Figure 1).
- 1.2 The requirements for an archaeological watching brief were made as a recommendation by Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Planning Services (DAT-PS), in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, in this case Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority. DAT-PS made a list of recommendations to aid mitigation of the potential archaeology, these include:
 - With regard to the proposed undergrounding within the S-W field, in the first instance we recommend that an alternative route should be sought further away from the possible standing stone. As discussed on site, we would envisage this to run along the more southerly hedge-line of this field. If however, this option is unattainable, the least damaging methodology would be to mole the existing proposed route. Alternatively, if this proves unfeasible from an engineering perspective, we would recommend that any ground disturbance within the immediate proximity to the possible standing stone should be done under archaeological conditions.
 - The area of archaeological potential at the centre of the village, **currently represented by a tract of undeveloped 'green' should also** be avoided. The sections marked I and J on the provided mapping

should in the first instance be moled. Likewise the section which runs from the central pole to point D. Once again, where ground breaking is unavoidable, all works will need to be archaeologically monitored.

- On the remaining works, we would recommend that an archaeologist is present during ground disturbance, in order to carry out an archaeological watching brief.
- 1.3 An approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by AW in accordance with the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (IfA 1994, revised 2011) and was designed to provide an approved scheme of archaeological work to be implemented during the construction works (see Appendix I). The AW project number for the work is 2178.
- 1.4 The watching brief was undertaken between October 2013 and January 2014.

2 Site Description

- 2.1 The site lies within and around the village of Caerfarchell, which lies c.3 miles to the **east of St David's in northern Pembrokeshire (SM 795 270).**
- 2.2 The village itself consists of several houses, farmsteads and a Methodist Chapel, spread alongside a local road but with a focal point around an undeveloped green towards the **southern end of the village. The local road connects to the A487 St David's to Goodwick** road, a short distance to the north, and via Middle Mill to **the A487 St David's** to Haverfordwest road to the south. The village is surrounded by agricultural land, consisting largely of small to medium sized fields bounded by hedgerows.
- 2.3 Caerfarchell lies in an area of igneous bedrock, comprising Tuff of the Pebidian Supergroup. This is overlain by some Diamicton Till to the northeast of the village.

3 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 Caerfarchell lies within the **St David's Peninsula and Ramsey Island** Historic Landscape Area (HLW (D) 4), and more specifically within the Historic Landscape Character Area 288 Treleddydd – Tretio – Caerfarchell. The history of the area is described thus:

A large area of modern Pembrokeshire located on St David's Peninsula, of great historic landscape interest. It lay within the medieval Cantref Pebidiog, or 'Dewisland', which was held directly by the Bishops of St David's, having represented the core of the bishopric from 1082 when it was granted (or confirmed) by Rhys ap Tewdwr, king of pre-Conquest Dyfed, to Bishop Sulien. The character area lies mainly within the parish of St David's, which had a number of subordinate chapels, and even today preserves a remarkable ecclesiastical topography. The area is crossed by the Ffos-y-mynach ('monks' ditch'), an earthwork traditionally held to be an early medieval boundary which may be rooted in fact as it does not respect St David's parish boundary and may represent an earlier division. A strong pre Anglo-Norman conquest ecclesiastical tradition is confirmed by the archaeology of the area, with three concentrations of Early Christian Monuments and three dark age cist cemetery sites. In addition, there are a number of llan place-name elements perhaps representing lost chapels, many of which may be later medieval in origin, as devotional rather than formal chapels-of-ease. However, many of these have the place-name element 'old' and may have early medieval origins. From 1115, when

Bernard, was appointed Bishop of St David's, Anglo-Norman systems of feudal government and ecclesiastical administration were introduced into Pebidiog, which was conterminous with the later Hundred of Dewsland created in 1536. A small part of the area to the east lies within Llanhywel parish, a medieval division of Pebidiog, which was retained by the crown until 1302 when the benefice was appropriated to St David's Cathedral. Whitchurch, also in the east, did not become a parish until the post-medieval period, originally being a chapelry of St David's parish. The major part of the character area was divided between the 'manors' of Welsh Hundred and Tydwaldy. However, Welsh tenurial systems appear to have persisted, though variously adapted, and many feudal rights and obligations continued even into the early 20th-century. Pebidiog was renowned for its fertile arable land. According to the census in George Owen's *Tylors Cussion*, it was one of the most densely populated regions of Pembrokeshire in the 16th century, with the most plough teams, and was particularly productive of barley. There were proportionately very few dairies. The Black Book of St David's of 1326 gives some idea of the population density at an earlier period, listing within Welsh Hundred, among others, the vills Carnhedryn, Lleithyr, Treleddy, Trelewyd, Treleidr, Tremynydd, Trelwyd, and Penarthur, and in Tydwaldy, the vills Penbery, Tre-hysbys, Treiago, Tremynydd (again), and Tretio. All were semi-manorial, held by a version of Welsh custom in which an infield-outfield system was practised, where land was held not by individual ownership, but by two persons and their co-owners. In fact 'gavelkind' had only recently been abolished in Pebidiog when Owen wrote in c.1600, that the land was still unenclosed 'and exposed to tempests'. Eighteenth- and early 19th-century maps also show much of the land as still unenclosed. This tenure has given rise to the dominant settlement pattern of the area, represented by a high density of small hamlets, mainly with Tre- place-names and largely based on the medieval vills. Tretio, Treleidr and Treleddy are among the hamlets shown as small nucleated settlements on estate maps of the late 18th-century, some of which are shown surrounded by a sub-divided field system, the best examples being at Treleddy and Gwrhyd-Mawr. The sub-divisions or strips in these systems are not the long, narrow curving strips typical of an 'English' open field system, but rather rectangular 'shares' scattered across a wide area; a survival from Welsh tenure. Each hamlet or township had its own system but most hamlets - and presumably the medieval 'vills' - were associated with two small separate areas of common land, one called 'common' and one called Waun or 'moor', the latter being waste-land. Each hamlet is now occupied by a group of post-medieval farm buildings. These sometimes include a chapel which, though normally of late 18th- or 19th-century date and from a variety of denominations, appears in some instances to occupy an earlier religious site, for example at Carnhedryn there is a nearby Early Christian Monument, Caerfarchell has a nearby cemetery site and Llandidgige has a documented medieval chapel. This tenurial system was at its very end by the late 18th-century. A map of Treleddy from 1786 shows dispersed, unenclosed strips, but by 1821 this pattern had been enclosed and many of the strips transformed into rectangular-shaped fields. In other examples the St David's tithe map shows a pattern in which former strips are detectable in the overall pattern of enclosed, rectangular and irregular-shaped fields. Large holdings, such as Pwllcaerog, are the sites of former hamlets which gradually transformed into single or paired farms. Paired farms are a feature of this landscape. Smaller

isolated farms, like Penlan, appear to be quite late, and were probably established on the former open fields of the hamlets or of St David's in the 16th- and 17th-century, while the nucleated settlement at Whitchurch seems to be entirely modern. In addition, there is a Deserted Rural Settlement site near Hendre, which like most of its contemporaries, represents an 18th century squatter settlement on the fringes of Dowrog Common. The economy of the area has remained overwhelmingly agricultural, characterised since the mid 20th-century by early potato-growing, but many quarries were established along the coast during the post-medieval period, as well as at least one limekiln.

- 3.2 As described above, an early-medieval cemetery site (PRN 2677) is located nearby, which has led to the suggestion that Caerfarchell may have its origins in the early medieval period (PRN 10154). Nearby field systems also suggest there may have been a medieval settlement here (PRN 12363). To date, however, there has been little recorded archaeology from these periods within Caerfarchell. The buildings within the village are largely 18th to 19th century in date and include nine Grade II and II* Listed Buildings. Within a field on the southern side of the village is an upright stone (not recorded on the HER). Such stones may be prehistoric in date (where standing stones have been linked to possible ritual activity in the Bronze Age). However, this stone is marked on the 1889 edition of the Ordnance Survey along with several others in the locality, all set within individual fields, which suggests they were erected during the post-medieval period to act as cattle rubbing stones.

4 Aims and Objectives

- 4.1 The watching brief was undertaken:

- To allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.
- To provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.
- The main objective of the watching brief was to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on the site.

5 Methodology

The methodology for this archaeological watching brief follows the methodology set out within the WSI (Appendix III). In brief, this work included the following key elements:

5.1 *Watching Brief*

- 5.1.1 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken during topsoil and stripping works and excavation for the cable trenching.
- 5.1.2 Groundworks were undertaken by a mechanical excavator using a combination of toothed and toothless buckets under archaeological observation.
- 5.1.3 The exposed deposits were subsequently recorded by detailed, measured, sketch drawings, high resolution digital photographs (using a 14MP camera) and written records using AW recording systems.
- 5.1.4 The on-site archaeological work was undertaken by Jerry Bond (AW). The overall management of the project was undertaken by Philip Poucher.
- 5.1.5 **All works were undertaken in accordance with the IfA's *Standards and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (2011) and current Health and Safety legislation.**

5.2 Finds

- 5.2.1 Finds recovered during the course of the works were inspected, recorded and catalogued (Appendix II), including a description, preliminary date, quantity and the context in which it was found. The finds were largely ceramic or glassware of a 19th or 20th century date, but included some possible earlier post-medieval pottery, a potential late medieval fragment of pottery and a small collection of possible prehistoric flint, but all recovered from disturbed plough soil or topsoil deposits containing 19th and 20th century material.
- 5.2.2 The finds will be stored in a secure location at AW until arrangements can be made to deposit them at an appropriate local museum. Contact will be made with the county museum at Scolton Manor, Haverfordwest to arrange archival storage of the finds.

5.3 Palaeo-Environmental Evidence

- 5.3.1 No deposits suitable for environmental sampling were encountered during the course of the groundworks.

6 Watching Brief Results

The numerous cable trenches that were excavated throughout the village were ascribed separate Trench numbers by the watching archaeologist to ease the description of the various deposits encountered. These Trench numbers are illustrated in Figure 2.

6.1 Trench 1 (*Figure 3 & 5, Photos 1-5*)

- 6.1.1 To the southeast of the village the cable trench was cut along the edge of a field containing an upright stone. The cable trench was 0.4m wide, between 0.9m and 1m deep, and cut within the field close to the southern field boundary and then along the western boundary towards the village. As it approached the first houses within the village the trench was cut along the roadside.
- 6.1.2 This upright stone is not recorded on the HER, but it does appear on early editions of the Ordnance Survey maps from 1889 onwards. This stone measured 1.2m high, 0.8m to 1m wide and 0.4m thick. It is uncut, irregular in outline and made of local stone, set upright close to the corner of the field.
- 6.1.3 The trench revealed turf (deposit 100) and plough soil (deposit 101) totalling at most 0.65m in depth. The plough soil consisted of a loose dark red-brown silty-clay with frequent small stones and gravel inclusions. It increased in thickness towards the lower sloping ground, presumably as a result of ploughing. Fragments of pottery were dispersed throughout this deposit, which included fragments of typical late 19th and 20th century pottery along with a fragment of olive-green glazed gravel-tempered ware that would appear to be earlier post-medieval in date. A cluster of flints were also recovered from an area roughly midway along the southern stretch of the trench. These flints were recovered from within the mixed plough soil, no individual features or deposits were noted. They consisted of a fragment of broken flint nodule, one small broken fragment of flint, and three possible struck waste-flakes that may be prehistoric in date.
- 6.1.4 The plough soil overlay a moderately firm pale yellow-brown sandy silty-clay (deposit 102). This was visible throughout the field and appears to represent the natural geological subsoil.
- 6.1.5 Midway along the western boundary of the field the cable trench clipped the corner of a pit (105). A corner of the pit was revealed (Figure 3), suggesting it was sub-rectangular in plan, 1.58m long, 0.65m deep. In section it had steep straight sides with a moderate break of slope onto a relatively flat to concave base. It contained two fills, the lower primary deposit (104) was a 0.13m thick deposit of loose grey-brown silty-clay contained the remains of what appeared to be bovine leg bones, in a relatively large quantity. The remainder of the pit appears to have been deliberately backfilled with mixed dark red-brown silty-clay (103). This pit would appear to have been deliberately dug to dispose of the animal bone. The condition of the bone suggests a later post-medieval to modern date although the pit lay underneath the plough soil layer (101) and the local landowner indicated that the field had not been ploughed in the last 50 years. A BT cable runs to the west which is likely to have truncated much of the remainder of the pit.

6.2 Trench 2 (Figure 4 & 5, Photos 6 – 8)

- 6.2.1 As the cable trench entered the village it was cut along the western side of the village green and then continued along the roadside through the village, with a branch coming off and cutting along the northern side of the village green.
- 6.2.1 Along the edge of the village green the trench revealed a typical turf covered topsoil of loose dark brown silty-loam (107) with occasional small stone inclusions. This was typically 0.1m thick. Underlying this was moderate dark brown silty-clay (108), between 0.1m and 0.3m thick, generally thicker towards the southern end of the green. It is possible this represents plough soil, and 19th and 20th century pottery fragments were recovered from it (including an iron horseshoe). This deposit directly overlay the natural subsoil of stony orange-brown silty-clay (110).
- 6.2.2 This subsoil was cut by construction cut 109 for a wall (106) towards the south-western corner of the green. The wall only survived to a height of 0.1m in the base of the cable trench, and consisted largely of a pale pinkish-buff sandy lime mortar with 5% gravel. The stones from the wall have largely been removed, but leaving impressions of relatively small stones (0.05m to 0.1m across) within the mortar. Unworked local stone and slate surround the wall. The wall remnants are 0.6m wide, and run in a roughly WSW – ENE direction. The construction cut around the wall remains is in-filled with deposit 108, which contained 19th and early 20th century pottery.
- 6.2.3 As the trench continued through the village it cut through modern road surface and makeup deposits, directly overlying the natural subsoil (110).

6.3 Trench 3 (Figure 6)

- 6.3.1 This Trench extended the line of the branch of Trench 2 across the northern edge of the village green, and continued the line along the edge of a field on the east side of the village.
- 6.3.2 This trench revealed a sequence of deposits very similar to that seen within Trench 1, in the field on the south side of the village. Topsoil (100) 0.1m thick overlay a red-brown silty-clay loam plough soil (101) up to 0.4m thick. This plough soil contained several fragments of mid-19th to early 20th century pottery. Below the plough soil was a gravelly mottled yellow-brown silty-clay natural subsoil (102).

6.4 Trench 4 (Figure 6, Photos 9 & 10)

- 6.4.1 This trench ran down an open area between the Old Tailors Shop to the south and Caerfarchell Chapel to the north.
- 6.4.2 Extending along much of this trench was a dump of building material that was revealed underlying the typical topsoil deposit (112). This building material consisted of a 0.1m thick layer of painted wall plaster (113), extending for a length of c.12m along the cable trench. The plaster was red-brown in colour, there was no sign of an associated structure nor was it suitable as an exterior floor surface. Below this was a 0.02m to 0.08m thick deposit of loose grey clayey-silt (114), interspersed with further lenses of the painted plaster. Below this was a relatively thick deposit (at least 0.15m thick, but not bottomed) of loose dark brown silty-clay with frequent patches of stone and building rubble (115). A variety of late-19th to mid-20th century pottery and glassware was recovered from this deposit, as well as a single fragment of possible late medieval or earlier post-medieval pottery.

- 6.4.3 As these deposits were largely uncovered in an area with a garden wall to the south, and the main chapel wall to the north, it would seem likely that the deposits result from building or renovation works on the Chapel itself at some point during the mid-20th century.

6.5 Trench 5 (Photos 11 – 14)

- 6.5.1 This trench carried the cable from the main trench along the road, to Caerfarchell Farm opposite the Chapel. This cut through a turf-covered area to the front of the house, before passing under the wall of an attached former farm building and cutting through a cobbled yard to the rear.
- 6.5.2 Along the roadside and to the west of the house the topsoil (107), which was 0.1m thick, directly overlay the natural subsoil (110).
- 6.5.3 The cable was also cut through a cobbled courtyard on the northern side of the house, between the main farmhouse and an outbuilding to the north. The trench showed the cobbles to be laid within a stony mid grey-brown clayey sandy-silt (119). The base of this deposit was not reached, no finds were recovered.

6.6 Trench 6 (Photos 15 – 16)

- 6.6.1 This trench cut across the main road through the village to run through a turf-covered area alongside the Chapel boundary wall towards Trewellwell Cottages.
- 6.6.2 Along the line of the road the trench revealed modern road deposits directly overlying natural subsoil. To the west the trench revealed a typical sequence of topsoil (107) overlying natural subsoil (110). Late-19th to mid-20th century pottery was recovered from the topsoil deposits.

6.7 Trench 7 (Photo 17)

- 6.7.1 This trench also cut across the main road slightly further to the north, towards the Manse. This too revealed modern road deposit directly overlying natural subsoil.

6.8 Trench 8 (Figure 7, Photo 18)

- 6.8.1 This trench ran roughly east – west at the southern end of the village, just to the north of Brynant, through a largely turf-covered area with some gravel hard-standing at the western end.
- 6.8.2 Again, across the line of the road the modern road deposits directly overlay natural subsoil. To the west the topsoil (107) deposits overlay a band of loose mid brown silty-clay (117), at least 0.22m thick although the base of the deposit was not consistently revealed. This contained a variety of late 19th to 20th century glass and pottery fragments, along with polythene and mortar flecks. This deposit presumably relates to relatively recent construction activity in the area. This in turn overlay the natural subsoil (110).

6.9 Trench 9 (Photos 19 – 20)

- 6.9.1 This trench was located towards the northern end of the village core, connecting the main cable trench along the road to Hamilton House, cutting across a small turf-covered area in front Caerfarchell Farm buildings.
- 6.9.2 This trench revealed the standard sequence of deposits of 0.15m of topsoil (107) overlying natural subsoil (110).

6.10 Trench 10 (Figure 7, Photos 21 – 22)

- 6.10.1 This trench ran east - west along the southern side of the village green. To the south the land dropped slightly to the level of the drive in front of the row of houses forming the southern end of the village.
- 6.10.2 Along the edge of the green the topsoil (107) was slightly thicker, up to 0.2m, but consisted of the same topsoil seen elsewhere on the green and contained early to mid-20th century pottery. Again this topsoil directly overlay the natural undisturbed subsoil (110).

6.11 Trench 11 (Figure 7, Photos 23 – 24)

- 6.11.1 This final, short section of trench, ran in front (to the east) of the Old Tailors Shop, which fronts the main road through the village.
- 6.11.2 Along this stretch concrete slabs were lain on a 0.16m thick make-up layer (118) of grey gravel. No finds were recovered but it is clearly a modern deposit. This was sat directly on top of the natural undisturbed subsoil (110).

7 Conclusions

- 7.1 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken from October 2013 through to January 2014 during the excavation of several cable trenches to bury overhead lines within and around Caerfarchell village in northern Pembrokeshire.
- 7.2 The cable trench cut along the edge of a field on the south side of the village. Within the field is an upright stone. This stone appears to be one of several similar stones visible on 19th century mapping, each located within an individual field, and possibly therefore representing a post-medieval cattle rubbing stone. However, some distance to the south of the stone, but within the same field, a spread of prehistoric flints was recovered from the upper plough soil deposit. No features were uncovered associated with the flints. The only feature uncovered within the field was a pit that appeared to be late post-medieval in date and contained the buried remains of an animal, probably a cow.
- 7.3 Within Caerfarchell village the cable trench uncovered the remains of a stone wall, located towards the southwest corner of the village green, which itself lies towards the southern end of the village. Only fragmentary remains of the 0.6m wide wall survived, surrounding deposits suggesting a late post-medieval date.
- 7.4 The various cable trenches revealed a relatively uniform sequence of deposits across the site. Within the fields to south and east this consisted of a turf and plough soil of loose dark red-brown silty-clay, overlying the natural geological subsoil of yellow-brown sandy silty-clay. A similar sequence was also revealed across the village green. To the south, thick topsoil of dark brown silty-loam overlay the natural subsoil. To the north the topsoil was thinner but overlay a layer of dark brown silty-clays that may represent an earlier plough soil. 19th to early 20th century finds were recovered from this possible earlier plough soil.
- 7.5 With three exceptions the remaining trenches within the village revealed topsoil containing late post-medieval finds directly overlying natural subsoil, or modern road deposits again directly overlying natural subsoil. Within Trench 8, the topsoil overlay modern building debris, within Trench 4 the topsoil overlay mid-20th century building debris including painted wall plaster, possibly associated with renovation work on the adjacent Chapel, and within Trench 5 the cable trench cut through a cobbled yard surface associated with Caerfarchell Farm.
- 7.6 Finds recovered from throughout the trenching work comprised mainly mid-19th to 20th century ceramic and glass fragments, with the occasional fragment of pottery that can only be given a general post-medieval date. Also recovered was a single fragment of pottery that may be late medieval or earlier post-medieval in date, and a collection of flints that may be prehistoric in date. All earlier finds were, however, recovered from contexts containing late-19th to 20th century finds and were, therefore, clearly residual.

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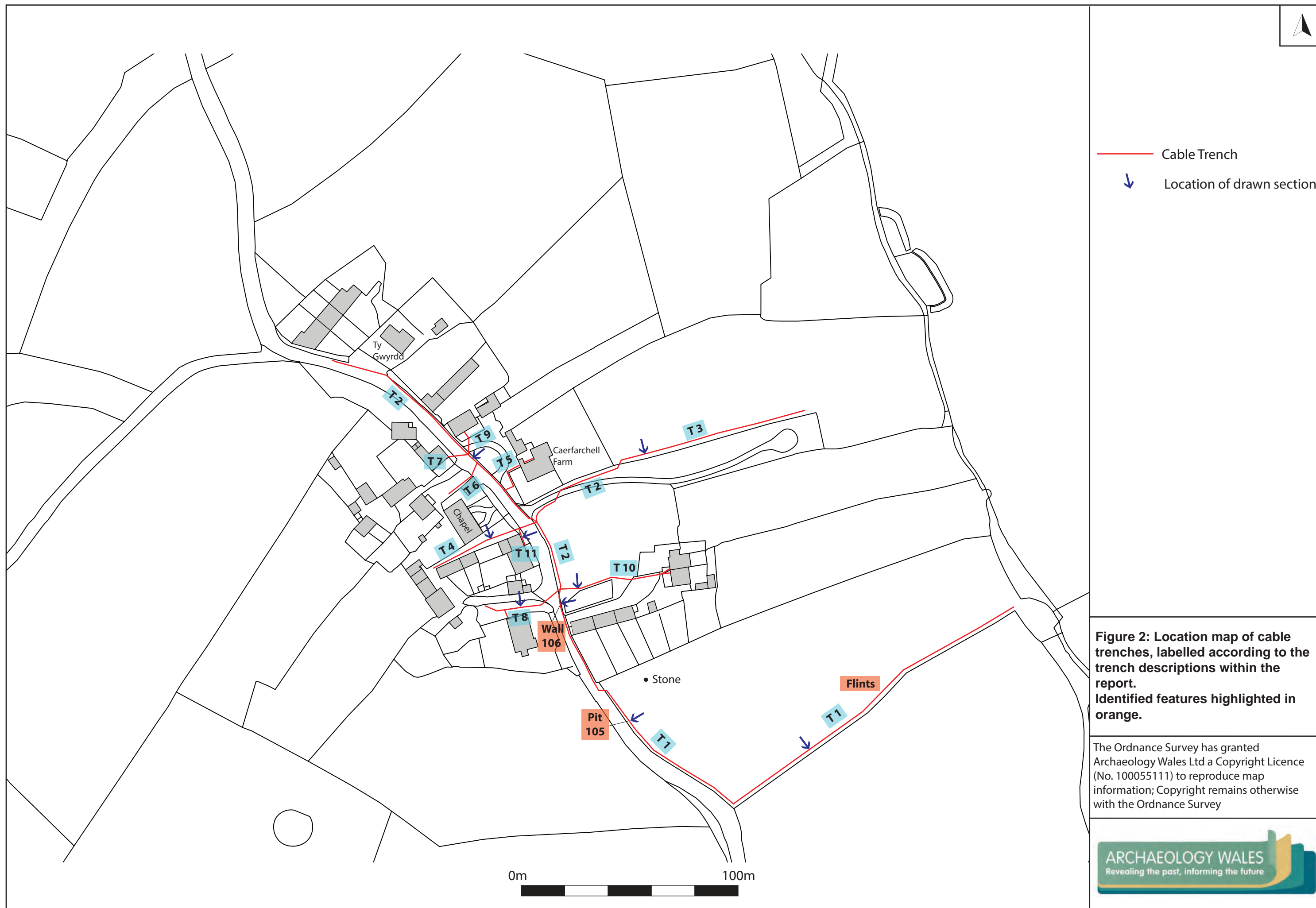
National Monuments Record (NMR), held and maintained by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales



0km 2km

Figure 1: Location map of site.
Based on the Ordnance Survey
1:50,000 map

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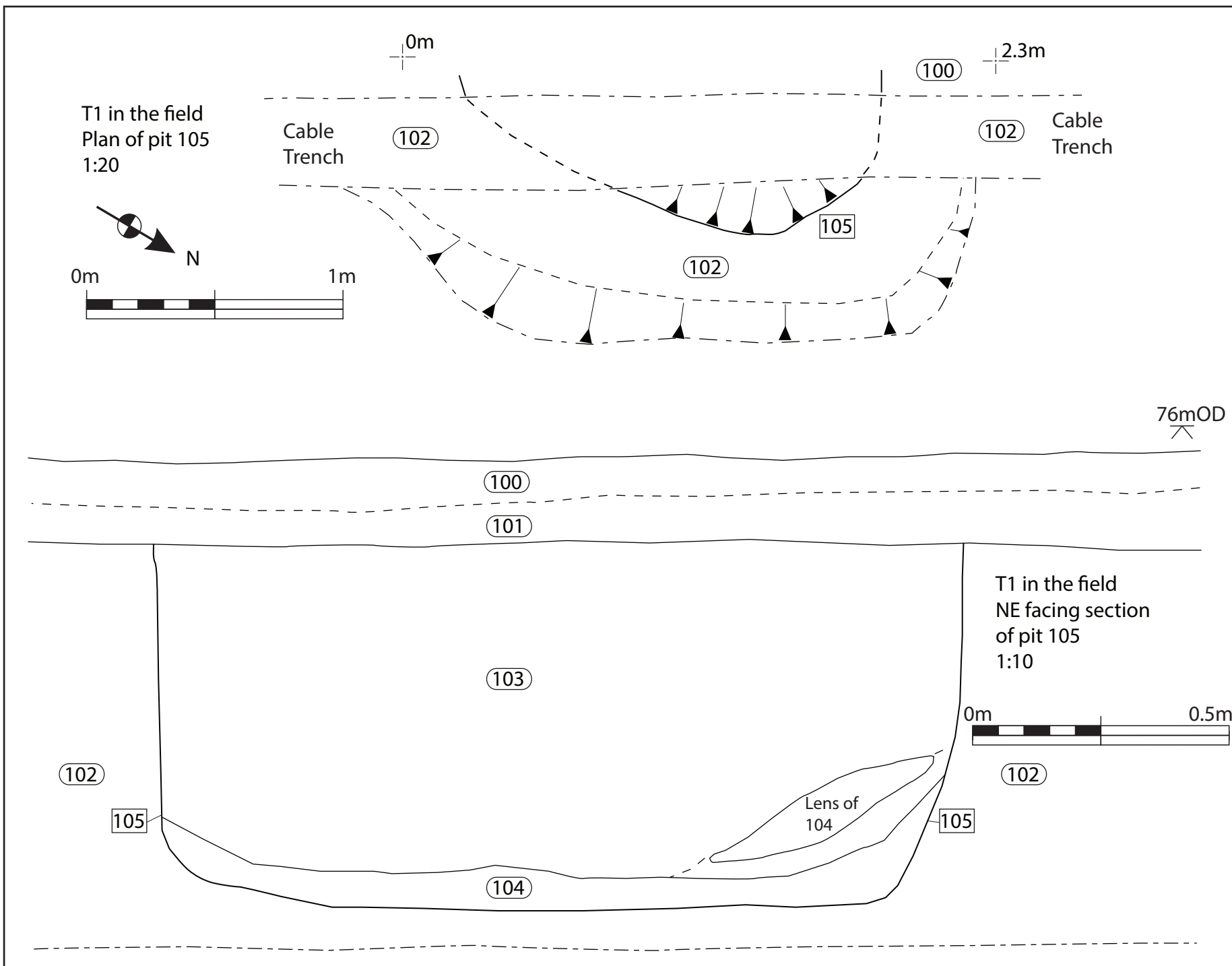


Figure 3: Plan and section of Pit 105 within Trench 1 in the field to the south of the village.

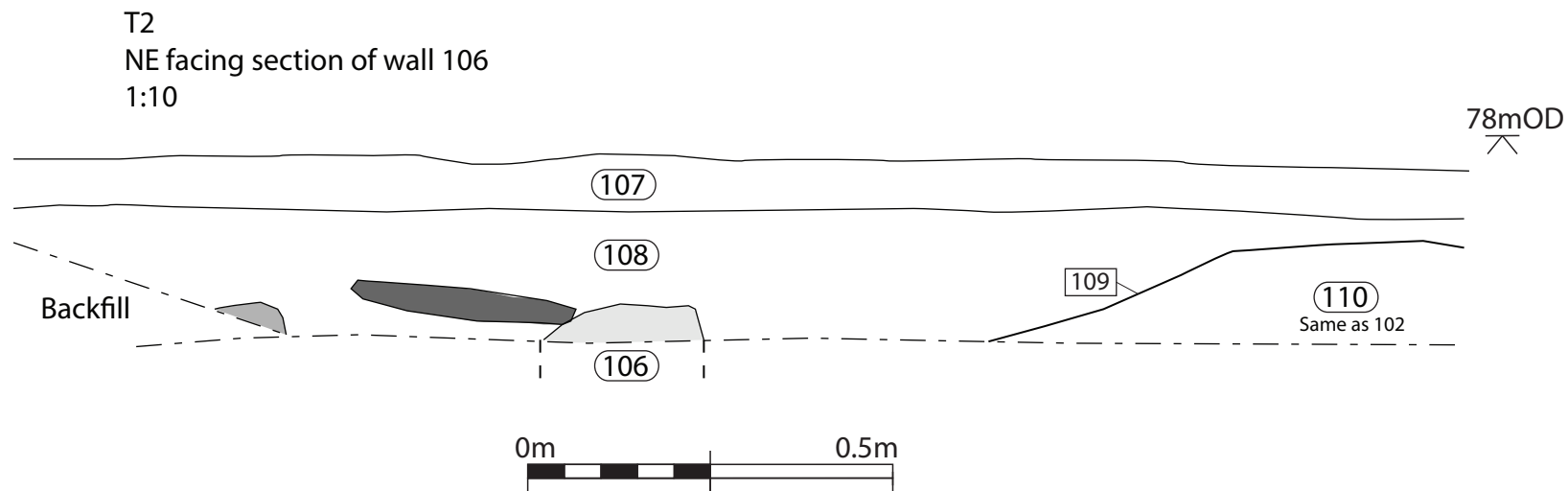
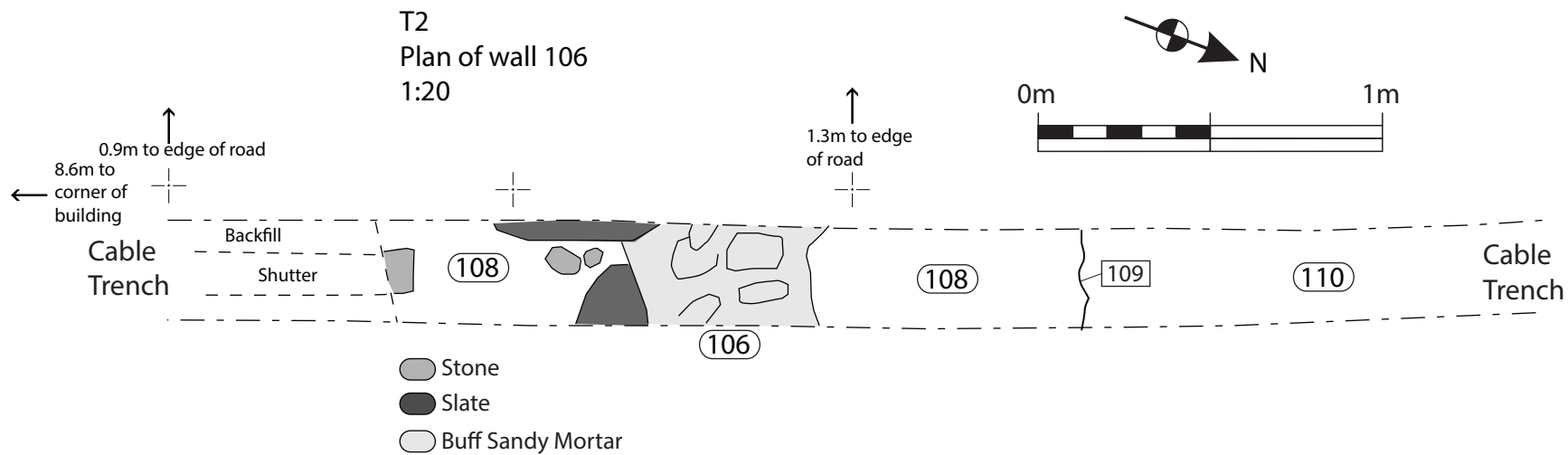


Figure 4: Plan and section of Wall 106 within Trench 2 at the southern end of the village.

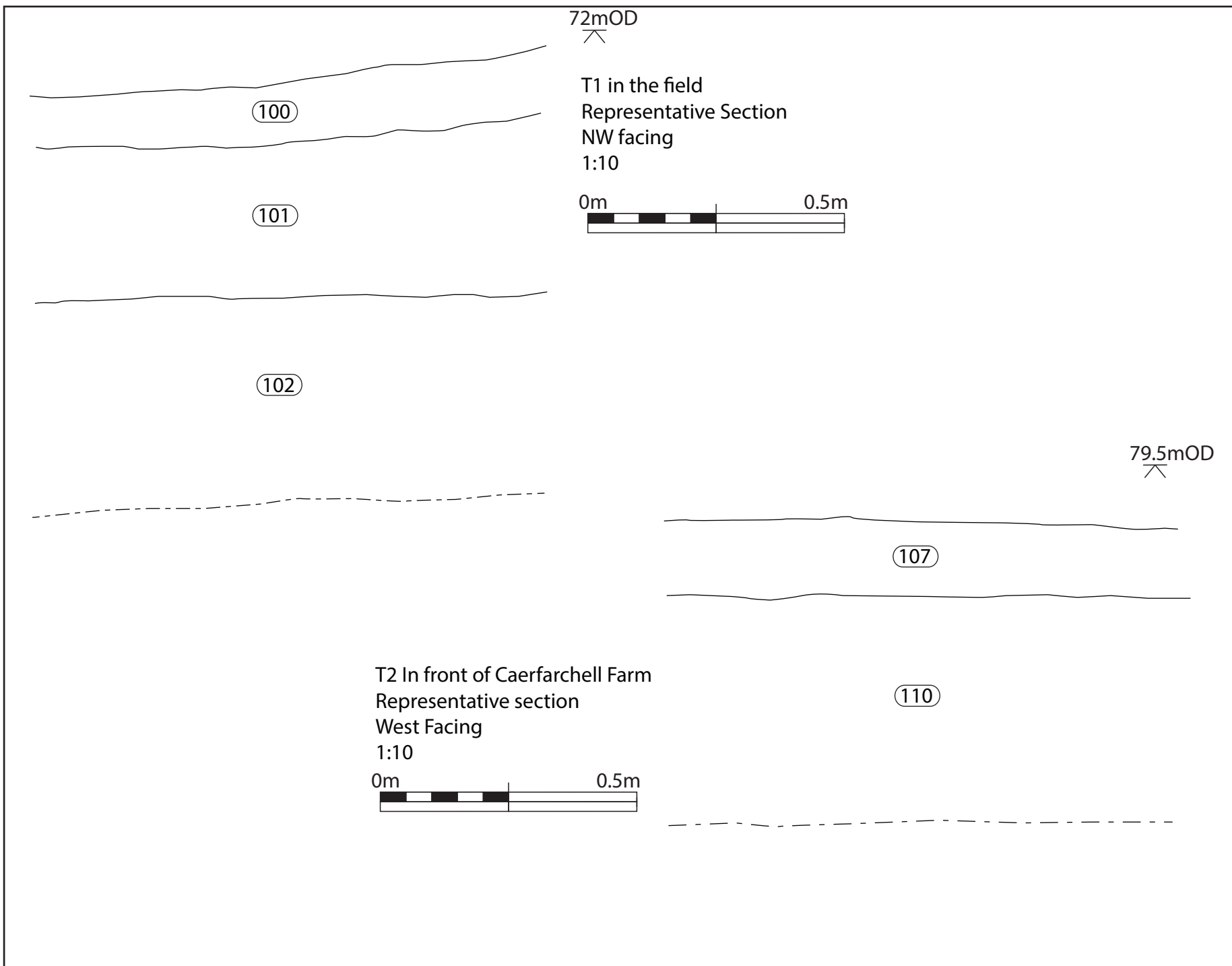


Figure 5:
Representative
sections of Trench 1
and Trench 2.

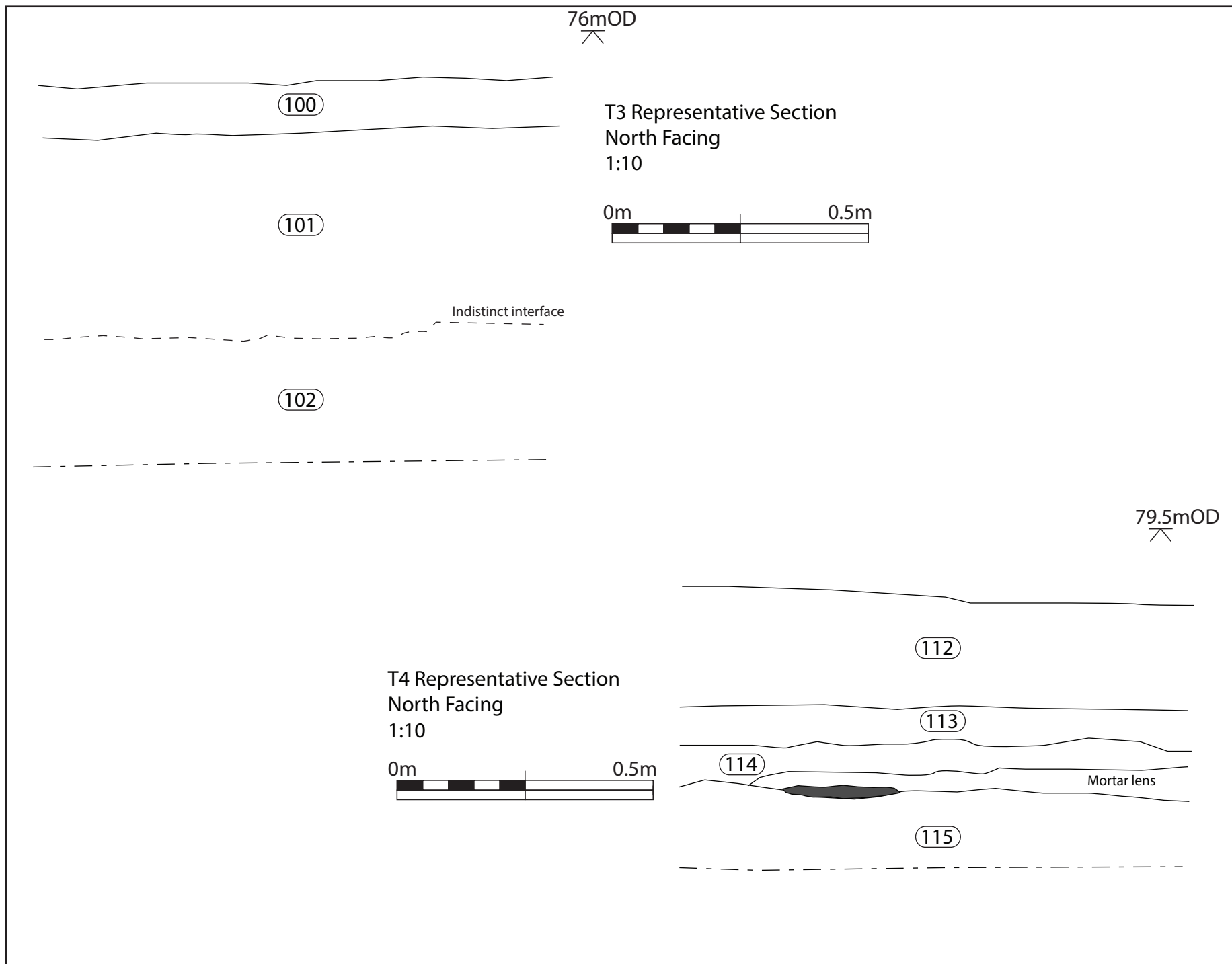
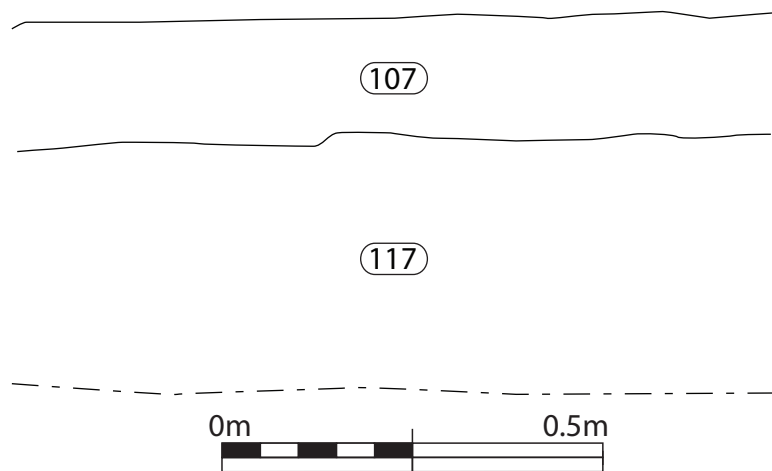


Figure 6:
Representative
sections of Trench 3
and Trench 4

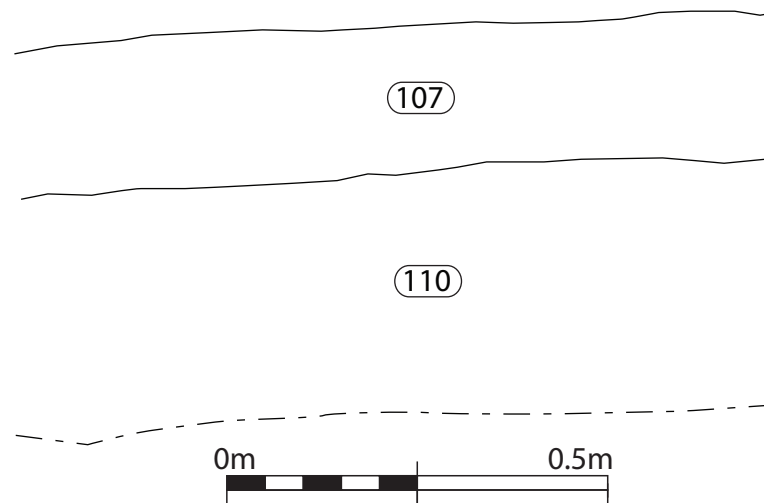
T8 Representative Section
North Facing
1:10

79mOD
X



T10 Representative Section
North Facing
1:10

77.5mOD
X



T11 Representative section
East Facing
1:10

78.5mOD
X

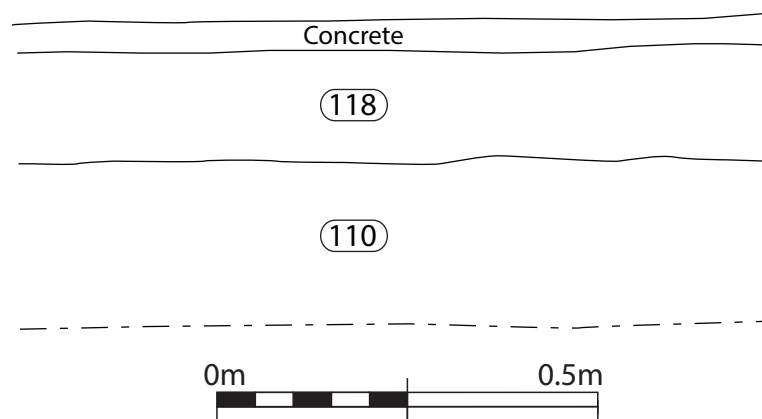


Figure 7:
Representative
sections of Trench 8,
Trench 10 and
Trench 11



Photo 1: North facing shot of the upright stone in the field to the couth of the village. 1m scales



Photo 2: East facing shot of the upright stone. 1m scales



Photo 3: North facing section of Trench 1 within the field to the south of the village. 1m & 2m scales.



Photo 4: Working shot of the excavation of the cable trench (Trench 1) in the field to the south of the village.



Photo 5: East facing section of Trench 1, showing Pit cut 105. 2m & 0.3m scale.



Photo 6: East facing section of Trench 2. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 7: West facing of Trench 2, showing wall 106 and construction cut 109. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 8: Plan view of wall 106 within Trench 2. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 9: Working shot of Trench 4 excavation.



Photo 10: South facing section showing rubble deposits within Trench 4. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 11: Looking north along the roadside stretch of Trench 5. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 12: West facing section of Trench 5. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 13: Looking east at the cobbled courtyard floor at Caerfarchell Farm, prior to cable trench excavation. 2m & 1m scale.



Photo 14: North facing section of Trench 5 within the cobbled courtyard. 2m & 0.3m scale.



Photo 15: North facing section of Trench 6 as it crosses the road. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 16: West facing section of Trench 6. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 17: South facing section of Trench 7. 2m & 1m scale.



Photo 18: North facing section of Trench 8. 2m & 1m scale.



Photo 19: West facing section of Trench 9. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 20: General shot looking north along Trench 9. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 21: Looking east along Trench 10. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 22: North facing section of Trench 10. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 23: General view looking south along Trench 11. 2m & 0.5m scale.



Photo 24: East facing section of Trench 11. 2m & 0.5m scale.

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APPENDIX I: Context Register

Context Descriptions

Context Number	Context Type	Trench	Description	Dimensions (Length x width x thickness)
100	Layer	T1, T3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topsoil turfline Loose, dark red-brown silty-clay with common small sub-angular stone Late post-medieval – 20th century pottery 	Throughout Trench 1, 0.05m thick
101	Layer	T1, T3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plough soil Loose, dark red-brown silty-clay with common small sub-angular stone ?Prehistoric flint 	Throughout Trench 1, 0.6m thick
102	Layer	T1, T3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural subsoil Fairly compact, light yellow-brown sandy silty-clay with abundant small-medium sub-angular stone and rare very large stone/boulders No finds 	Occurs across site, >0.3m
103	Fill	T1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fill of pit 105 (backfill) Loose, dark red-brown silty-clay with common small sub-angular stone No finds 	1.58m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.65m
104	Fill	T1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fill of pit 105 (primary fill) Loose, mid grey-brown silty-clay with common small sub-angular and sub-rounded stones Animal bone (bovine) 	1.58m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.13m
105	Cut	T1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pit Sub-rectangular in plan (although not all visible). Straight vertical sides, moderate break of slope at base, concave base. Contained animal burial (?earlier 20th century) 104 and 103 	1.58m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.78m
106	Wall	T2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stone and mortar built wall Wall remnants, consisting largely (80%) of pale pinkish-buff sandy-lime mortar with 5% gravel inclusions. Stone impressions of small – medium rounded stone. No masonry faces survive. Orientated WNW - ESE 	0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.6m x 0.1m
107	Layer	T2, T5, T6, T8, T9, T10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topsoil (turf covered) Loose, dark brown silty-clay loam with rare small sub-rounded stone No finds 	20m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.1m
108	Layer	T2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Former ploughsoil 	20m x 0.3m (extends beyond

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate, dark brown clayey-silt with rare medium sub-angular stone Also fills 109 Finds include late 19th/20th century pottery and an iron horseshoe 	trench limits) x 0.3m
109	Cut	T2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction cut for wall 106 Linear Moderate, straight sides. Base not visible Orientated WNW – ESE Filled by 106 & 108 	0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 1.5m
110	Layer	T2, T5, T6, T8, T9, T10, T11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural subsoil Fairly compact, mid orange-brown sandy silty-clay with abundant medium sub-rounded and sub-angular stone and rare large sub-angular stone No finds 	Visible in all trenches within Caerfarchell x >0.5m
111			Context number not used	
112	Layer	T4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Topsoil (turf covered) Loose, dark brown silty-clay loam with rare small sub-rounded stone No finds 	12m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits 0.3m
113	Layer	T4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layer (construction debris) Deposit of fragmented painted wall plaster (red-brown in colour) 	12m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.1m
114	Layer	T4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layer (construction debris/makeup layer) Loose, mid grey clayey-silt No finds 	12m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.08m
115	Fill	T4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layer (construction debris/makeup layer) Loose, dark brown silty-clay with abundant small sub-angular stone and common medium – large brick and stone rubble 19th – 20th century pottery, possible medieval/earlier post-medieval pot sherd, 19th – 20th century glass 	12m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.15m
116			Context number not used	
117	Layer	T8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layer (Made ground) Loose, mid brown silty-clay with common medium sub-angular stone Late 19th – 20th century pottery and glass 	1m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.22m
118	Layer	T11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Layer (makeup deposit for road) Fairly compact, mid grey gravel/chippings No finds 	1m x 0.3m (extends beyond trench limits) x 0.16m

119	Layer	T5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cobbled courtyard surface • Medium to large sub-rounded stone laid in a moderate, mid grey-brown clayey sandy-silt with abundant small sun-rounded stone • No finds 	4.6m x 4.8m x 0.3m
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APPENDIX II: Finds Register

Finds Register

Find No.	Context	Material	Provisional Date	Description
1	100 (T1)	Ceramic	Late post-medieval	One abraded pot sherd (5g). Red earthenware, gravel-tempered. One side covered in a pale green glaze.
2	100 (T1)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – early 20 th century	Two pot sherds from the same vessel (8g). Red earthenware, with internal and external black glaze.
3	100 (T1)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – early 20 th century	One base sherd (25g). Buff earthenware, with internal and external white glaze. Painted outline of a floral design, in grey.
4	101 (T1)	Flint	?Prehistoric	Five fragments of flint (220g). 1 x broken unworked nodule, 1 x small unworked fragment, 3 x struck waste flakes
5	104 (T1)	Bone	?Early 20 th century	39 fragments (1.92kg) of bone (bovine) from leg, pelvis and ankle of at least one, possibly more animals
6	108 (T2)	Ironwork	20 th century	1x solid iron horse shoe (520g).
7	108 (T2)	Ceramic	Late 19 th /20 th century	Two pot sherds (35g), 1x base of possible egg cup, 1 x rim of plate. Thin buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze.
8	108 (T2)	Ceramic	?20 th century	One pot base sherd (5g). Buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze with a painted floral design
9	101 (T3)	Ceramic	Late post-medieval	Three pot sherds (200g), 2 x base, 1 x side. Red earthenware, gravel tempered.
10	101 (T3)	Ceramic	Mid 19 th – early 20 th century	Two pot sherds (15g), 1 x rim, 1x side. Buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze, blue and white painted floral decoration (faded).
11	101 (T3)	Ceramic	Mid 19 th – early 20 th century	One pot sherd (5g), base. Buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze, green and white painted floral decoration.
12	115 (T4)	Ceramic	Mid 19 th – early 20 th century	Three pot sherds (5g), 1 x base, 2 x rim. Buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze, green and white painted floral decoration.
13	115 (T4)	Ceramic	20 th century	One pot sherd (3g), 1 x rim. Porcelain plate rim, with wave rim decoration, salmon-pink painted internal edge.
14	115 (T4)	Ceramic	20 th century	One pot sherd (10g), 1x rim. Buff earthenware, internal and external creamy-brown glaze with white and dark brown decorative external bands.
15	115 (T4)	Ceramic	Late post-medieval	One pot sherd (15g). Red earthenware, gravel-tempered. Internal light green-brown glaze.
16	115 (T4)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – early 20 th century	One pot sherd (20g), 1 x rim. Red earthenware, internal and external very dark reddish-brown glaze.
17	115 (T4)	Ceramic	Late medieval –	One pot sherd (80g). Rough thick red earthenware, gravel-tempered. Internal mottled olive-green glaze.

			post medieval	
18	115 (T4)	Glass	Late 19 th – 20 th century	One fragment (90g), 1 x bottle base. Clear glass, heptagonal bottle base.
19	115 (T4)	Glass	20 th century	One fragment (5g). Flat clear glass, internal painted design.
20	107 (T6)	Ceramic	Early – mid 20 th century	Two pot sherds (125g), 2 x side fragments with rim and base attached. Buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze with external vertical striping ('Marmalade jar')
21	107 (T6)	Ceramic	Late post-medieval	One pot sherd (5g), 1 x side. Red earthenware.
22	107 (T6)	Ceramic	20 th century	One pot sherd (95g), 1 x side. Stoneware, brown (?tin) internal and external glaze. Partial external imprint reads "...SEA/...MITED/...OTTERIES".
23	117 (T8)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – 20 th century	Four pot sherds (12g), 1 x base, 1 x rim, 2 x sides. Buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze, undecorated.
24	117 (T8)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – 20 th century	One pot sherd (5g), 1 x rim. Porcelain teacup fragment, brown outline painted floral decoration with coloured sponge-applied paint.
25	117 (T8)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – 20 th century	One pot sherd (5g), 1 x rim. Buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze with blue and white painted floral decoration. Plate fragment.
26	117 (T8)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – 20 th century	One pot sherd (145g), 1 x knob. Stoneware, pale brown glaze. Knob from a ceramic hot water bottle.
27	117 (T8)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – 20 th century	One pot sherd (20g), 1 x rim. Red earthenware.
28	117 (T8)	Glass	Late 19 th – 20 th century	Five fragments of bottle glass (195g), 3 x base, 2 x side. Clear glass, round base.
29	117 (T8)	Glass	Late 19 th – 20 th century	One fragment of jar glass (30g), 1 x rim. Brown glass, curved with screw top rim.
30	117 (T8)	Glass	Late 19 th – 20 th century	One fragment of bottle glass (5g), 1 x side. Opaque white glass.
31	107 (T10)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – 20 th century	Four pot sherds (90g), 2 x base, 1 x rim, 1 x handle. Thin buff earthenware, internal and external white glaze with external multi-coloured painted floral design. Seemingly from the same vessel
32	107 (T10)	Ceramic	Late 19 th – 20 th century	Two pot sherds (10g), 1 x rim, 1 x handle. Porcelain, white with a pale pinkish external paint. Teapot fragments.

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APPENDIX III: Written Scheme of Investigation

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**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

AT

Caerfarchell, Pembrokeshire,

Prepared for:

Western Power Distribution

22nd October 2013

Archaeology Wales Limited
Rhos Helyg, Cwm Belan, Llanidloes,
Powys, SY18 6QF
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NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details the proposal for an archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks associated with the undergrounding of overhead lines within and around the village of Caerfarchell, Pembrokeshire. It has been prepared by Archaeology Wales Limited for Western Power Distribution.

1. Introduction and archaeological background

The scope of the construction work to be undertaken at the site (NGR SM 795 270) includes the undergrounding of numerous overhead power and telecom lines within and in the immediate vicinity of the village of Caerfarchell, Pembrokeshire. The site lies within the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park (PCNP), and the PCNP authority in conjunction with Western Power Distribution and Ofgem have decided to undertake this work to improve the aesthetics of this particular iconic site.

This WSI has been prepared by Philip Poucher, Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth - AW) at the request of John Amos, Western Power Distribution. It provides information on the methodology that will be employed by AW during an archaeological watching brief at the site.

The methodology set out in this WSI will be agreed with the Heritage Management division of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT-HM) prior to the commencement of groundworks due to be carried out on the site. PCNP recommended to Western Power Distribution that archaeological work would be required as part of the scheme, as a result of which a representative of DAT-HM, in their role as archaeological advisors to the local planning authorities (in this case PCNP), conducted a site visit and produced a list of recommendations to aid mitigation of the potential archaeology. These recommendations are presented below:

1. With regard to the proposed undergrounding within the S-W field, in the first instance we recommend that an alternative route should be sought further away from the possible standing stone. As discussed on site, we would envisage this to run along the more southerly hedge-line of this field. If however, this option is unattainable, the least damaging methodology would be to mole the existing proposed route. Alternatively, if this proves unfeasible from an engineering perspective, we would recommend that any ground disturbance within the immediate proximity to the possible standing stone should be done under archaeological conditions.
2. The area of archaeological potential at the centre of the village, currently represented by a tract of undeveloped **'green' should also be avoided. The sections marked I and J on the provided mapping should in the first instance be moleed. Likewise the section which runs from the central pole to point D. Once again, where ground breaking is unavoidable, all works will need to be archaeologically monitored.**
3. On the remaining works, we would recommend that an archaeologist is present during ground disturbance, in order to carry out an archaeological watching brief.

All work will be undertaken in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Institute for Archaeologists (2011).

2. Site description and historic background

The undergrounding of the overhead lines will take place within and in the immediate vicinity of Caerfarchell village. The village lies **c.3 miles to the east of St David's** in northern Pembrokeshire (SM 795 270). The village consists of several houses, farmsteads and a Methodists chapel. The village is spread alongside a local road but with a focal point around an undeveloped green towards the southern end of the **village. The local road connects to the A487 St David's to Goodwick road a short distance to the north, and via Middle Mill to the A487 St David's to Haverfordwest road** to the south. The village is surrounded by agricultural land, consisting largely of small to medium sized fields bounded by hedgerows.

The village itself is likely to have Medieval origins (PRN 12363), possibly in the later Medieval period although it has been suggested that it may have Early Medieval origins (PRN 10154). Remnants of Medieval field-systems have been suggested in the surrounding field enclosures. The village today includes 10 Listed Buildings, including The Manse (PRN 26615), Hamilton House (PRN 26617) and outbuildings, the Old Post Office (PRN 26658), Y Fferm (PRN 26613) and the Calvinistic Methodists Chapel (PRN 4354), first built in c.1763 (since rebuilt), which is now Grade II* listed.

An upright stone stands in the field at the south-eastern end of the village. The provenance of this stone is uncertain, but it may be a Prehistoric standing stone, typically dated to the Bronze Age. The 1889 Ordnance Survey map marks several similar stones in the surrounding fields, which may suggest these stones are later cattle-rubbing stones.

3 Site specific objectives

The aims of the watching brief, as defined by the IfA (2011) are:

- To allow a rapid investigation and recording of any archaeological features that are uncovered during the proposed groundworks within the application area.
- To provide the opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief are not sufficient to support the treatment to a satisfactory or proper standard

4 Watching Brief Methodology

General

The archaeological watching brief will be undertaken by AW staff using current best practice.

All work will be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist with relevant level membership of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and will follow the IfA Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief (2011).

Detailed

The Watching Brief will be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist during the

cutting of the cable trenches and any other associated groundworks where the sub-soil is likely to be exposed or cut into. The mechanical excavation will be undertaken by a machine using a toothless ditching bucket wherever possible.

In light of the comments made by DAT – HM the route of the proposed undergrounding in the southern field containing the standing stone has been altered, to run around the southern and western field boundaries, further from the standing stone. The excavation of the cable trenches within the vicinity of the standing stone will be undertaken under archaeological supervision.

Similarly the proposed routes alongside the village green will be moled if possible. If this proves impractical, and where trenching is required, this work will be undertaken under archaeological supervision.

An archaeological watching brief will be carried out on the remaining cable trenching throughout the village unless the trenches reveal only disturbed modern deposits.

If archaeological features, finds or deposits are uncovered, work will be stopped in the area of the exposed feature in order that the supervising archaeologist can clean and identify the extent and nature of the feature and for excavation and recording to take place.

All archaeological deposits that are identified will be mapped, cleaned, recorded and fully excavated. The developer will provide a safe working area and sufficient time to record and excavate all features to the satisfaction of AW and DAT. Full excavation of identified features will not be compromised by the construction programme.

Contingency Arrangements

In the event of significant archaeological features being discovered all activities in this area of the site can be temporarily suspended. This will allow a period of consultation with DAT and if required the opinion of specialists.

Following such consultation, recommendations will be presented to the Developer and the Local Planning Authority.

The methodology and timescale of additional archaeological work to investigate such features will be presented and included in the Developers Programme; the feature will be fenced off and secured thus allowing the site programme to continue.

Recording

Recording will be carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.

Plans and sections will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

All features identified will be tied in to the OS survey grid and fixed to local topographical boundaries. The location of all features will also be recorded using a Topcon GTS725 total station.

Photographs will be taken in digital format, using a 14MP camera with photographs stored in Tiff format. Should significant remains be identified that require excavation, photographs will also be taken in black and white and colour slide (35mm film).

The archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will have access to the AW metal detector and be trained in its use.

Artefacts

Archaeological artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be cleaned and labelled using an accession number, which will be obtained from the local museum. A single number sequence will be allocated to all finds. The artefacts will be stored appropriately until they are deposited with a suitable local museum.

All finds of gold and silver will be removed to a safe place and Natural Resources Wales, Cadw and the local coroner informed, within the guidelines of the Treasure Act 1996.

Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator (Phil Parkes at Cardiff University).

Human remains

In the event of burials or cremations being found all work will be halted in the area of the burials and their extent and nature established. The client, Cadw and the Ministry of Justice will be informed and a methodology of excavation agreed which will adhere to Ministry of Justice Guidelines.

Environmental and technological samples

Environmental samples will be taken where necessary when significant deposits are located. Technological samples will be taken where necessary when significant deposits are located.

Specialists

In the event of certain finds/features etc. being discovered, the site archaeologist may have to seek specialist opinion for assistance. Such specialists will be accessed either internally within AW itself or from an external source. A list of external specialists is given in the table below.

Type	Name	Tel No.
Flint	Dr Amelia Pannett	02920 899509
Animal bone	Jen Kitch	07739 093712
CBM, heat affected clay, Daub etc.	Rachael Hall	01305 259751
Clay pipe	Hilary Major	01376 329316
Glass	Andy Richmond	01234 888800
Cremated and non-cremated human bone	Malin Holst	01759 368483
Metalwork	Kevin Leahy	01652 658261

Neo/BA pottery	Dr Alex Gibson	Bradford University
IA/Roman pottery	Jane Timby	01453 882851
Post Roman pottery	Mr Stephen Clarke	
Charcoal (wood ID)	John Carrot	01388 772167
Waterlogged wood	Nigel Nayling	University of Wales (Lampeter)
Molluscs and pollen	Dr James Rackham	01992 552256
Charred and waterlogged plant remains	Wendy Carruthers	01443 233466

5 Post-Fieldwork Programme

Conservation

After agreement with Western Power Distribution, DAT, PCNP and any identified landowner arrangements will be made for the long term conservation and storage of all artefacts in an appropriate local or county museum.

Archive

The site archive will be prepared in accordance with MAP 2, Appendix 3 (English Heritage 1991). It will comprise all the data recovered during the fieldwork and shall be quantified, ordered and indexed and will be internally consistent. The archive will be deposited with the finds in a suitable local museum.

Reporting

The results of the watching brief will be submitted in an illustrated and bound report, which will include the following material:

- Non-technical summary
- Location plan showing the area/s covered by the watching brief, all artefacts, structures and features found
- Plan and section drawings with ground level, ordnance datum and vertical and horizontal scales.
- Written description and interpretation of all deposits identified, including their character, function, potential dating and relationship to adjacent features. Specialist descriptions and illustrations of all artefacts and soil samples will be included as appropriate.
- An indication of the potential of archaeological deposits which have not been disturbed by the development
- Statement of local, regional and national context of the remains
- A detailed archive list at the rear listing all contexts recorded, all samples finds and find types, drawings and photographs taken. This will include a statement of the intent to deposit, and location of deposition, of the archive.

Monitoring

Any changes to the specification that the contractor may wish to make after approval will be communicated to DAT for approval on behalf of the Planning Authority.

Representatives of DAT will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the watching brief. DAT will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during any potential post-excavation.

Archive Format & Deposition

The full site archive will be deposited within one month of the completion of the client report.

The paper/drawing/digital archive will be deposited at the appropriate regional archival store with the finds will be deposited with the appropriate local museum. AW will agree the location and timing of the deposition of the archive before the contract commences.

The archive will include all site notes, finds, documents, drawings, photographs, digital data and a copy of the final report and any prior draft versions. All of these items will be **clearly quantified in tabular form in an 'archive deposition statement' located at the rear** of the clients report, and their ultimate location and proposed date of deposition stated.

6 Resources and timetable

Standards

The watching brief will be undertaken by AW staff using current best practice.

All work will be undertaken to the standards and guidelines of the IFA.

Staff

The project will be undertaken by suitably qualified AW staff.

Equipment

The project will use existing AW equipment.

Timetable of archaeological works

The watching brief will be undertaken at the convenience of the client.

Insurance

AW is an affiliated member of the CBA, and holds Insurance through the CBA insurance service.

Health and safety

All members of staff will adhere to the requirements of the *Health & Safety at Work Act, 1974*, and the Health and Safety Policy Statement of AW.

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APPENDIX IV: **Archive cover sheet**

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Caerfarchell, St David's, Pembrokeshire

Site Name:	Caerfarchell
Site Code:	CSD/13/WB
PRN:	-
NPRN:	-
SAM:	-
Other Ref No:	-
NGR:	NGR SM 795 270
Site Type:	Agricultural land & village
Project Type:	Watching Brief
Project Manager:	Philip Poucher
Project Dates:	October 2013 - January 2014
Categories Present:	Prehistoric to Modern
Location of Original Archive:	AW
Location of duplicate Archives:	RCAHMW, Aberystwyth
Number of Finds Boxes:	1
Location of Finds:	AW (as of 28/07/14), intended location Scolton Manor, Haverfordwest, SA62 5QL
Museum Reference:	Scolton Manor, Haverfordwest
Copyright:	AW
Restrictions to access:	None

Archaeology Wales



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