

Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion.

Archaeological Excavation & Watching Brief



By

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**Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr,
Strata Florida,
Pontrhydfendigaid,
Ceredigion.**

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Sacred Landscapes of Medieval Monasteries Project
& the Strata Florida Trust,
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Strata Florida,
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Non Technical Summary

Between September 2020 and March 2021 a research excavation and archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the Grade II Listed Ty Pair (LB No. 82979) and integrated cart shed building at Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion (NGR: SN 74667 65668).

This archaeological work was undertaken prior to and during proposed development of the Arddangosfa Mynachlog Fawr Exhibition by the Strata Florida Trust. The excavation was carried out by HRS Wales, directed by Richard Scott Jones, on behalf on the Strata Florida Trust and part-funded (in its research aspects) by the AHRC 'Sacred Landscapes of Medieval Monasteries Project' led by the Trust's Academic Director, Professor David Austin. When the conservation work is complete, the building will be a free to enter space telling the story of the farm through the "Mynachlog Fawr in 30 objects" exhibition, featuring a variety of objects and documents from the historic farmstead. The exhibition will open Spring/Summer 2021.

Each of the research trenches undertaken during this work have proved to be extremely useful and have revealed very significant features that have helped resolve each of the questions raised at the beginning of the research. The most important discovery from the excavations has undoubtedly been the actual position of the west wall of the Refectory. This now allows a more precision plan to be created of the abbey site and its claustral buildings, rather than a solely speculative plan based on general Cistercian layouts.

Within the Ty Pair, a probable contemporary feature to the Refectory wall was also exposed in the form of another narrow wall that runs parallel to and abuts the Refectory wall on its eastern side. This wall however only runs the length of the Ty Pair and not beyond. If this narrow wall is contemporary in date to the Refectory wall, given the character of its mortar and the fact that it predates the rubble overburden that encloses the Refectory wall, a medieval date is seemingly very likely for this wall, and if this is the case then it could well be associated with either a pulpitum, or else it may represent either a repair wall or else part of a later early 15th Century Refectory following the Glyndwr rebellion.

Although the north and south walls of the Refectory were not exposed during the excavation work, there was a suggestion that the southern E-W cross wall could very well lie directly below the southern end of the cart shed. The northern end however is more speculative. However, given the size of the Cloister and the position of the west wall of the Refectory, it would seem very likely that the north E-W cross wall lies somewhere in the region of the main entrance to the farmhouse.

The extension trench to the 2019 trench adjacent to the Ty Pair building, between the Ty Pair and the Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse, was also very rewarding, in that it confirmed the existence of an east-west wall already exposed in the 2019 excavation and the extension trench revealed that this wall abuts the remains of the Refectory wall at the north end, which would suggest that it also is contemporary in date and may well be the rear wall of the Cistercian Kitchen Range, which again now allows a more precise plan to be made of the claustral buildings at Strata Florida.

This trench also resolved a number of questions regarding the potential early house, in that it revealed that the projecting ledge of masonry at the base of the southern gable end of the farmhouse is in fact the original foundation of an early 16th building, possibly part of the early house. In the same area investigation has confirmed that the front façade of the farmhouse appears to have been rebuilt on at least another two

occasions, seemingly to widen the building, as well in an effort to keep up with changing architectural fashion. Looking at the ground plan of the house, it is possible, given that the southwest corner of the early house has now been exposed in this trench, that the early west wall of the house originally aligned with the western part of the fireplace wall in the north wall of the house. This would suggest that the early house would have been a fairly narrow building, which raises some concern as to whether this early foundation is in fact only a part of the early Stedman house. This possibility needs to be explored further in any future investigations on the house.

Although this trench did reveal phases of the early house and confirmed that the house didn't extend further south in its earlier history, the external trenches still didn't shed any light on the apparent tall blocked in window in the east wall of the farmhouse at the southern end. One suggestion discussed with David Austin has been that this tall window and the early house as a whole, is a possible remnant of a smaller later Refectory building built to replace the earlier Refectory, which according to historical accounts, was severely damaged as a consequence of the early years of the Owain Glyndwr rebellion in 1401 when Strata Florida Abbey was taken by King Henry IV and his son. If this were the case, then it is entirely possible that the early Stedman house, post-Dissolution, adapted the remains of this later Refectory building rather than the Stedman's undertaking a fresh build themselves. This would make economic sense in terms of time and energy as well as finances. However, there are a few concerns with this suggestion, firstly the house as it stands today is not on the exact same alignment as the early Refectory building and is skewed slightly to the north. As such, if the early house does occupy a later Refectory build foundation then little consideration has been made to preserve the original symmetry of the site. Also, the early house has seemingly cut through the northern extent of the west wall of the Refectory and if the early Refectory building had been damaged so severely through plunder in 1401 then the logical undertaking would have been to purely adapt the ruins rather than completely cut through substantially wide walls. Another concern is the fact that this speculative new Refectory, if it extended as far as the early house as it stands today, would have encroached on the Ambulatory of the Cloister, which would have caused some considerable upset to the layout of the Cloister. As well, the excavations have also exposed a narrow wall alongside the Refectory wall on the internal side. This wall is also a possible candidate for a later reduced Refectory.

These concerns show that there are still a great many questions that need resolving regarding the early Stedman house. The apparent tall window feature in the southeast corner of the east wall of the house is certainly a curious feature, that if not a remnant of a later Refectory, could perhaps be a remnant of a tall Elizabethan window attached to part of the 16th Century Stedman house. Hopefully this question will be resolved in the near future when the plaster is removed from the internal walls of the house during future conservation works on the house.

Lastly, the concern regarding the wide gap between the farmhouse and the Ty Pair building as shown on the Buck print of 1740/41 does now seem to have been resolved. Building investigation and excavation have shown that the cart shed is the earlier of the two buildings, built in the 17th Century. Post 1740/41 i.e. after the Buck print was produced, the Ty Pair was built, which entailed the dismantling of the cart shed's north gable end and the rebuilding of an inglenook fireplace.

In its entirety, the recent excavation work at the Ty Pair at Strata Florida Abbey has been extremely rewarding archaeologically, having finally revealed the actual location of the west wall of the Refectory. This now allows a

more precision plan to be created of the abbey site and its claustral buildings, rather than a solely speculative plan based on general Cistercian layouts. It also now offers further information on the development of the early estate following the Dissolution and in particular the main farmhouse. Hopefully, future research undertaken as part of the continuing Strata Florida Research Project will soon reveal the north and south wall of the Refectory as well as throw some light on the foundations of the early house.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Between September 2020 and March 2021 a research excavation and archaeological watching brief was undertaken on the Grade II Listed Tŷ Pair (LB No. 82979) and integrated cart shed building at Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion (NGR: SN 74667 65668).
- 1.2 This archaeological work was undertaken prior to and during proposed development of the Arddangosfa Mynachlog Fawr Exhibition by the Strata Florida Trust. The excavation was carried out by HRS Wales, directed by Richard Scott Jones, on behalf on the Strata Florida Trust and part-funded (in its research aspects) by the AHRC 'Sacred Landscapes of Medieval Monasteries Project' led by the Trust's Academic Director, Professor David Austin. When the conservation work is complete, the building will be a free to enter space telling the story of the farm through the "Mynachlog Fawr in 30 objects" exhibition, featuring a variety of objects and documents from the historic farmstead. The exhibition will open Spring/ Summer 2021.
- 1.3 The following report presents the results of this archaeological work.
- 1.4 The Technical Appendices for this report contains the following information:

Appendix I: Figures;

Appendix II: Photographs

Appendix III: Context Register

Appendix IV: Finds Register

Appendix V: Levels Register

Appendix VI: Archive Cover Sheet

Site Location & Description (see Figures –1 - 7)

- 1.5 The Grade II listed Ty Pair and integrated Cart Shed, at Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida is located in the county of Ceredigion in west Wales (OS grid ref. SN 746657). The building lies on the western flank of the Cambrian Mountains, located between Devil's Bridge and Tregaron. The site is approached along Abbey Road from the village of Pontrhydfendigaid which is located 1.2 miles to the west on the B4343. The building is positioned at a height of approximately 190m AOD and lies immediately south of the historic farmhouse known as Mynachlog Fawr, which overlies part of the remains of the Cistercian monastery of Strata Florida Abbey, a designated scheduled monument. The Ty Pair and cart shed lie just outside the scheduled area.

Development Proposals (see Figure 6(ii))

- 1.6 The proposed development is to restore/conservate the building to the highest possible standard using traditional materials wherever possible. Walls - Repoint all the walls and the oven house in an appropriate lime mortar mix. Remove the dividing wall in the cart shed, rebuild the cart shed gable wall from eaves height only. Repair/stitch the cracked gable wall in the Ty Pair using a helibar system. Roof- the introduction of four additional A- frames, one either side of the pole A-frame in the Ty Pair and one new A-frame on each pillar in the cart shed. New rafters and purlins throughout, felt batten and welsh

slate to finish Mechanical and Electrical - New electrics throughout the buildings. Underfloor heating with an air source heat pump will provide warmth within the building. Joinery- New large single pane patio doors to the three openings in the cart shed these will be covered with straight planked framed and ledged doors to match the beudy. The Ty Pair will also receive new windows incorporating thin 4/4/4 O/G in the existing style. The rear door which accesses the Ty Pair will be a straight planked ledge and braced door.

Planning Background

- 1.7 On 27th March 2020 planning permission was granted (Ref: A190849) by Ceredigion County Council to convert the Ty pair and coach house into a high end resource centre. Listed building consent (Ref: A190849) was also given by Ceredigion County Council on 26th March 2020, but with the following archaeological and heritage condition (No.6):

Condition 6:

"No development shall take place until a qualified and competent archaeologist has submitted a written scheme of investigation (WSI) for approval in writing by the local planning authority. This WSI will describe the different stages of the work and demonstrate that it has been fully resourced and given adequate time. On behalf of the local planning authority, their archaeological advisors (DAT DM) will monitor all aspects of this work through to the final discharging of the condition. This work will not be deemed complete until all aspects of the WSI have been addressed and the final report submitted and approved.,

Reason: To ensure that no historical material are lost.

- 1.8 The Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was submitted to and approved by DAT-DM in September 2020.
- 1.9 HRS Wales were commissioned by the Strata Florida Trust to undertake the archaeological work. This was undertaken from late September 2020 to March 1st 2021.

Historical & Archaeological Background *(see Figures 8 - 19)*

- 1.10 Strata Florida Abbey (Welsh: Abaty Ystrad Fflur) is a former Cistercian abbey situated just outside Pontrhydfendigaid, near Tregaron in the county of Ceredigion, Wales. The abbey was originally founded in 1164 on a different site thought to have been located two miles distant from the present site. However, the present site is believed to have started in 1184 under the patronage of the Lord of Deheubarth, Rhys ap Gruffydd. A stone marker housed in the Cadw museum on the site commemorates eleven princes of the House Deheubarth who are traditionally believed to have been buried in the Abbey Churchyard during the 12th and 13th centuries.
- 1.11 Today, the Abbey complex lies almost completely in ruins, with the only substantive structure still standing being the entrance archway, the Great West Door to the Abbey Church, though low walls marking the extent of the church and six subsidiary chapels also remain.

- 1.12 Following completion of the Abbey church began the site was consecrated in 1201 and Strata Florida's importance in the Welsh cultural landscape quickly intensified, the Abbey quickly becoming an important political and cultural centre for *Pura Wallia* (those parts of Wales not under direct English control). This situation changed in the later 13th century with the English Conquest of *Pura Wallia*, but it continued to flourish and it is clear that it continued its cultural role, producing some of the earliest manuscripts of Welsh-language writing which still survive today. This production forged a reputation for the Abbey as a key part of Welsh cultural history and remains an iconic site in the Welsh identity and consciousness. The Glyndwr wars of the early 15th century proved almost terminal for the Abbey when its monks backed the Welsh side and paid the price. The Abbey was occupied three times by units of the English army hunting Glyndwr and was comprehensively wrecked. The Abbey never recovered and was very much reduced in extent to the few buildings seen and recorded by the King's Antiquary, John Leland in 1536, just before the final Dissolution of 1539.
- 1.13 Following visits by Henry VIII's church commissioners, Strata Florida was dissolved in the 1540s and the abbey and surrounding lands fell into hands of the Crown. Soon the land and abbey ruins were either given to or sold to the loyal gentry, mostly native Welsh, and the remains of the refectory and dormitory were rebuilt into a gentry house, now known as Ty Abaty. This house was owned by a number of families, including the Stedman's and the Powells of Nanteos. There are records that the Holy Grail was still kept at Strata Florida, and that the Powells would lend it to people to experience the healing power of the grail, and there are several testimonies to its effectiveness. These date right up until the beginning of the 20th Century when it was lost without trace.
- 1.14 Sir John Vaughan, of Trawsgoed, acquired from the 1st Earl of Essex, much of the former monastic lands of the Cistercian abbey at Strata Florida. At the same time further land was added to the estate through his marriage to Jane Stedman, daughter of John Stedman of Ystrad Fflur and Cilcennin.
- 1.15 The monastery buildings themselves were largely demolished, with the stone going to be recycled in surrounding buildings, such as potentially the great barn complex by Ty Abaty. A complex site, it is still unknown what buildings were contemporary with the Monastery and then repaired using stone plundered from other Monastery buildings, and those which were built new from the plundered stone. It is unknown whether the present parish church of St. Mary, within the boundaries of the graveyard, was built from robbed stone, or if it is perhaps a rebuild of what would have been the visitor's chapel for the Monastery.
- 1.16 Recent work has shown that the early Stedman *plas* or mansion was probably created out of the remains of the main Abbey buildings perhaps the west range of the cloisters. The present farmhouse of Mynachlog Fawr (Great Abbey Farm) was a replacement built in the period 1670-1680 and appears to have been built over or incorporated into the former Abbey Refectory on the south side of the cloister. It is likely that the first Tŷ Pair (translates as *Cauldron House*), immediately to the south of the farmhouse, was built at the same time. It is likely also, on current archaeological evidence, that this was larger than the present structure. This building complex became, in the later 18th century, a tenant farmhouse of the Powell's of Nanteos to whom the Stedman holdings had passed by marriage. In the 19th century it

came into the hands of the Vaughan's of Trawscoed. Strata Florida was left to deteriorate until the arrival of the Victorian era railways in the late 19th century.

- 1.17 A railway engineer by the name of Stephen Williams was building the nearby railway line and took an interest in the ruins of the church. At the time, it amounted to nothing more than a massively overgrown collection of indefinable ruins. Williams undertook a massive excavation there, removing huge amounts of spoil, and uncovering the majority of what we see today. Strata Florida once again became a place of pilgrimage, this time to the wealthy Victorians, who were entertained on trips on the railway, who then could make use of a short bus link to visit the remains themselves. Indeed, a principal station on the Carmarthen Aberystwyth Line was named after the Abbey.
- 1.18 In the mid-20th century the freehold was purchased by the Arch family who then, in 2016, sold it on to the Strata Florida Trust. At some point in this sequence the present Tŷ Pair was created.

Geology

- 1.19 The application area is positioned within an area of Undifferentiated Llandovery Rocks consisting of Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone.

2 Aims & Objectives

- 2.1 Generally, the archaeological aims of the work were to ascertain and mitigate damage to potential remains of Strata Florida abbey, its successors and antecedents. In particular the record will be incorporated into the aims and objectives of the Strata Florida Research Project as outlined in its Research Design.
- 2.2 Specifically the aim of the research excavation was to resolve a number of issues that were raised from the 2019 research excavation that was positioned immediately west of the Ty Pair.
- The relationship of an apparent building exposed during the 2019 excavation with the Tŷ Pair (*see Figs 17 and 18*)
 - Did the early farmhouse of Mynachlog Fawr extend further south than it does today?
 - What, if any, was the relationship with the 17th Century farmhouse to the building exposed in the 2019 excavation?
 - To what structure the surviving ingle-nook fireplace inside the Tŷ Pair originally belonged?
 - Do any of the surviving walls of the Tŷ Pair retain earlier fabric which can be related to the building exposed in the 2019 excavation, or is it a completely separate building?
 - What is the chronological sequence of the two standing buildings of the Ty Pair and the integrated cart shed, with particular reference to the Buck print of 1741 which clearly shows a large gap between the farmhouse and a building in the location of the cart shed and yet no apparent gap between the buildings on the later estate map of 1765.
 - Does the undated building exposed in the 2019 excavation immediately west of Ty Pair continue southwards and if so how does this relate to the southern end of the Tŷ Pair?

- 2.3 In order to help resolve these queries, the archaeological excavation entailed the excavation of one (1) trench within the Ty Pair building itself and another one (1) trench within the Cart Shed, both undertaken prior to and to inform development proposals.
- 2.4 A further three (3) research trenches were also undertaken exterior to the Ty Pair, one (1) positioned between the farmhouse and Ty Pair, thereby extending the 2019 excavation trench to the east. A second trench, again positioned between the farmhouse and the Ty Pair, but at the far east end of the gap between the two buildings, and a third small trench positioned at the southwest corner of the 2019 excavation trench.
- 2.5 The aims of the excavation as defined by the ClfA (2014) are:
- To examine and record the archaeological resource within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant regulations of ClfA. It will result in one or more published accounts and an ordered, accessible archive.
 - to examine the archaeological resource within a given area or site within a framework of defined research objectives, to seek a better understanding of and compile a lasting record of that resource, to analyse and interpret the results, and disseminate them.
- 2.6 The aims of the watching brief, as defined by the ClfA (2014) are:
- 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.
- 2.7 The watching brief is not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.
- 2.8 The objective of the watching brief is to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on the site.

3 Scope of Works & Methodology

General

- 3.1 The archaeological excavations were expected to reach to an approximate maximum depth of 500 mm from the present surface, or else shallower depending on the significance of the archaeology that

became exposed. Any archaeological deposits, finds and features which will assist in addressing the unresolved matters discussed in section 2.2

3.2 Groundwork that required archaeological supervision included:

- ground reduction work in both the Oven/Bake House and the integrated cart shed
- Scraping back the ground in front of the cart shed for surface leveling prior to gravel being laid down.

3.3 The archaeological excavation took intermittently from 17th September 2020 to January 2021.

3.4 All work was carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist with relevant level membership of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and followed the CIfA Standard and Guidance for archaeological excavation and a watching brief (CIfA 2014).

Detailed

3.5 All proposed groundwork was undertaken under close and constant archaeological supervision.

3.6 Any archaeological features, finds or deposits uncovered during groundwork, then activity was halted and the exposed material was cleaned and the extent and nature of the material was identified and if required was excavated and recorded.

3.7 All archaeological deposits or features that are identified were cleaned, recorded and fully excavated. The developer ensured a safe working area and sufficient time to record and excavate all features to the satisfaction of the supervising archaeologist. Full excavation and recording of identified features was not be compromised by the construction programme.

Contingency Arrangements

3.8 In the event of significant archaeological features being discovered, all activities in this area of the site were to be temporarily suspended. This would allow a period of consultation with the client, the planning archaeologist and any other potential specialists.

3.9 Following such consultation, recommendations were to be presented to the Developer and the development archaeologist at Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

Recording

3.10 Recording was carried out using HRS Wales recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.

3.11 Plans and sections were 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.

3.12 All features identified were tied in to the both the OS National Grid and all local site and ground plans.

- 3.13 Photographs were appropriated in digital format, using a 24 mega-pixel DSLR camera, with photographs stored in both RAW and JPEG formats. Should significant remains be identified that require comprehensive excavation, photographs may also be appropriated in black and white and colour slide (35mm film).

Artefacts

- 3.14 Archaeological artefacts recovered during the course of the work were cleaned and labeled with the site code and context number. The artefacts will be stored appropriately until they are deposited with a suitable local museum.
- 3.15 All finds of gold and silver were to be removed to a safe place and the Environment Agency and the county informed, within the guidelines of the Treasure Act 1996.
- 3.16 Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation were to be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator.

Human remains

- 3.17 In the event that articulated human remains were exposed, in the form of burials or cremation, they were to be left *in situ*, covered and protected. No further investigation was to be undertaken and the planning archaeologist at DAT-DM was to be informed immediately. In this instance no human remains became exposed during any of the groundwork.

Environmental and technological samples

- 3.18 In the event that any features containing deposits of environmental or technological significance were exposed, these were to be sampled and an arrangement made through a suitably qualified expert to assess the environmental potential of the site through examination of suitable deposits. In this instance no environmental or technological samples were required.

Watching Brief

- 3.19 The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Richard Scott Jones of HRS Wales using current best practice between January and March 2021.
- 3.20 All work was carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist with relevant level membership of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and followed the CIfA Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief (CIfA 2014).
- 3.21 All ground reduction work within the cart shed was undertaken under close and constant archaeological supervision, with all groundwork undertaken by the contractor using a mechanical digger with a toothless grading bucket. All ground reduction work within the Oven/Bake House was undertaken manually using hand shovels and was undertaken by the contractor under strict archaeological supervision.
- 3.22 All archaeological deposits or features when encountered were cleaned, recorded and partially excavated. All finds recovered during the watching brief were bagged and where considered necessary

a grid coordinate was taken using a handheld GPS device in order to locate the find-spot with the OS national grid.

- 3.23 Recording was carried out using HRS Wales recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc), using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.
- 3.24 Where considered necessary plans and sections were 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.
- 3.25 All features identified were tied in to both the OS National Grid and all local site and ground plans.
- 3.26 Photographs were appropriated in digital format, using both a 24 mega-pixel DSLR camera in RAW format, to be exported later to TIFF format for archive.

4 Previous Archaeological Excavations (see Figures 17 -19)

Strata Florida Trust Field School 2018-2019

- 4.1 As part of the continuing Strata Florida Trust training field school in and around the Mynachlog Fawr farmyard complex at Strata Florida Abbey in Ceredigion, in 2018 and 2019 archaeological work has identified archaeological remains of earlier structures in and around both the farm and *plas* complex. A summary of this completed work by Dr. Jemma Bezzant is included below:

“Strata Florida Trust hosted a four-week archaeological excavation and archaeology training field school in and around Mynachlog Fawr farmyard complex at Strata Florida Abbey in central Ceredigion. The excavation followed an archaeological evaluation concerning the development of the one of the farm buildings by The Strata Florida Trust Ltd and The Prince's Foundation (Bezzant, 2018)..... Excavations undertaken by University of Wales Trinity Saint David since 2004, as part of an ongoing research and training project, have identified the archaeological remains of antecedent structures in and around the farm and *plas* complex, including the probable site of a refectory/ kitchen complex, a later gentry phase of building with cobbled surfaces, walls and drainage features. The 2018 evaluation confirmed the location of stone-built structures, close to the surface and potentially beneath Y Beudy (the former milking parlour) to the eastern edge of the farm complex: a wider area of this eastern part of the farmyard was selected as the main location of the 2019 field school excavations (Trench P3). A further area was re-excavated adjacent to the Abbey farmhouse (Trench RF1) in order to investigate the relationship and phasing of buildings there in the light of new documentary and dendro-chronological dating evidence.

Trench P3 was a large open-area excavation revealing the lower courses of two large stone-built buildings, assumed to be medieval in date and part of the Cistercian complex. Dating of these structures largely relates to ceramics recovered from the fill of a large drain or aqueduct feature that cuts through the western end of one of these buildings. The ceramic assemblage dates to between

the 12th-16th centuries but we await the production of a more detailed report. Similarly, ceramics recovered from the rubble fill overlying the stone built structure in RF1 suggest an early post-medieval date for this event but the building appears to be built on earlier deposits and may represent the secular re-use of an earlier conventual building, possibly the refectory.

This project (SF19) represents the first of a three-year field-school project that aims to train archaeologists using a 'live' research project. This report therefore represents an interim where data will also contribute to an AHRC-funded project which continues the long-established research project hosted at University of Wales Trinity Saint David" (BEZANT 2019).

- 4.2 A further summary report on the results of the 2019 excavation of the area adjacent to the Ty Pair building is included below:

"Trench RF1 was extended to measure 11 x 3.6m north-south. A number of rubble deposits overlay the southeastern corner of a larger stone building. This building shares a rough northeast-southwest alignment with the claustral range and abbey church to the north – this is not quite the same alignment of the farmhouse, though they both may originally share medieval footprints. The building contains a hearth or flue-like structure and appears to be built on top of earlier demolition deposits. A narrow, stone-lined drain (RS4) runs north-south along the outside of the building and its date remains unclear" (BEZANT 2019).

5 Antiquarian & Cartographic Sources (Figures 9 - 16)

Buck Brothers Engraving (1741) (Figure 8)

- 5.1 The engraving of 1741 by the brothers Buck, Samuel (1696 – 17 August 1779) and Nathaniel (died 1759/1774), was commissioned by Richard Stedman in 1740. The print shows the west view of the abbey ruins with the mansion or *plas* depicted to the right. In the 18th Century it was fashionable within high society to commission renowned artists to create a picture of your country house set within its romantic landscape, and ruination especially was seen as the ultimate romantic element in any romantic landscape scene. The Buck Brothers were English engravers and printmakers, best known for their *Buck's Antiquities*, depictions of ancient castles and monasteries. They were the nationwide 'topographers *par excellence*' of the mid-18th century. Between 1726 and 1753 the brothers created 423 engravings of national monasteries, abbeys, castles and ruins and 81 views of towns and cities (RYLANCE-WATSON 2020). Samuel produced much work on his own but when the brothers worked together, they were usually known as the Buck Brothers. As with several similar romantic scenes made by the brothers, the subject/s in the drawings were often shown in an opposing situation of dark and light, past and present, with old ruins often being shown shaded and grey and the new present house shown bathed in light. This appears to be the same situation here with this engraving of 'Stratflour' as it is called on the print.
- 5.2 As well as this print offering valuable information on the ruins, the house and other agricultural and domestic buildings in around the house, what is of particular interest in this instance, is the building immediately to the right of the farmhouse, which clearly shows a wide gap between the house and this building. This suggests that the cart shed pre-dates the Ty Pair building. However, although the Buck

brothers were often very accurate in their depictions, it is also best to be cautious given that there may have been some element of artistic licence to display the farmhouse in its best light for the client and it is possible that either Nathaniel or Samuel moved the Ty Pair over further to the right slightly to allow distance from the house and therefore the building not being a distraction. This said however, the Buck brothers were very skilled with their use of light and dark shading and any unwanted attention lost by any peripheral buildings could have easily been dealt with using darker shading, as they have done with the apparent buildings in the background in the same region. As such, it is very possible that this gap is a true representation of the site at the time in 1740/41 and the building depicted is the cart shed.

Powell's Estate Map (1765) (Figure 9)

- 5.3 The 1765 Estate map was created for the Powell's of Nanteos by John Davies (*NLW Nanteos 302 132/2/4*). It is the earliest surviving map showing in reasonable detail the position of the Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse and its accompanying farm complex, and of particular interest in this instance is an apparent building positioned immediately southeast of the farmhouse, which presumably is the Ty Pair building and cart shed. Given that the distance between these two buildings is shown on this map as being relatively small, then it could be surmised that this map is a pretty good depiction of the same scenario that exists today and as such it may well suggest that the Ty Pair building was constructed at some time between the years 1741 and 1765. However, as with the Buck print of 1741, this map must also be viewed with caution given that the cartographer's skill at accuracy at this time was not a honed skill as with the later Ordnance Survey cartographer.

Crawford Estate Map (1819)

- 5.4 The 1819 Estate map was created for William Edward Powell by William Crawford in 1819 (*Nanteos Map, 6688C*). The layout of the whole farm is shown very much as it was in 1765, even-though over 55 years have passed since the 1765 map. Given that very little has changed in terms of the farm's layout on this later estate map, may suggest that its commissioning may have been driven solely by artistic fashion rather than estate accuracies. The colourful watercolor 1819 estate map was undertaken by the cartographer William Crawford. Interestingly, as an example of artistic license, the Ty Pair building and the main farmhouse are now shown as being separated by a fairly wide gap with a throughway depicted between the two buildings. Both buildings are also shown as being on the same alignment.

OS Surveyors Drawings (1820/1821)

- 5.5 The early OS Surveyors drawings of 1820/21 are split between two sheets. These maps were the precursors to the OS 1 inch maps of the 1830s and the eventual Ordnance Survey 25 inch and 6 inch maps of the late 19th Century. Although of little use in terms of detail, they are useful in that they do show roads and tracks and the position of key buildings. However, their use is limited in this instance when exploring the development and phasing of the Ty Pair building and its cart shed in relation to Mynachlog Fawr

Griffiths Estate Map (1831)

- 5.6 This Estate Map was created by Thomas Griffiths in 1831. At this time the land was still owned by one William Edward Powell. It is understood that the farm at this time may have been tenanted out to one John Jones (AUSTIN 2021). This estate map appears to be very much a reiteration of the earlier 1819 estate map with a few alterations. In terms of the Ty Pair buildings, not much has changed.

Tithe Map and Apportionment Details for Caron Parish (1843)

- 5.7 The Tithe map of 1843 clearly shows the Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse and the Ty Pair and cart shed building (2331), although the two buildings are now shown as not being parallel to each other, the Ty Pair being set back slightly to the east. According to the tithe apportionment schedule, number 2331 and the surrounding land was owned by Colonel William Edward Powell and the house and garden were tenanted out to one Thomas Jones, likely the son of John Jones.

OS First Edition Maps (1886/1888)

- 5.8 Apart from the earlier tithe map, the Ordnance Survey first edition map is the first detailed map of the Mynachlog Fawr farm complex. As well as the graveyard and St. Mary's chapel marked, all the farm buildings to the west of Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse are also shown. Although the Ty Pair and cart shed are shown adjacent to the farmhouse to the southeast, it is interesting to note that the cartographer has depicted the Ty Pair as being in the same alignment as the house rather than being slightly skewed to it. This map series also shows both the house and the Ty Pair as being perpendicular to the abbey ruins, when in fact only the Ty Pair is perpendicular to the ruins and it is the house that is actually skewed facing directly north to the abbey ruins.

OS Second Edition Map (1906)

- 5.9 No great change from the earlier OS edition map. Apart from the addition of another farm building in the main farm courtyard area, otherwise the farmhouse and Ty Pair buildings are unchanged.

OS 1953 Edition Map (1953)

- 5.10 No great change from the earlier OS editions.

6 Preliminary Archaeological Building Investigation

- 6.1 Prior to the research excavation trenches commencing, a preliminary inspection was made of the Ty Pair building and its integrated cart shed to the south and the farmhouse of Mynachlog Fawr,

Ty Pair & Cart Shed (LB 82979)

- 6.2 The Ty Pair and cart shed is a Grade II listed building. The following text is a copy of the Cadw description included in the buildings designation and is included to here to help aid interpretation of the building.

History

Outside kitchen or bakehouse to Great Abbey Farm, probably earlier C19, when the house was a tenanted farmhouse of the Nanteos estate. A detached building is shown in the 1741 Buck engraving of the abbey ruins, probably not this one. The 1843 Tithe map shows what seems to be an attached building to SE of the farmhouse, and S. W. Williams' 1888 map of the Abbey ruins does not show the building, though possibly because not relevant.

Exterior

Outbuilding, single-storey rubble stone with metal-sheet roofing and big square rebuilt S end chimney. Two windows to road, no windows in end walls. Single window and doorway with timber lintel in rear right. Attached to S end are ruins of a three-bay cart-shed with stone and brick piers, roof collapsed.

Interior

S end has large whitewashed fireplace, with cambered lintel carried on iron curved bar. Chimneybreast in steps up to chimney. Bread oven in left side of fireplace, large wrought iron pot crane. One bolted collar truss.

Reasons for Listing

Included as a well-preserved outside kitchen, forming a group with the farmhouse at Great Abbey Farm.

- 6.3 From this initial investigation work, it became evident that the cart shed appeared to pre-date the Ty Pair building. This was clear from the presence of an apparent redundant butt joint in the fabric in the east facing rear elevation of the buildings. This joint suggests that the end southern gable end of the Ty Pair, the elevation holding the inglenook fireplace, had been built later and over the former gable end of the Cart Shed. Investigation of the inglenook fireplace within the interior of the Ty Pair also revealed that the inglenook fireplace also appeared to have been built as a separate entity to the east wall of the Ty Pair, but this does not necessarily mean that the fireplace is not contemporary with the east wall of the Ty Pair, but rather it could be purely a phased construction process.
- 6.4 Investigation of the west facing front elevation also revealed that an entrance used to exist at the far southern end of the west facing elevation of the Ty Pair. This is now blocked up and a window inserted in its place. This probably occurred at the same time as when a former window opening in the rear of the building at the northeast end was enlarged and a doorway put in its place. This insertion of a doorway here was also later confirmed from investigation of the internal wall following removal of peeling lime-wash from the internal walls.
- 6.5 The presence of a former doorway in the front west facing elevation would explain why there is an open area beside the inglenook fireplace on its west side, given that this was once the original entrance to the Oven or Cauldron House. Interestingly, investigation of the west end of the inglenook fireplace revealed the presence of an air-hole and a small flue that shared the main chimney. This suggests that this open area once held either a boiler or another cooking area separate to the main hearth. The insertion of this secondary flue must have occurred at the same time as the former doorway being blocked up. The inclusion of another cooking area in the Ty Pair therefore must mark a period expansion or development on the farm.
- 6.6 Given the above considerations in the light of the Buck print of 1741, it seems very likely that the Buck print shows the Cart Shed rather than the Ty Pair building, which would further suggest that the Cart Shed is very likely 17th Century in date and the Ty Pair being built post 1741, so 18th Century in date. This in turn suggests that the Buck print is a good depiction of the site as it was in 1741 rather than a distorted image.

Mynachlog Fawr (LB 9914)

- 6.7 The main farmhouse is a Grade II* listed building. The following text is a copy of the Cadw description included in the buildings designation and is included to here to help aid interpretation of the building.

History

Gentry house probably of late C17 date built for James Stedman died c. 1670 or Richard Stedman, recorded as living there in 1693. The house had eight hearths in 1670 but only has four now. It was illustrated much as now but with dormers in the attic and an ornate porch in Buck's 1741 view of the abbey ruins. Marked on the 1843 tithe map with a range attached to SE corner (where the other 4 hearths may have been).

The house may be on medieval foundations, and may stand at right angles to the rear of the cloister S range (though S.W. Williams thought it built across the site of the S range). It incorporates carved stones from the abbey. The odd position of the main stair in the rear NE gable is suggested as an earlier C18 alteration with a well-stair originally in the gable to left, but conclusive evidence is lacking. The panelling and painting in the S room are earlier C18 also, which would suggest much alteration for the last Richard Stedman, after 1703. He died heavily indebted.

Strata Florida abbey was leased and then bought in the C16 by John Stedman, originally from Staffordshire. His son John was High Sheriff 1581 and died 1607. His son John, born 1550 was High Sheriff of Cards. 1595 and 1608 and Brecons. 1610. He lived at Ystradffin, Carms. and died 1613. His son James was High Sheriff 1617, and died that year. When he died the inventory listed 16 beds, various tables and carpets for tables. His widow married Sir John Price, High Sheriff 1624. John Stedman was High Sheriff 1637, James Stedman High Sheriff in 1667 had died by 1672, Richard Stedman High Sheriff in 1693 died 1703. His son Richard was the last of the family, died 1744. The estate passed to his principal creditor, his brother-in-law Thomas Powell of Nanteos on the death of Richard's widow in 1778, and the house became a farmhouse, eventually being bought by the Arch family, who had been Powell tenants from the late C19, Mrs Anne Arch 1926. Disused since mid 1990s.

The house has been altered since the 1741 view, principally by the refacing of a part of the front wall in the C19 (losing one upstairs window), the reconstruction of the roof with loss of the dormers, the two rear gables being truncated in the C20 with loss of the top flight of the staircase, but the gables re-instated in the late C20.

Exterior

House, rubble stone with slate roofs and stone end stacks with slate tabling. Two storeys, broad front, four-window range of renewed horned sashes with slate or concrete sills. Front wall has been rebuilt on right side, in C19, reusing old stone, leaving a straight joint to first floor right. First floor has 12-pane sash to left, 16-pane in second and fourth bays, no window in third bay, but window reveal survives inside. Cut limestone heads to two left windows, yellow brick head to right window in rebuilt wall. Ground floor has door in approximately central second bay. Door and 12-pane window to left have cut limestone voussoirs, presumably original, while the two 16-pane windows to right have heads in C19 yellow brick. C20 door, slate threshold. Windowless S end wall has two shallow outsteps in wall structure, one just in of SW corner, the other just in from SE corner, suggesting complex building history.

N end gable is windowless but has renewed 16-pane horned sash to left, in side of rear stair gable. Rear of house has two parallel gables, both apexes replaced in late C20. Broader stair gable to right is suggested as a reconstruction of a narrower original initially separate from, and later than the gable to left, joined by infill, the line visible to left of low door. Door is flanked by two small windows. First floor has two 12-pane horned sashes, one in infill to left set higher than the one to centre, and rebuilt gable has 12-pane sash. The door and first floor windows

have limestone voussoirs. Possibly earlier gable to centre has renewed 16-pane horned sash on ground and first floor, 12-pane to rebuilt attic gable. First floor window has limestone voussoirs. Left return is windowless, as is rear wall of main house to left, which has a straight joint and a reused pair of roundels from the abbey. Similar re-used roundels on S return of gable. Other fragments include a shaft in right side of left gable and quoin in left side of right gable.

Rubble stone wall at front of house has rounded limestone coping probably from the Abbey buildings, and gatepiers have caps with reused sections of wall piers. Simple railing gate.

Interior

Low ceilings to ground floor. Broad entrance hall with stone flags, partitions each side. Room to N with very large fireplace with spit-rack over and three massive covered beams. Ceiling in poor repair. Four-panel door. Worn stone slab flooring. S room is panelled in large fielded panels on three sides, with painted panel above fireplace and big cupboard to left with fielded panelled doors, 2 below and one large one with shouldered arched head above. Curved shelves within. Painting is of Youth, standing on box, being tempted by a semi-naked woman on right with bearded face and asses ears, holding a pleasant mask in front of her face, and with cello lying to her side. Two bearded figures to left, one with Bible. The scroll under feet of the youth was read by G.E. Evans as 'When Virtue and Vice/ Youth doth woo/ tis hard to say/ Which way he'll go.' The panelling and the painting look early C18. Ceiling in poor state of repair is apparently modern, pine joists beneath original square oak joists. Seats in window reveals.

Rear centre gable has small altered room. Stairwell to the rear NE off the back hallway, probably early C18 addition; open-well wide oak staircase with closed string, shallow steps, turned balusters, moulded rail and plain square newels. Evidence on banister of fire-damage. Staircase has flight up to half-landing with short rail, second flight to just below the first floor, with short flight up to landing with balustrade. A third flight up is blocked after one turn and two more steps, the fourth flight to attic removed after fire damage, when gable (since reinstated) was replaced by a flat roof.

First floor bedrooms have 6 covered beams, floors with heavy slant towards the front of the house. Front wall of S room shows the window now filled in. Wall cupboard with panelled doors in SW corner. Roof not accessible.

Reasons for Listing

Included at grade II* as an exceptionally fine late C17 house clearly associated with Strata Florida Abbey with interior detail of exceptional interest.

- 6.8 Of particular relevance in the context of the ongoing research are a number of interesting features visible within the fabric of the external elevations of the house.
- 6.9 At the far south end of the east facing external elevation is an apparent blocked in tall window that has been interpreted as a possible former medieval lancet window. This is evident from an apparent joint line and a possible cill (see Photo 10(c)) However, the fact that this section of wall appears to have been rebuilt and repaired on a number of occasions in the past, with re-use of abbey stones, as well as a number of other smaller anomalous features within the fabric around the blocked window, add to the confusion in interpreting this feature. However, what is certain is the fact that the width and continuation of this wall within the interior of the house does suggest that this wall may well have a late medieval foundation.

- 6.10 A further curious feature is an apparent ledge at the base of the south gable end of the house, This base projects outwards from the main fabric of the elevation, which suggests that the present gable end has been built over an earlier foundation that appears to be contemporary with the earlier east wall of the house discussed above. At the west end of this south wall the wall itself also steps in twice, suggesting that there are also two further phases of rebuilding or perhaps two phases of front façade.
- 6.11 It was hoped that the excavation of Trenches 3 and 4 as part of the research excavation will help to shed some light on these features.

7 Results of Excavation (see Figures 20 – 30)

- 7.1 All numbers in () refer to contexts encountered during the excavation. Each trench context commences with its trench number i.e. Context 201 refers to Trench 2, Context 301 refers to Trench 3 and so on.

Trench 1

- 7.2 Trench 1 measured only 1m x 1m and was positioned at the SW corner of the 2019 excavation trench toward the west side of Ty Pair. The purpose of this trench was to re-expose a small section of wall already discovered in the earlier 2019 excavation and to offer further information as to whether apparent stonework abutting this wall at the north end is either another E-W running parallel wall or else laid stones for a later metalled track serving the cart shed.
- 7.3 Once the turf (100) and top soil (101) had been removed from the trench, averaging a depth of only approximately 0.10m, the southern edge of the south wall of the building already exposed during the 2019 excavation became re-exposed along with further stonework (102) seemingly abutting the stone wall. Full cleaning and investigation of this stonework did not reveal another edge to a wall further south and the stonework consisting of both large and small irregular shaped slate stones appeared to have been deliberately laid at the same height as the wall top of the south wall of the building. This would suggest that the area immediately south of this feature is all laid stones put down as metalling for access to the cart shed. This suggestion was later confirmed following supervision of the scraping of the ground in front of the cart shed as part of ground leveling in front of the cart shed.
- 7.4 Dateable finds recovered from (101) included three small fragments of post medieval pink gravel tempered ware, one with a light brown glaze, and two shards of window pane glass.

Trench 2

- 7.5 Trench 2 was positioned at the far north end of the Cart Shed in the area north of the stone partition wall that divided the cart shed into two units.
- 7.6 At the time of the excavation, this area was covered in weeds and vegetation (200). As such the first task was to strim the area of vegetation in order to reveal the original floor surface. At the same time as this area was being cleaned the contractor was dismantling the stone partition wall to the south as per the development proposals.
- 7.7 Following completed strimming, an irregular slate or shale stone slab floor (201) became exposed and

this was cleaned back using a brush and trowel. This exposed floor surface was recorded and each stone was given an identification number marked 1 – 52 so that it may be replaced in the exact position should this be required at a later date. The slab floor did not extend the total width of this part of the building and was approximately 1 meter away from the threshold to the west. This area devoid of stones was filled by a mid brown soil deposit (202) intermixed with small irregular stones. Dateable finds recovered from this deposit included several fragments of a late medieval brown glazed gravel tempered ware, one small Cistercian floor tile fragment with no slip, one fragment of perforated slate roof tile, one iron (Fe) nail, one animal bone spine fragment, one sheep tooth, one fragment of late 18th - early 19th Century hand-printed china and one small fragment of 19th Century white china with gold gilt edging. This 19th Century pottery suggested that the slab floor was probably laid no earlier than the 19th Century.

- 7.8 Once fully recorded and marked up, each one of the stone slabs was lifted and removed and stored. Each of the slabs was a substantial thickness, with a number of them being up to 7 inches in depth which made lifting and removal heavy work. With all of the slabs removed, a loose brown soil intermixed with roots and small irregular stones (203) became exposed. This deposit averaged approximately 0.05m in depth and was cleaned back to reveal a sub base deposit (204) of irregular shaped large and small stones intermixed with patches of clay, sandy grit and brown/grey soil. Within the overlying deposit (203), dateable finds included several fragments of Cistercian floor tile with slip decoration (see Appendix IV), several fragments of 17th Century red earthenware with slip decoration, a few fragments of early – mid 19th Century white welsh pottery with red and green hand painted edging and one fragment of a 19th Century ceramic egg (a complete 19th Century ceramic egg was also found within the fabric of the south wall of Ty Pair during dismantling for the new opening)
- 7.9 Once recorded, this deposit (204) was excavated to a depth of approximately 0.30m, where a very slight change in deposit colour was apparent (205). In order to avoid undermining the east and north wall of the cart shed, the excavation battered the edges at 45°. This underlying deposit consisted of larger to small irregular shaped shale stones and stone chips intermixed with a grey grit soil. Finds recovered from this deposit included large fragments of Dundry stone, fragments of slip decorated Cistercian floor tile and fragments of post medieval light brown glazed gravel tempered ware.
- 7.10 Toward the west end of this deposit a line of four large stones was exposed (207). These were left in situ during excavation, as they appeared to be in an alignment. Further clearance of the overlying deposit revealed that these stones were actually curb stones marking the position of an apparent drain or channel running N-S with a slate base (208), suggestive of a former culvert or slurry drain. The appearance of these two features suggested that the curb stones may have once acted as retaining stones for a former floor surface to the east. As such closer inspection was made of the far east end of the newly exposed base of the west facing internal elevation. In one area only, it became apparent that there were remnants of a former cobbled surface, with a small sample of cobbles (206) actually positioned beneath the east wall, suggesting that seemingly this part of the cart shed was once cobbled in the post medieval period.

- 7.11 Further excavation of the west end of this channel revealed an edge to a substantial wall (208) running N-S and running parallel with the cart shed and the Ty Pair. Further excavation and investigation revealed that this wall measured 1.14m in width and had been bonded using a dark grey/green clay mortar intermixed with grit, a typical mortar mix for a Cistercian wall at Strata Florida. This wall was interpreted as a section of the former 12th/15th Century Refectory wall, a significant and exciting find that now offered some precision to the actual position and extent of the Refectory at Strata Florida.
- 7.12 Once recorded on plan, it was clear that the Cart Shed and the later Ty Pair building, although seemingly been built directly over the buried west wall of the Refectory, was in fact only just built over the west end of the wall, which would explain why there were slight structural cracks in the gable end of the north wall of the Ty Pair, where the wall has been precariously tipping forward over looser ground to the west ever since its construction in the 18th Century.
- 7.13 The discovery of part of the west wall of the Refectory concluded this excavation in this part of the cart shed, its position suggesting that the rest of the Ty Pair was sat over overburden that was covering the interior of the former Refectory and this overburden probably reaches a further 1.5m in depth at least before any original Cistercian floor surface.

Trench 3

- 7.14 This trench was positioned in the space between the Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse and the Ty Pair and served as an extension trench at the northeast corner of the 2019 excavation trench (RF1). The purpose of this trench was to first further inform whether a possible E-W wall feature already exposed in the 2019 excavation continued further east alongside the farmhouse and what, if any, is its relationship to the early farmhouse and, or the Cistercian Refectory, which may survive in this gap as a foundation wall somewhere along the N-S line of the farmhouse.
- 7.15 Initially this trench measured 2 meters in length running E-W and x 1 meter in width, but was later extended a further 2 meters to the east and widened to the north, firstly, so as to expose the lower face of the south wall of the house in the area where the wall steps in twice denoting different phases of build, and secondly, as a consequence of the discovery of the west wall of the Refectory already discovered in Trench 2, it was surmised that this wall should continue northwards along the same line and as such become exposed within the extended trench.
- 7.16 Once the turf (300) and asphalt layer (301) was removed a number of large stones (302) covered within an apparent overburden deposit (304) became exposed. Removal of this historic overburden exposed the remains of the predicted east to west wall already exposed in the 2019 excavation, the large stones seemingly forming part of this wall. The wall had been bonded together using a dark green/grey clay mortar intermixed with grit (3070, similar in type to the mortar used in the section of Refectory wall already exposed in Trench 2. Within the overlying historic overburden was recovered several fragments of post-medieval light brown glazed gravel tempered ware and a number of fragments of late medieval

olive glazed earthenware with a grey core. Also recovered was a broken base of a post-medieval bowl of Black Ware with a repeating incised diamond motif around its edge. Other find included three horse teeth and a sheep's jaw bone fragment.

- 7.17 Once the overburden deposit (304) had been completely removed over the top of this wall and the trench extended to the east, the continuation of the Refectory wall (303) became exposed. Unfortunately this wall had been cut through by the construction of the south wall of the main farmhouse, which suggests that this part of the farmhouse post-dates the Refectory building and such is most likely post Dissolution and most likely mid 16th Century in date and attached to the early Stedman house.
- 7.18 Investigation of the remains of the Refectory wall at the point where it joins the E-W running wall (302) revealed that there appeared to have been an effort to key in this wall into the Refectory wall, Given this and the fact that the mortar used in this wall was almost identical to that used in the Refectory wall, suggesting that this E-W wall may well be the rear wall of the Cistercian Kitchen Range. Further close inspection of the fabric of the exposed Refectory wall in this trench revealed one sandstone block having mason's saw marks on its upper face (see Photo 61).
- 7.19 Further excavation of the overburden (304) on the northern side of the E-W wall (302) also exposed the edge of the wall, which revealed also that it was perpendicular to the Refectory wall which further supports the Kitchen Range rear wall interpretation.
- 7.20 With the historic overburden removed from against the face of the south wall of the farmhouse, it became clear that the projecting masonry (305) toward the base of the south wall of the farmhouse with a return at the west end, was in fact the earliest foundation of the farmhouse, with later front facades built over thereby increasing the general width of the building.

Trench 4

- 7.21 Trench 4 was positioned east of Trench 3, but still between the gap between the farmhouse and the Ty Pair. This trench measured only 2m in length and 0.40m in width, its narrowness being an effort to avoid potentially compromising the foundations of both of the buildings to the north and south.
- 7.22 Once the turf (400) and the asphalt layer (401) had been removed a dark soil deposit (402) intermixed with small stone fragments became exposed. No pottery was recovered from this trench, only animal bone fragments including two horse teeth. Removal of this deposit exposed a layer of rubble stone (403) consisting of large rounded stones. Cleaning back of these stones revealed a dubious edge of a possible dry-stone wall. However, given the nature of the deposit, being rubble, and the location of this feature, this interpretation is very speculative and it is more likely that this line of stones is purely fortuitous.
- 7.23 Given that the location of the west wall of the Refectory had already been exposed in the two earlier trenches and questions answered as to the extent of the early house, it was now clear that this trench was positioned over the former Refectory building, with the east wall most probably lying at least 3 - 4 meters further east. As such this trench was not extended and the further excavation concluded.

Trench 5

- 7.24 Trench 5 was positioned within the Ty Pair building itself along its southern side, measuring approximately 5.2 meters in length x 3.2 meters in width, but also included the open area at the far southwest end of the room alongside the inglenook fireplace.
- 7.25 Following clearing of the room from stored farming materials, a modern concrete floor became exposed (500) that extended across the room, apart from an area at the far southeast corner where the remains of a few stone floor slabs remained, similar to those already exposed in the Cart Shed. These stone slabs had been hidden from view by a 19th century slate cheese cooler which had since been removed and stored as part of the clearance work.
- 7.26 Once the modern concrete had been removed by the contractor, the remains of other slabs (501) were found to exist beneath the base of the inglenook fireplace and at the far west end of the room. These stones appeared to be being used as the foundation for the fireplace walls and also appeared to be integral to it.
- 7.27 Directly below the concrete floor was a sub-base deposit (502) of loose soil intermixed with stone fragments. Dateable finds recovered from this deposit included both 20th and 19th Century material, including one horse shoe, part of a door latch, several pottery fragments of hand-painted Windsor ware, a few pottery fragments of 19th Century blue on white ware, animal bones and three late Victorian shoes found in the open area alongside the inglenook fireplace (see Appendix III). These shoes were all singles and have been interpreted as possible indicators of the folklore tradition in putting shoes in the foundation of a building for 'good luck'.
- 7.28 Removal of this loose sub-base (502) deposit exposed a layer of irregular stones averaging only approximately 0.10m to 0.15m in size intermixed with a dry clay soil containing ash and grit. This deposit averaged only approximately 0.10m in depth and covered the entire trench. Dateable finds recovered from this deposit included a few fragments of 18th Century slipware only. Once cleared directly below this deposit a very compact clay and grit deposit became exposed (507). This deposit covered the full extent of the trench and several features became exposed, including an area of soft peat (503) that was filling a hollow or scooped area filled with rubble (510) that appeared to have been used as a bedding material and a means of levelling the floor prior to a floor surface being laid. Excavation of this deposit managed to recover two fragments of mid-late 18th century blue on white ware, suggesting that this deposit was 18th Century in date and perhaps marking the period when the Ty Pair was built.
- 7.29 Other features exposed following the removal of (502) included a length of narrow 0.40m wide wall (511) running in a N-S direction that also ran directly below the west side wall of the inglenook fireplace, suggesting that it pre-dates the Ty Pair. This wall appeared to line up with the channel (208) already exposed in Trench 2. Inspection of the mortar of this narrow wall showed that it was a clay mortar intermixed with grit, similar to that used in the already exposed Refectory wall. This narrow wall was also positioned directly in line with the east face of the section of Refectory wall exposed in Trench 2,

although as yet the continuation of the Refectory wall in this trench was proving to be elusive. Investigation of the eastern edge of this narrow wall found that there didn't appear to be any evidence for a foundation cut, suggesting that this wall pre-dates the historic overburden deposit (507) that butts up against it.

- 7.30 Another feature exposed in this trench was the cut (505) for the east wall of the Ty Pair filled with a loose clay and grit mix (506, suggesting that the east wall of the Ty Pair post-dates the clay and grit overburdened (507).
- 7.31 In order to try and find the likely continuation of the Refectory wall in this trench, an investigative slot was inserted through the clay grit and rubble deposit (507) alongside the western side of the exposed narrow wall (511). This deposit was extremely hard and appeared to consist of clay and grit similar to the mortar used in the Refectory wall's construction. This investigative slot measured only 2m in length x 0.40m in width, the narrowness of the trench being to avoid potentially compromising the footings of the west wall of the Ty Pair. At a depth of 0.40m the continuation of the Refectory west wall became exposed (508), thereby further confirming its position and form in relation to the Ty Pair and indeed the main farmhouse.
- 7.32 Given that this overlying deposit (507) appeared to be a former medieval clay and grit mortar, and the fact that the wall was found to be buried much deeper than the already exposed sections in Trenches 2 and 3, would suggest that the upper course/s of stone from this section of medieval wall had probably been robbed and the stones reused either in construction of the house, or else the Ty Pair or cart shed itself. Also, the fact that no dateable finds were recovered from this investigative slot further suggests that this deposit in this area was former residual clay and grit mortar from former wall dismantling. An inspection of this grit from a number of mortar samples taken also revealed that there was a very small amount of lime intermixed with the mortar, but this amount was negligible, perhaps making up only 0.05% of the sample.
- 7.33 A further interesting feature of this section of the Refectory wall was that it appeared to be directly abutting the narrow wall (511) already exposed immediately to the east, and given that this narrow wall was also bonded with an almost identical clay and grit mortar, and the fact that there was no evidence of a cut through the overburden deposit (507), would suggest that the narrow wall is somewhat contemporary in date to the Refectory wall. This could suggest that this narrow wall forms either part of the remains of a former *Pulpitum*, or else it represents a rebuilt or repaired Refectory following damage as a consequence of the Glyndwr rebellion in the early 15th Century. If this wall is part of a *pulpitum* then it would be unusual in that the *pulpitum* in other Refectories in other Cistercian sites is usually positioned raised and either centrally to the west wall of the Refectory, or else toward the southwest end of the Refectory and accessed via a wider section of walling, but the wider walling confined to the west rather than being internal to the room, thus keeping the interior floor area of the Refectory clear. As such it is possible this wall represents a rebuilt or even reduced Refectory following severe damage to the main walls post 1401.

- 7.34 In order to confirm that the compact clay, grit and rubble deposit (507) that covered the full extent of the room was an historic overburden overlying the interior of the Refectory, a small 1m x 1m investigative slot was inserted through this deposit at the east end of the room. The excavation for this trench continued through the same overburden deposit (507) to a depth of 0.40m, at which point it was concluded that this deposit very likely continues down for a further 1.5 meters at least. Finds recovered from this trench included three large fragments of incised and glazed Cistercian floor tile, including a fragment of an oak leaf type and another of a hooded figure (see Appendix III).
- 7.35 Once the excavation had concluded in Trench 5, the surface of the hearth area was cleaned of loose material and the slate enclosed cooking stove area was emptied of ash and soot. Investigation of this feature and the wrought iron pot swing suggested that these features are possibly 18th Century in date or else early 19th Century. It was also noted that the iron (Fe) pot swing is further supported by an iron bracket that is inserted through the fabric of the south wall of the Ty Pair and is clearly visible in the south facing elevation in the cart shed side.

8 Results of Watching Brief (see Figures 28 – 30)

- 8.1 The archaeological watching brief during ground reduction work in both the Ty Pair and the integrated cart shed was undertaken between January 2021 and March 1st 2021. All number enclosed in () refer to contexts encountered.

1) Cart Shed

- 8.2 The watching brief in the cart shed commenced with the cleaning back of an already partly exposed stone slab floor, identical to that previously exposed in advance of the excavation of Trench 2 at the far north end of the cart shed. Inspection of this slab surface revealed that there appeared to once have been a partition or screen that divided this area of the cart shed. This was evident from an area devoid of stone slabs running in a line E-W. Once cleaned and recorded and each slab given an identification number, each slab was lifted and stored on site in preparation for relaying. Directly below the slab surface was a loose soil with roots (203). Investigation of this surface managed to recover a fragment of 19th Century china.
- 8.3 The watching brief then supervised the reduction of the floor level. Originally under-floor heating had been proposed to be inserted in this room as in the Ty Pair itself. However, due to the discovery of the medieval Refectory wall at only approximately 0.30m below the existing floor level, the ground reduction for under-floor heating was abandoned given that it would have also entailed unnecessary damage to the medieval Refectory wall. As such the depth of ground to be removed was reduced just enough so as to allow the relaying of a slab floor and to also allow the likely continuation of the Refectory wall to remain intact. Initially ground reduction was undertaken by the contractor manually using a shovel and, under supervision, concentrated in following the internal line of the section of Refectory wall already exposed during the excavation of Trench 2. Below the top of the Refectory wall remains, the ground was reduced by only a further 0.30m in depth. This groundwork revealed that the Refectory (209) west wall continued the entire length of the cart shed. This groundwork excavated down to the lower sections

of deposit (204) only. Once the eastern face of the Refectory wall had been exposed, the wall was then cleaned back using a trowel. This troweling and cleaning revealed that at the far southern end of the cart shed, the Refectory west wall was much wider, the western edge not becoming exposed, suggesting that this area could well mark the position of a former buttress.

- 8.4 Also at the far southern end of the exposed wall, on the internal side, a large flat stone slab became exposed, along with another stone positioned directly below the south wall of the cart shed. These two stones were interpreted as possible indicators for the E-W cross wall of the Refectory. As such, a 2m x 2m investigative slot was inserted in this area of the room in order to explore these stones and whether conclusive evidence for a cross wall could become exposed. Unfortunately this trench only revealed that the flat slab (212) was one of three flat slabs that had been laid over the top of rubble stone, implying that they post date the rubble overburden as such are very likely either late 16th or early 17th century features that predate the construction of the cart shed and are not Refectory related. At the far east end of this investigative slot an area of compacted soot became exposed that was sat over and within the rubble stone layer.
- 8.5 With the Refectory west wall now fully exposed along the length of the cart shed, the ground work for the ground reduction continued using a mini-mechanical excavator using a bladed bucket. Throughout the rest of the watching brief no further dateable material or other features became exposed.
- 8.6 Because of the narrow wall (511) exposed in Trench 5 within the Ty Pair, that appeared to be contemporary with the Refectory wall, and the fact that it appeared to line up with the shallow channel or slate based slurry drain (208) exposed in Trench 2, a small investigative slot was inserted at the end of this channel (208) in order to see if the narrow wall (511) existed below the slate base of the channel. This slot revealed that this channel was sat directly on top of the same rubble deposit (205) that covered the base of the Trench 2, suggesting that the narrow wall (511) within the Ty Pair stops directly below the southern end of the fireplace rather than continuing south.
- 8.7 Interestingly, an examination of the stonework in the Refectory wall (209) just south of this channel (208), revealed that three large stones had been laid upright rather than horizontal, suggesting that these stones had been used as locking stones to possibly support an integral feature within the above but now absent fabric, again a possible indicator for a former *pulpitum*.
- 8.8 Regarding the southern E-W cross wall of the medieval Refectory, although the watching brief did not offer any definitive proof of a southern cross wall, there was a suggestion that the cross wall could very well lie either directly below the south wall of the cart shed, or else immediately south. This was given by the fact that the exposed deposit immediately in front of the southern wall within the interior, where groundwork had battered at 45° to avoid any potential compromising of the foundations of the wall, was slightly harder than the deposit (204), suggesting that it could well be residual clay and grit mortar intermixed with rubble from the dismantling of a wall in this area, similar to the deposit (504) exposed in Trench 5.

2) Ty Pair (see Figures 27 and 28)

- 8.9 Again, as within the cart shed, given that the under-floor heating proposal had been abandoned, the floor reduction in this room had been greatly reduced, to the removal of only approximately 0.25m depth of deposit.
- 8.10 The watching brief within the Ty Pair commenced soon after the remaining concrete floor (500) at the northern end of the room had been removed. As before, once the concrete had been removed the same sub-base deposit (502) of loose soil intermixed with stone fragments became exposed. The depth of this deposit was only approximately 0.10m. Dateable finds from this deposit included one 5 inch long iron (Fe) nail, an iron (Fe) staple, three pottery fragments of 17th – 18th Century slipware, one fragment of 18th Century stoneware and two animal bones.
- 8.11 Directly below this sub-base deposit the same layer of irregular stones averaging only approximately 0.10m to 0.15m in size intermixed with a dry clay soil containing ash and grit became exposed as was in Trench 5. This deposit averaged only approximately 0.10m in depth and covered the entire floor area to the required depth for ground reduction. Dateable finds recovered from this deposit included seven (7) fragments of incised Cistercian floor tile and several fragments of post-medieval mid brown/yellow glazed gravel tempered earthenware.
- 8.12 Removal of this deposit to the required depth just managed to expose the continuation of the narrow wall (511) already exposed in the Trench 5. The limits of the edges of this narrow wall were exposed by trowelling and the wall was found to be continuing below the north wall of the Ty Pair, suggesting as before that this wall predates the Ty Pair. Given that wall (511) did not appear in the external trench (TR3) suggests that it either terminates directly below the north wall or else just beyond but before Trench 3.
- 8.13 Given that groundwork ceased at this depth, a section of the west wall of the Refectory was not exposed during this work. However, given that the Refectory wall was exposed in Trench 3 confirms that it also continues below the Ty Pair's north wall.
- 8.14 A further interesting feature of note during the ground reduction work was the exposing of a section of walling directly below the east wall of the Ty Pair, in the area where the current doorway exists in the northeast corner, confirming that this doorway is a later insertion.

3) Area at front of Cart Shed

- 8.15 Groundwork at the front of the cart shed at the southern end entailed the scraping back of the turf and top soil only. This was only approximately 0.05m in depth. During the watching brief no dateable finds were recovered nor any significant features or deposits encountered other than the fact that below the turf and top soil was an apparent *metalled* surface (laid stones), the same surface already exposed in Trench 1.
- 8.16 Once all archaeological on site was completed all trenches and exposed features were covered in protective sheet and where required each trench was back-filled.

9 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 Each of the research trenches undertaken during this work have proved to be extremely useful and have revealed very significant features that have helped resolve each of the questions raised at the beginning of the research. The most important discovery from the excavations has undoubtedly been the actual position of the west wall of the Refectory. This now allows a more precision plan to be created of the abbey site and its claustral buildings, rather than a solely speculative plan based on general Cistercian layouts.
- 9.2 Within the Ty Pair, a probable contemporary feature to the Refectory wall was also exposed in the form of another narrow wall that runs parallel to and abuts the Refectory wall on its eastern side. This wall however only runs the length of the Ty Pair and not beyond. If this narrow wall is contemporary in date to the Refectory wall, given the character of its mortar and the fact that it predates the rubble overburden that encloses the Refectory wall, a medieval date is seemingly very likely for this wall, and if this is the case then it could well be associated with either a pulpitum, or else it may represent either a repair wall or else part of a later early 15th Century Refectory following the Glyndwr rebellion.
- 9.3 Although the north and south walls of the Refectory were not exposed during the excavation work, there was a suggestion that the southern E-W cross wall could very well lie directly below the southern end of the cart shed. The northern end however is more speculative. However, given the size of the Cloister and the position of the west wall of the Refectory, it would seem very likely that the north E-W cross wall lies somewhere in the region of the main entrance to the farmhouse.
- 9.4 The extension trench to the 2019 trench adjacent to the Ty Pair building, between the Ty Pair and the Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse, was also very rewarding, in that it confirmed the existence of an east-west wall already exposed in the 2019 excavation and the extension trench revealed that this wall abuts the remains of the Refectory wall at the north end, which would suggest that it also is contemporary in date and may well be the rear wall of the Cistercian Kitchen Range, which again now allows a more precise plan to be made of the claustral buildings at Strata Florida.
- 9.5 This trench also resolved a number of questions regarding the potential early house, in that it revealed that the projecting ledge of masonry at the base of the southern gable end of the farmhouse is in fact the original foundation of an early 16th building, possibly part of the early house. In the same area investigation has confirmed that the front façade of the farmhouse appears to have been rebuilt on at least another two occasions, seemingly to widen the building, as well in an effort to keep up with changing architectural fashion. Looking at the ground plan of the house, it is possible, given that the southwest corner of the early house has now been exposed in this trench, that the early west wall of the house originally aligned with the western part of the fireplace wall in the north wall of the house. This would suggest that the early house would have been a fairly narrow building, which raises some concern as to whether this early foundation is in fact only a part of the early Stedman house. This possibility needs to be explored further in any future investigations on the house.

- 9.6 Although this trench did reveal phases of the early house and confirmed that the house didn't extend further south in its earlier history, the external trenches still didn't shed any light on the apparent tall blocked in window in the east wall of the farmhouse at the southern end. One suggestion discussed with David Austin has been that this tall window and the early house as a whole, is a possible remnant of a smaller later Refectory building built to replace the earlier Refectory, which according to historical accounts, was severely damaged as a consequence of the early years of the Owain Glyndwr rebellion in 1401 when Strata Florida Abbey was taken by King Henry IV and his son. If this were the case, then it is entirely possible that the early Stedman house, post-Dissolution, adapted the remains of this later Refectory building rather than the Stedman's undertaking a fresh build themselves. This would make economic sense in terms of time and energy as well as finances. However, there are a few concerns with this suggestion, firstly the house as it stands today is not on the exact same alignment as the early Refectory building and is skewed slightly to the north. As such, if the early house does occupy a later Refectory build foundation then little consideration has been made to preserve the original symmetry of the site. Also, the early house has seemingly cut through the northern extent of the west wall of the Refectory and if the early Refectory building had been damaged so severely through plunder in 1401 then the logical undertaking would have been to purely adapt the ruins rather than completely cut through substantially wide walls. Another concern is the fact that this speculative new Refectory, if it extended as far as the early house as it stands today, would have encroached on the Ambulatory of the Cloister, which would have caused some considerable upset to the layout of the Cloister. As well, the excavations have also exposed a narrow wall alongside the Refectory wall on the internal side. This wall is also a possible candidate for a later reduced Refectory.
- 9.7 These concerns show that there are still a great many questions that need resolving regarding the early Stedman house. The apparent tall window feature in the southeast corner of the east wall of the house is certainly a curious feature, that if not a remnant of a later Refectory, could perhaps be a remnant of a tall Elizabethan window attached to part of the 16th Century Stedman house. Hopefully this question will be resolved in the near future when the plaster is removed from the internal walls of the house during future conservation works on the house.
- 9.8 Lastly, the concern regarding the wide gap between the farmhouse and the Ty Pair building as shown on the Buck print of 1740/41 does now seem to have been resolved. Building investigation and excavation have shown that the cart shed is the earlier of the two buildings, built in the 17th Century. Post 1740/41 i.e. after the Buck print was produced, the Ty Pair was built, which entailed the dismantling of the cart shed's north gable end and the rebuilding of an inglenook fireplace.
- 9.9 In its entirety, the recent excavation work at the Ty Pair at Strata Florida Abbey has been extremely rewarding archaeologically, having finally revealed the actual location of the west wall of the Refectory. This now allows a more precision plan to be created of the abbey site and its claustral buildings, rather than a solely speculative plan based on general Cistercian layouts. It also now offers further information on the development of the early estate following the Dissolution and in particular the main farmhouse. Hopefully, future research undertaken as part of the continuing Strata Florida Research Project will soon reveal the north and south wall of the Refectory as well as throw some light on the foundations of the early house.

10 Acknowledgements

Thanks to; All at the Strata Florida Trust for allowing the opportunity to excavate at such a significant site. Many thanks also to Professor David Austin for all his helpful guidance, advice and expertise on the history and archaeology of Strata Florida Abbey and Mynachlog Fawr. Also many thanks to Tom Taylor at Elm Wales for all his valuable help during the groundwork at the site.

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Cartographic Sources

- *Powell Estate Map (1765)*
- *William Crawford Estate Map (1819)*
- *OS Surveyors Drawing (1820/21)*
- *Griffiths Estate Map (1831)*
- *Tithe Map and Apportionment details for Caron Parish (1845)*
- *Ordnance Survey First Edition Map (1886/88)*
- *Ordnance Survey Second Edition Map (1906)*
- *Ordnance Survey 1953 Edition Map*

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APPENDIX I:

Figures



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 1.

Location Map (OS Landranger 1:50,000)



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion	
Date: 15th March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by:	Drawing No.

Figure 2.
Location Map (OS Landranger 1:25,000)



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 3.

OS Aerial Photo showing location of Ty Pair building.



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

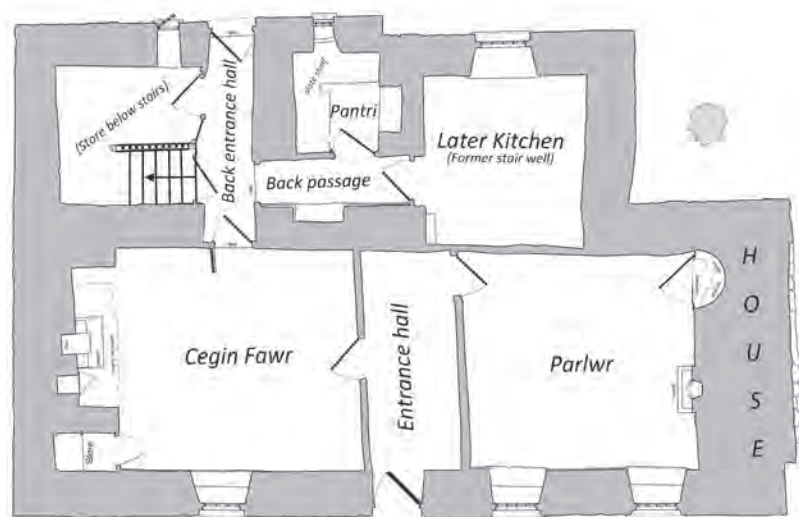
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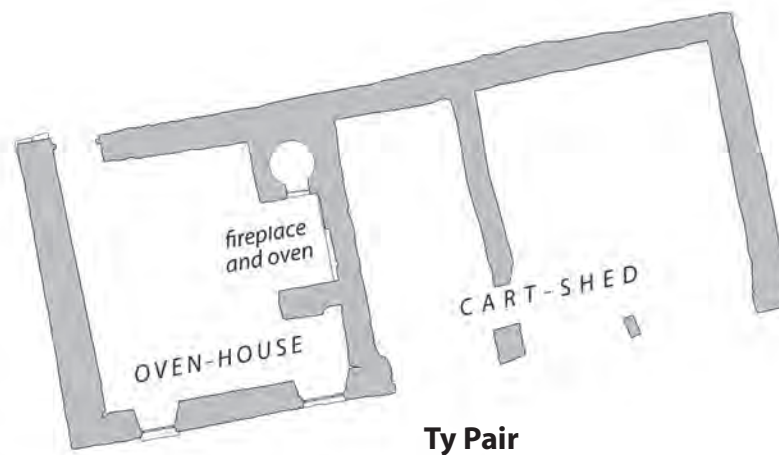
Drawing No.

Figure 4.

Aerial drone photograph showing Mynachlog Fawr farm complex with Ty Pair marked
(August 2019 - Julian Ravest)



Mynachlog Fawr



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

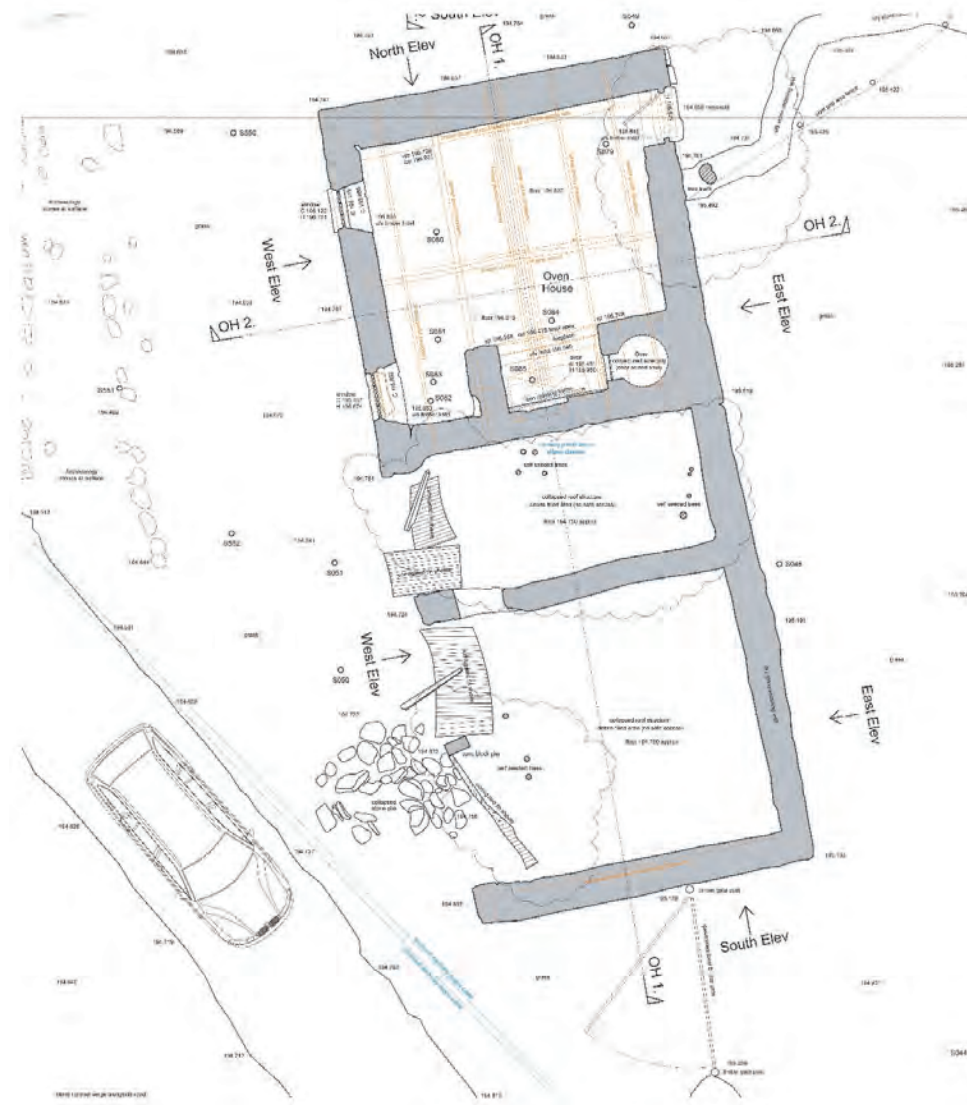
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

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Drawing No.

Figure 5.

Site Plan showing Mynachlog Fawr House and Ty Pair building.



0 5 meters

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 6.

Topographic Survey Plan of Ty Pair building prior to proposed development.



0 5 meters

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

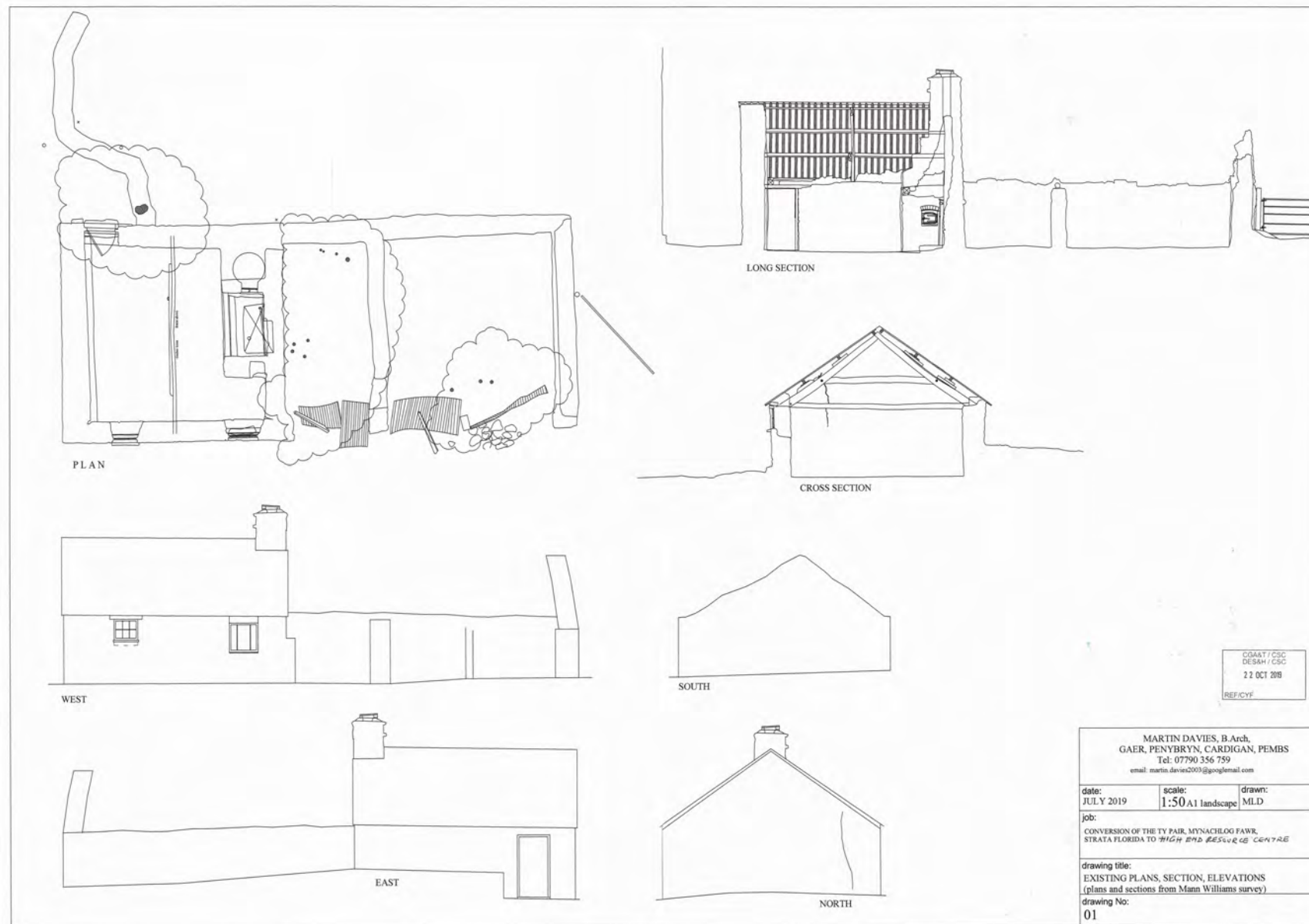
Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 7(i).

3D Photogrammetric Survey of West Facing Elevation of the Ty Pair building prior to Conservation Works.





Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 7(ii).

Architects drawings of existing elevations and sections.



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

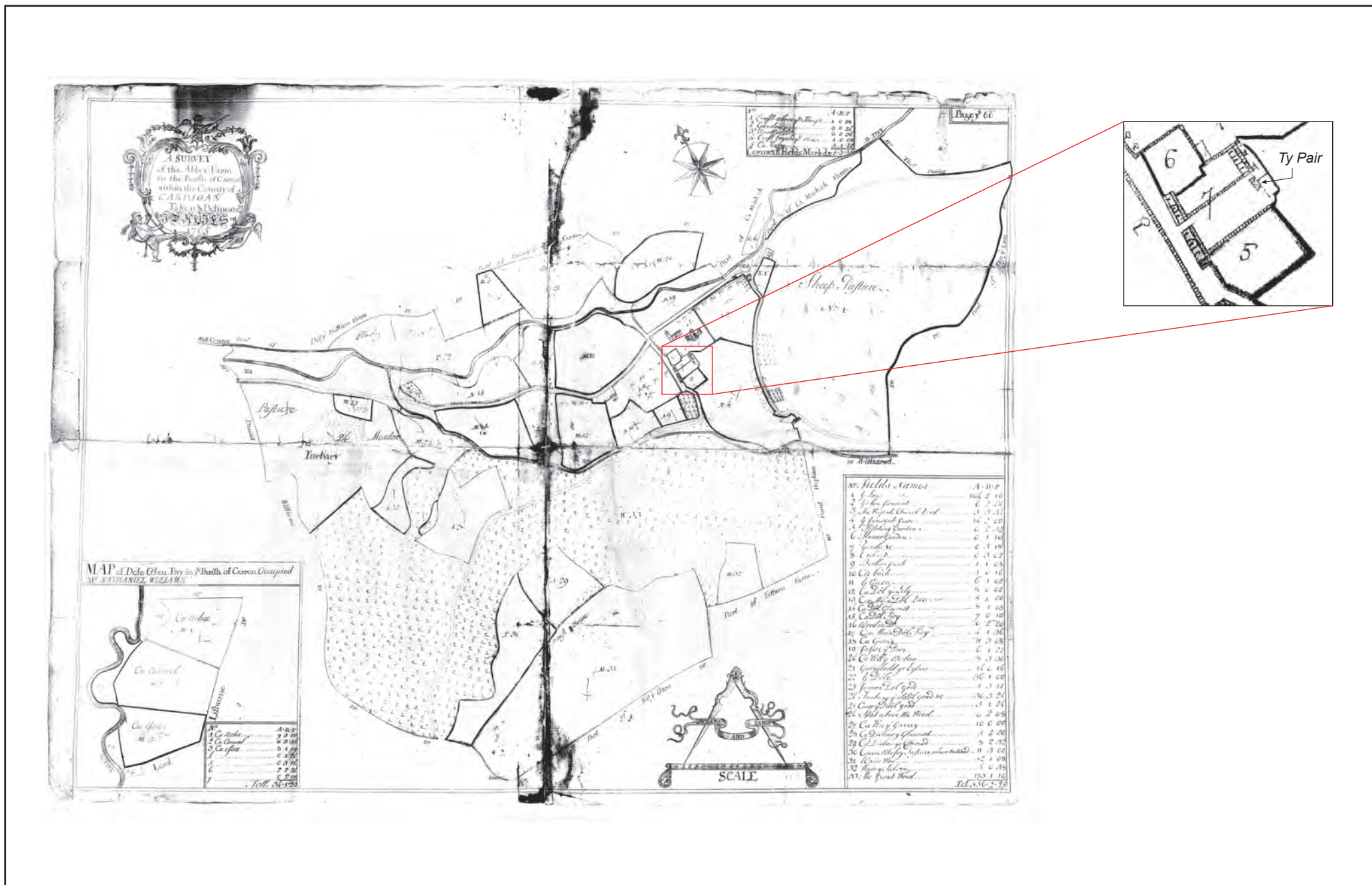
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

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Drawing No.

Figure 8.

Engraving of Mynachlog Fawr and the Abbey ruins in 1741 by Nathaniel and Samuel Buck (The Buck Brothers). Note large gap to right between Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse and apparent cart shed that doesn't appear to show the Ty Pair building.



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 9.

Mynachlog Fawr (Abbey Farm) Estate Map 1765



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 10.

Abbey Farm Estate Map 1819



i) OS Surveyors Drawing 1820 (OSG 311)



ii) OS Surveyors Drawing 1820 (OSG 310-1)

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion	
Date: 15th March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by:	Drawing No.

Figure 11.

OS Surveyors Drawings 1820 - 1821 showing Ystrad Fleur Abbey and Mynachlog.



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 12.

Abbey Farm Estate Map 1831



Landowner	Tenant
Howard, Colonel William	Jones Thomas
Edward	continued

Abbey (until the 18th century)			
2331	House & Garden	1	3 20
2332		14	2
	Garden	16	1 20

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 13.

Tithe Map for Caron Parish 1843 and Apportionment details.



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

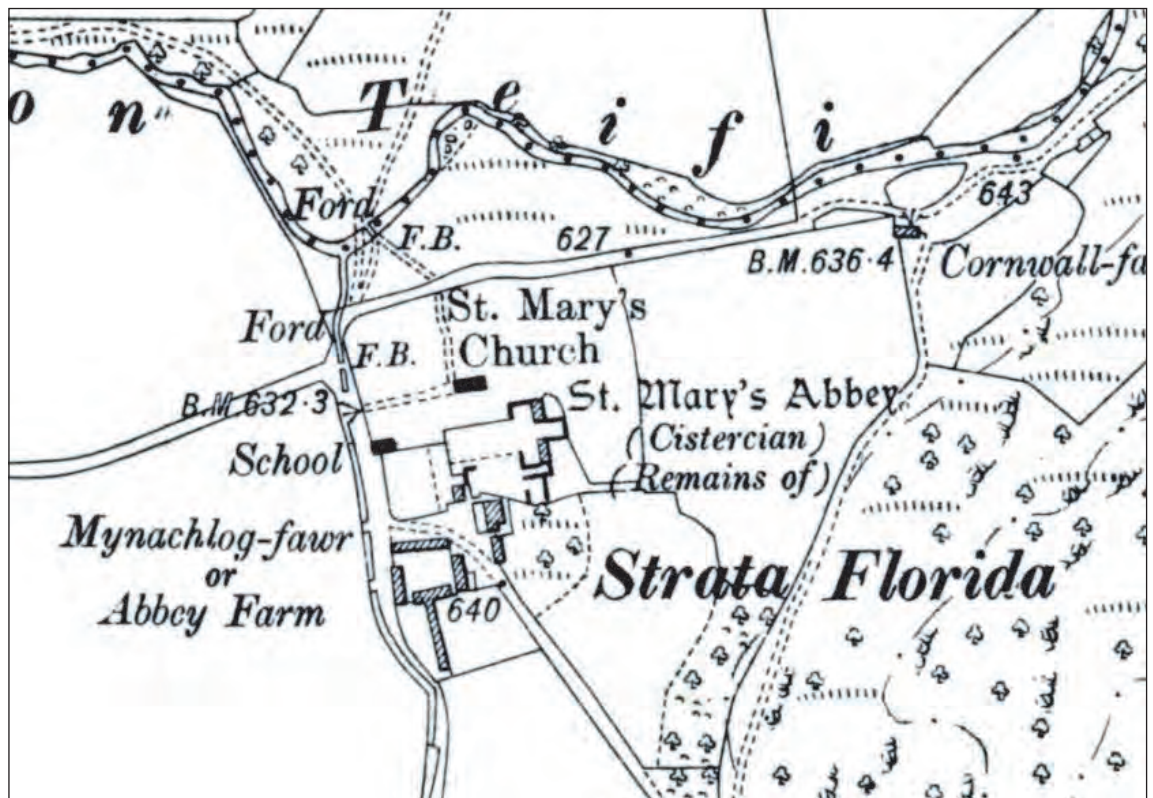
Drawing No.

Figure 14.

OS First Edition 1:2500 (25 inch) Map 1886



i) OS 6 inch First Edition Map (1888).

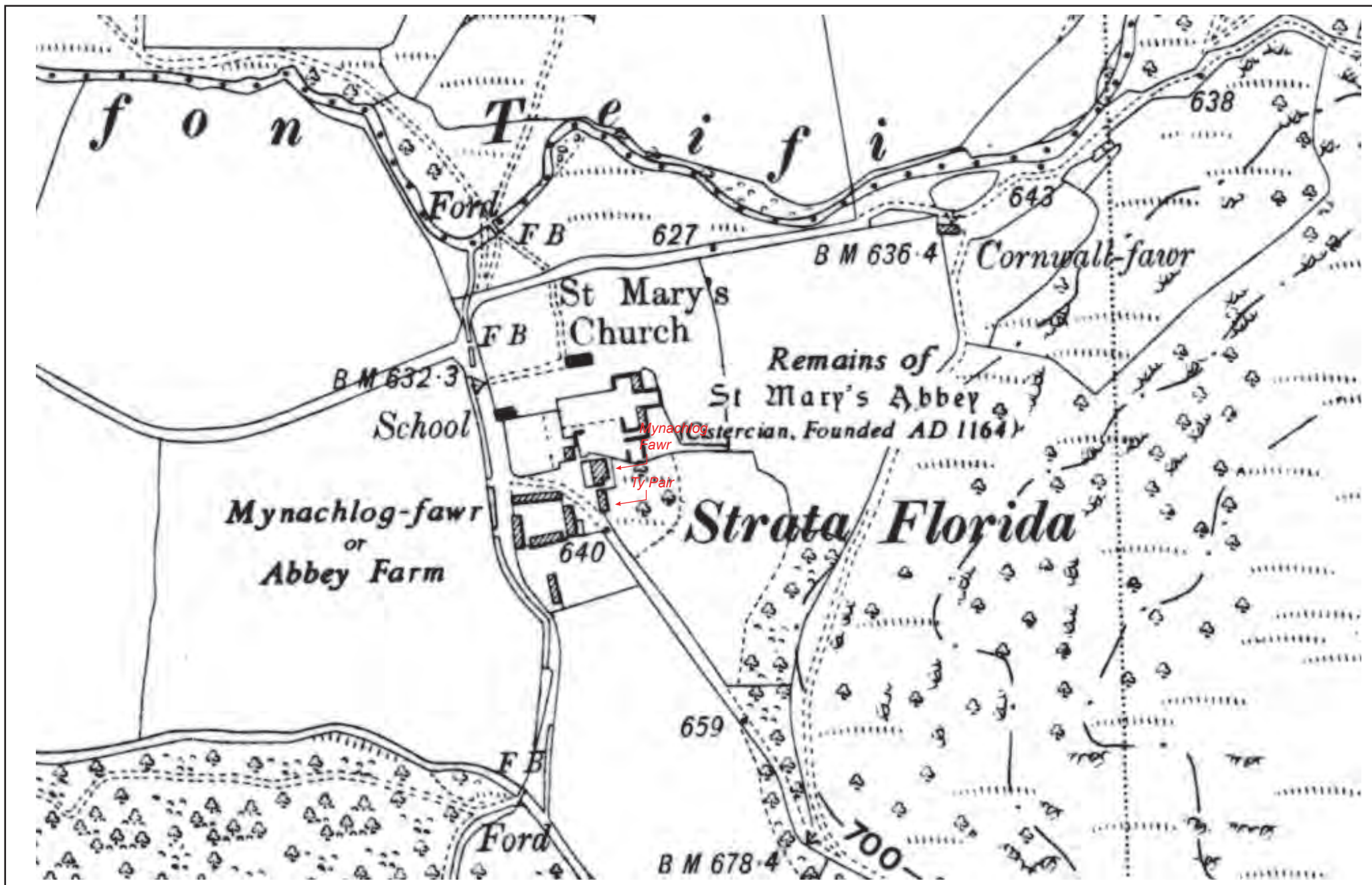


ii) OS 6 inch Second Edition Map (1906).

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion	
Date: 15th March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by:	Drawing No.

Figure 15.

OS 6 inch First Edition Map (1888) and
OS 6 inch Second Edition Map (1906)



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 16.

OS 6 inch 1953 Edition Map.



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

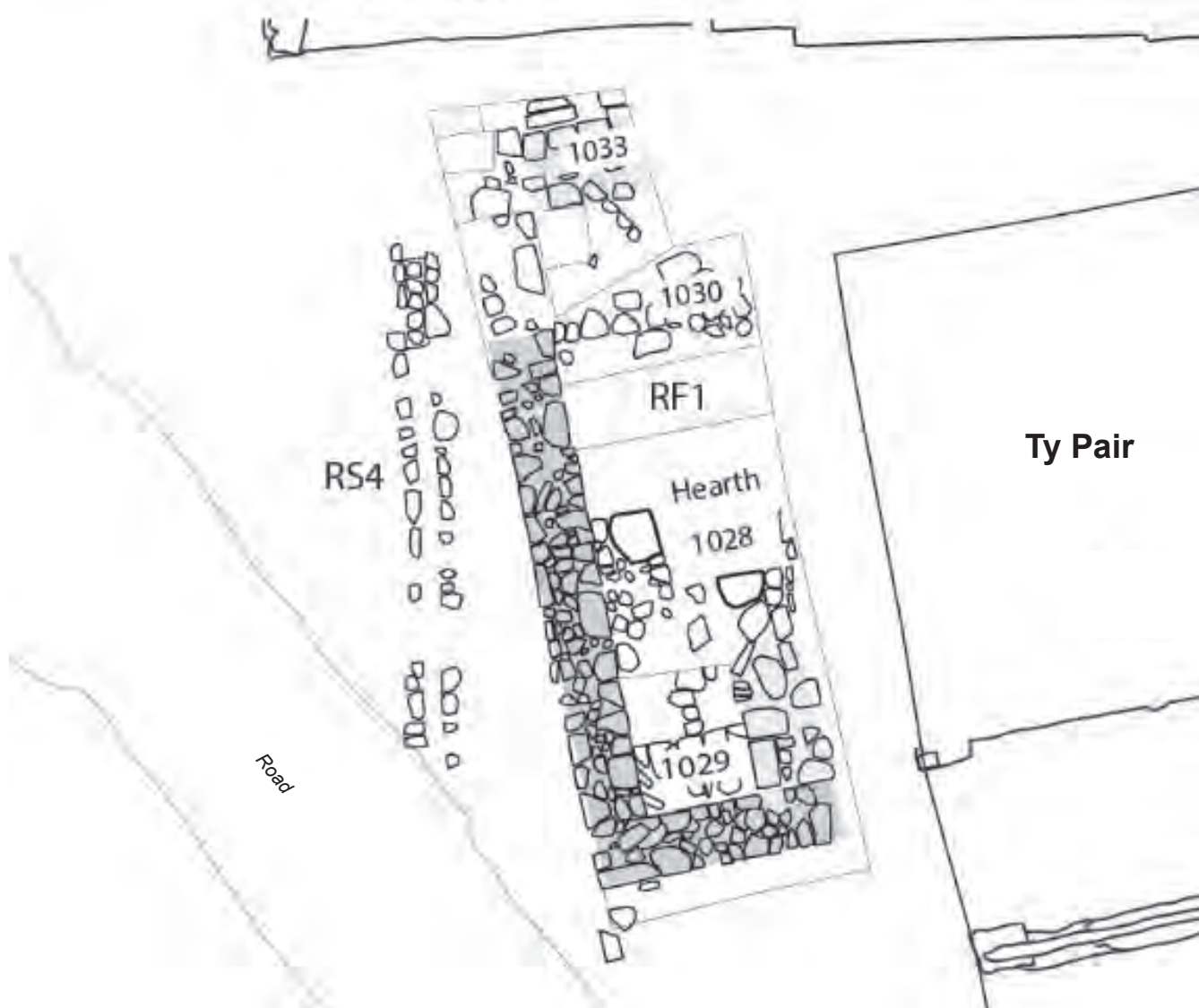
Drawing No.

Figure 17.

Ground plan of excavated areas undertaken in 2019 as part of Strata Florida Field School.



Mynachlog Fawr



Scale



0

5 meters

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 18.

Enlarged view of Ground plan of 2019 Strata Florida Field School Excavation opposite Ty Pair.





Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

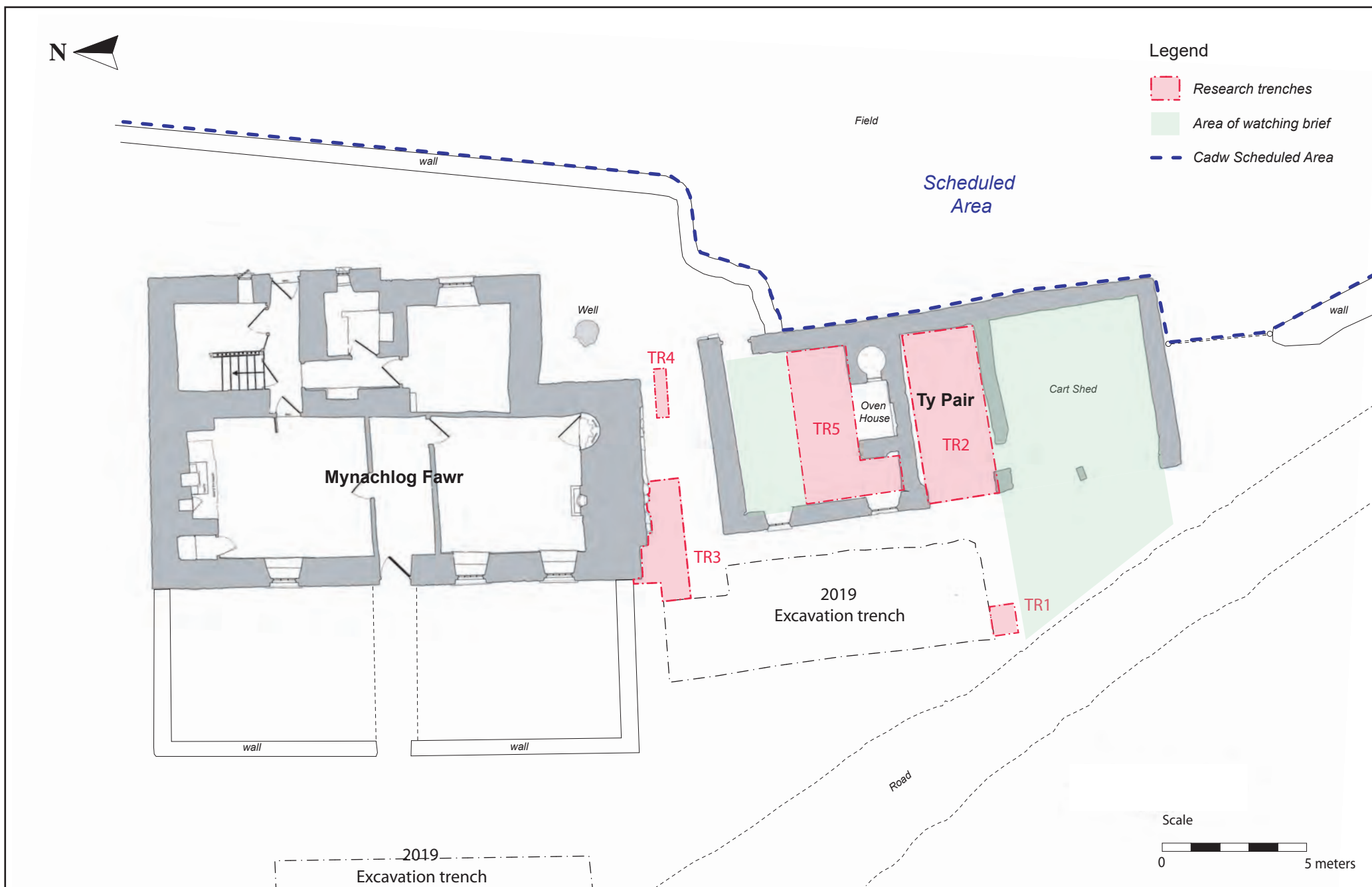
Drawn by:

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 19.

Aerial drone photograph of 2019 SFFS Excavation (North is to the left).

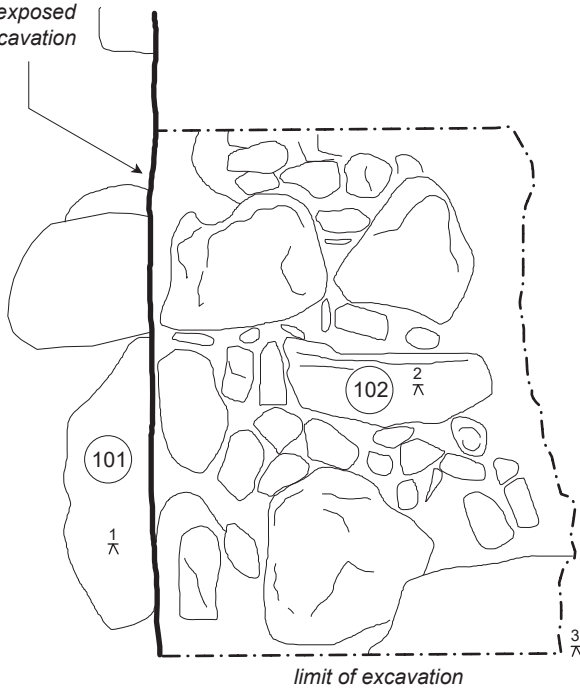


Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion	
Date: 15th March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by:	Drawing No.:

Figure 20.
Ground plan showing position of research trenches within Ty Pair and walkway alongside Mynachlog Fawr.



Wall already exposed
from 2019 excavation



limit of excavation

Contexts

- 100 - Turf
- 101 - Wall
- 102 - Stone surface

Scale



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

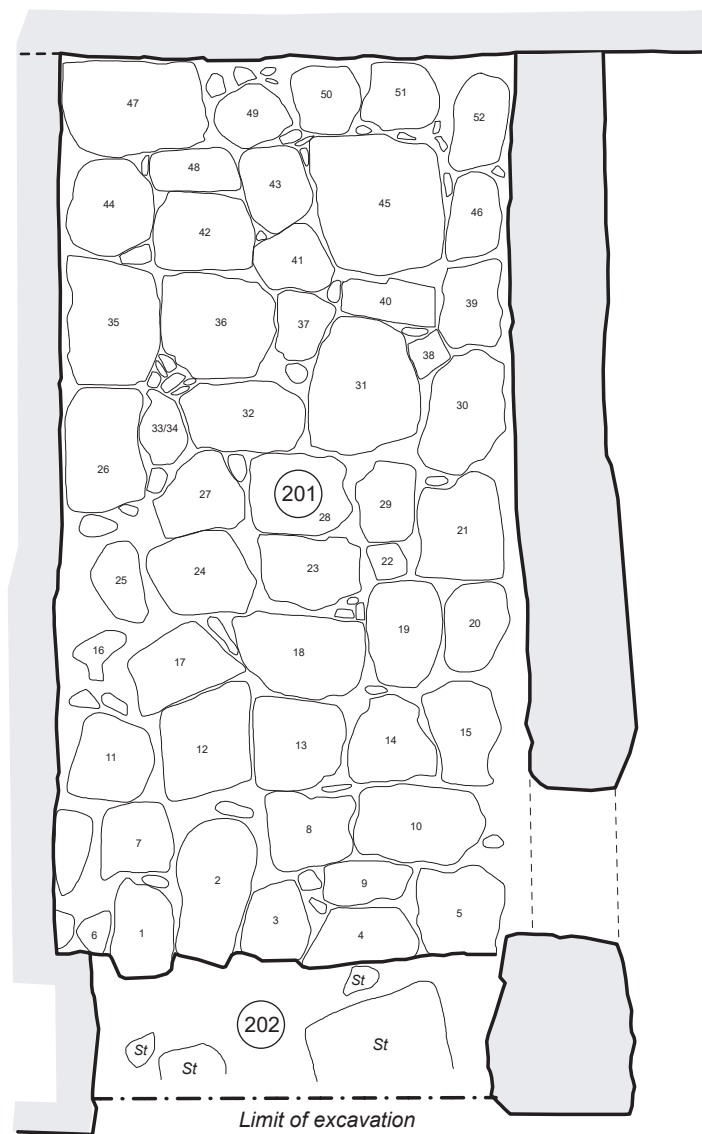
Figure 21.

Trench 1 - Ground Plan



Contexts

200 - Turf/soil/weeds
 201 - Slabbed floor
 202 - Mid brown soil



Scale



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

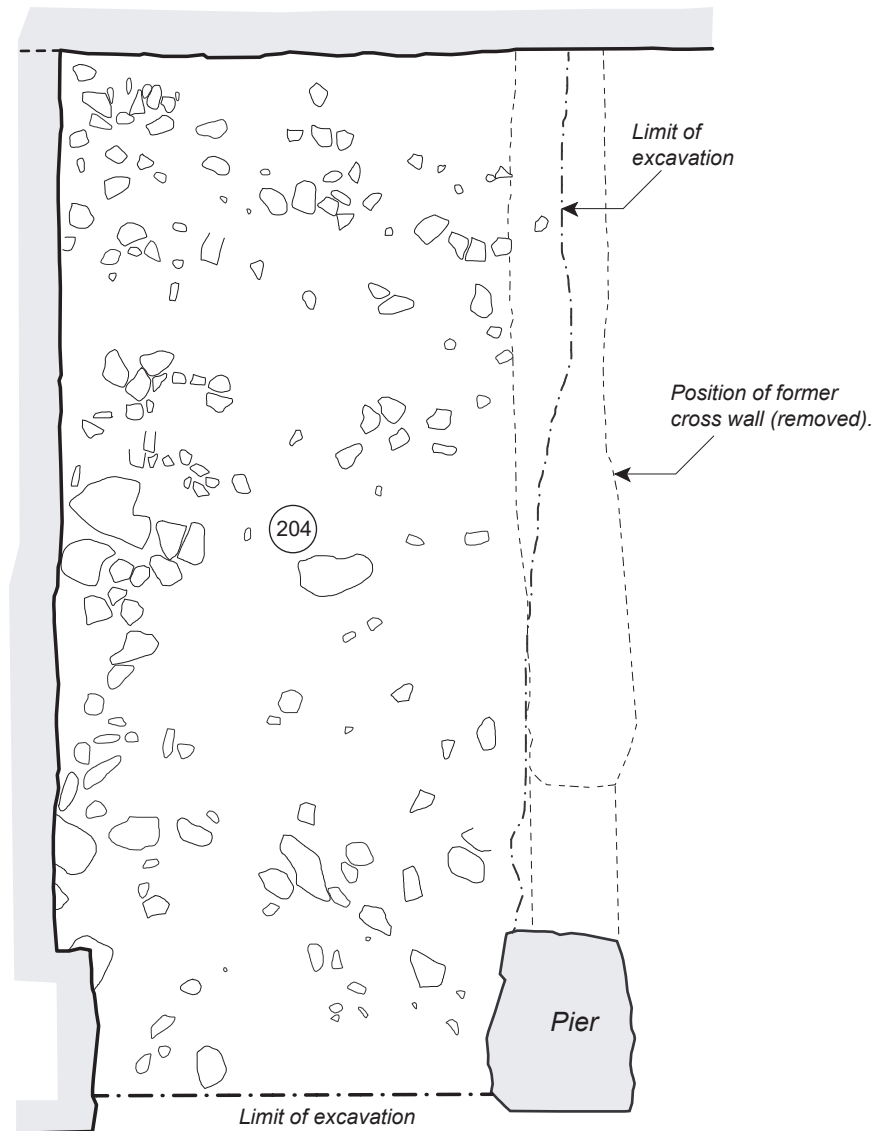
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 22.

Trench 2 - Ground Plan showing slabbed floor following initial cleaning back at north end of Cart Shed.



Contexts

- 200 - Turf/soil/weeds
- 201 - Slabbed floor (slate)
- 202 - Mid brown soil
- 203 - Loose soil with roots below slab floor
(19th Century pottery fragment)
- 204 - Deposit of irregular stones
intermixed with clay and grit and
soil below slabbed floor.

Scale



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

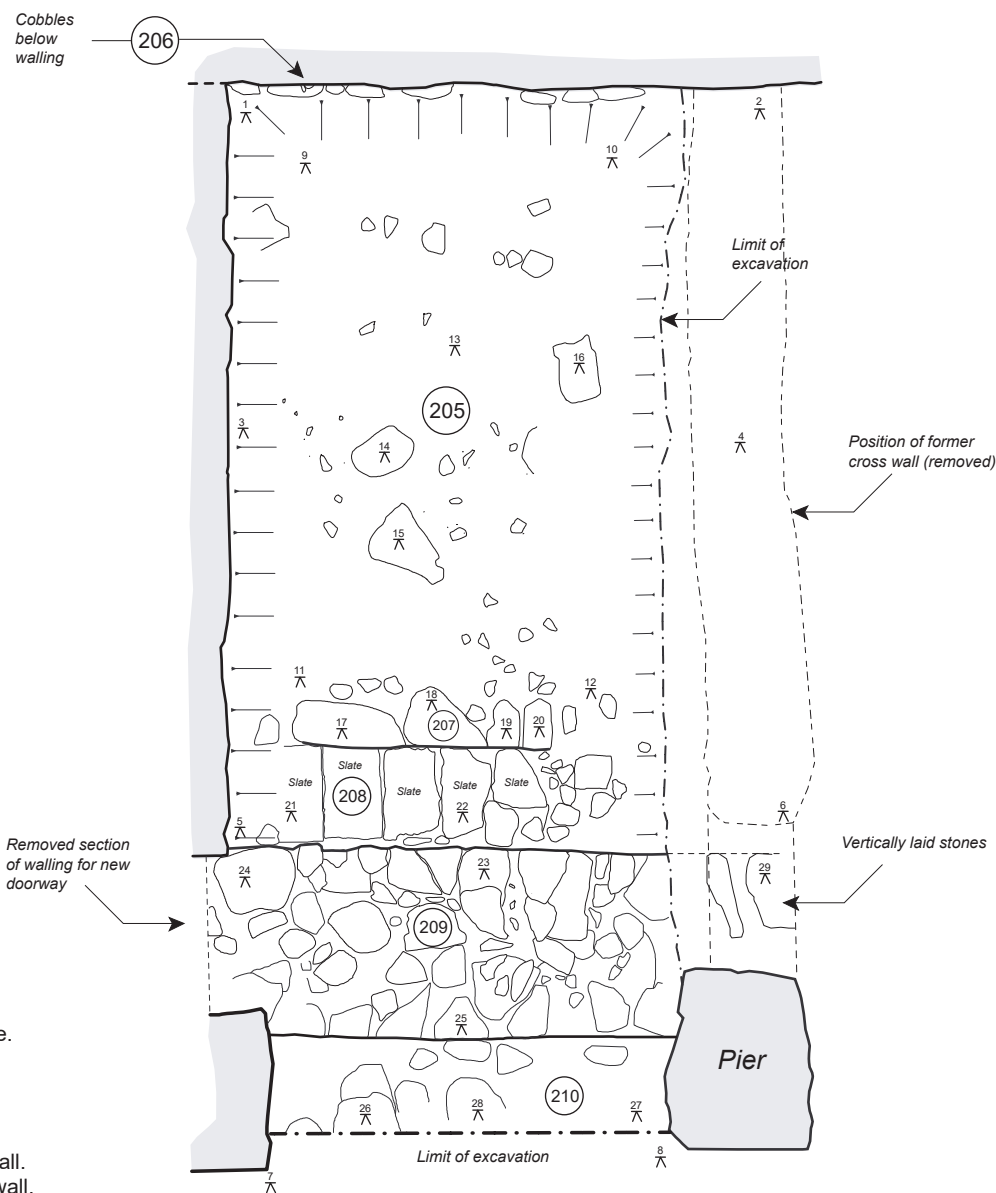
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 23.

Trench 2 - Ground Plan showing soil and rubble sub-base below slabbed floor.



Scale
0 1 2 Meters

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

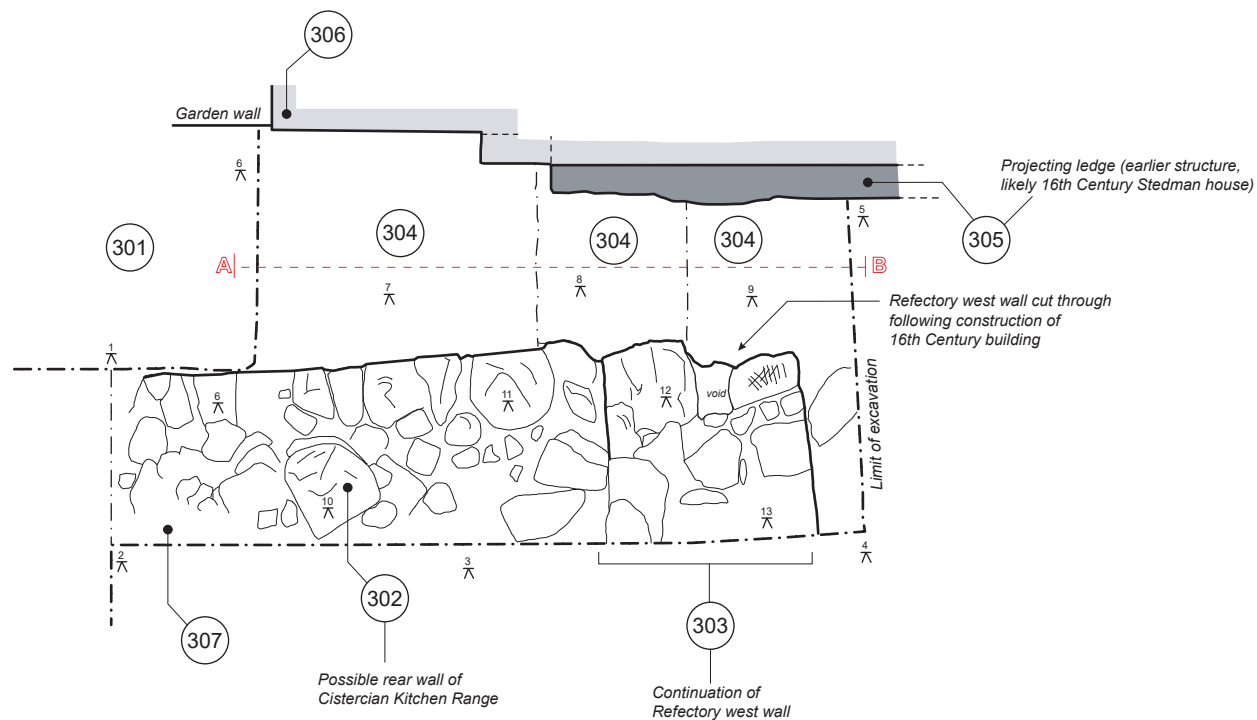
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 24.

Trench 2 - Ground Plan showing 12th/13th Century Refectory west wall following removal of stoney sub base deposit (204).



Contexts

- 300 - Turf
- 301 - Modern Tarmac surface
- 302 - Stone wall (possibly rear wall of 13th Century Kitchen Range).
- 303 - West wall of 13th Century Refectory.
- 304 - Deposit of overburden (Demolition deposit).
- 305 - Projecting ledge of earlier 16th Century building
- 306 - SW corner of Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse (18th Century facade)
- 307 - Clay mortar.

Cross section A-B

Scale



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

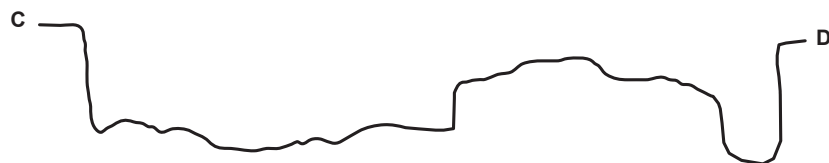
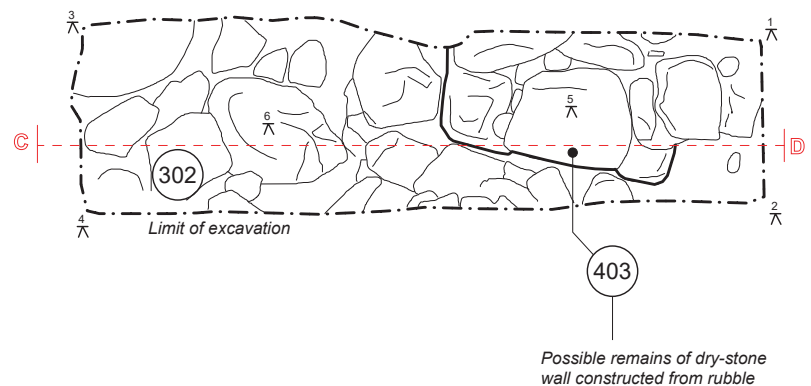
Drawn by: RSJ

Drawing No.

Figure 26.

Trench 3 - Ground Plan.





Cross Section C - D

Contexts

- 400 - Turf
- 401 - Modern Tarmac surface
- 402 - Deposit of dark soil intermixed with stone fragments.
- 403 - Deposit of rubble stones
- 404 - Possible remains of dry-stone wall made from rubble.

Scale



0 1 Meter

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

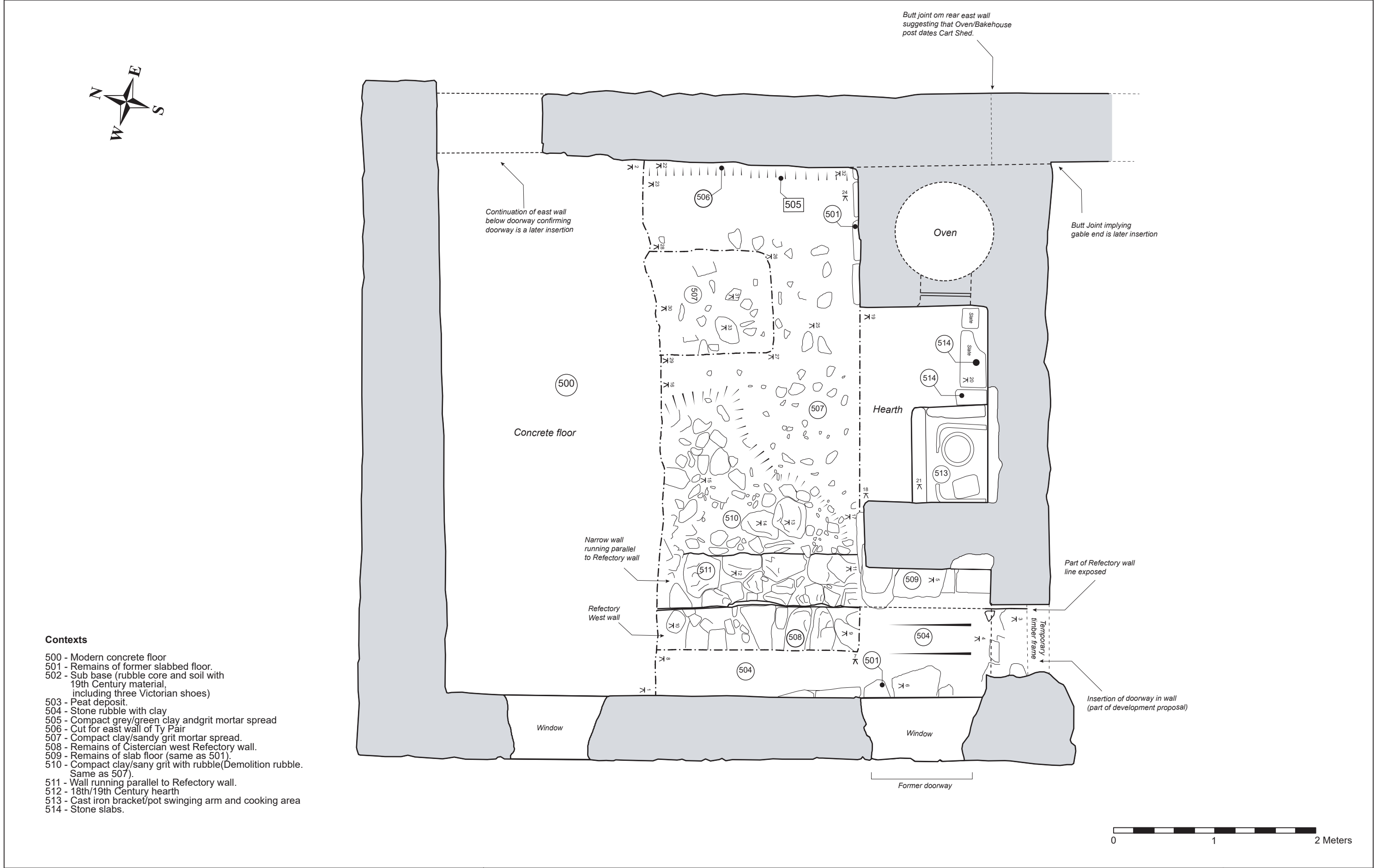
Drawn by: RSJ

Drawing No.

Figure 26.

Trench 4 - Ground Plan.

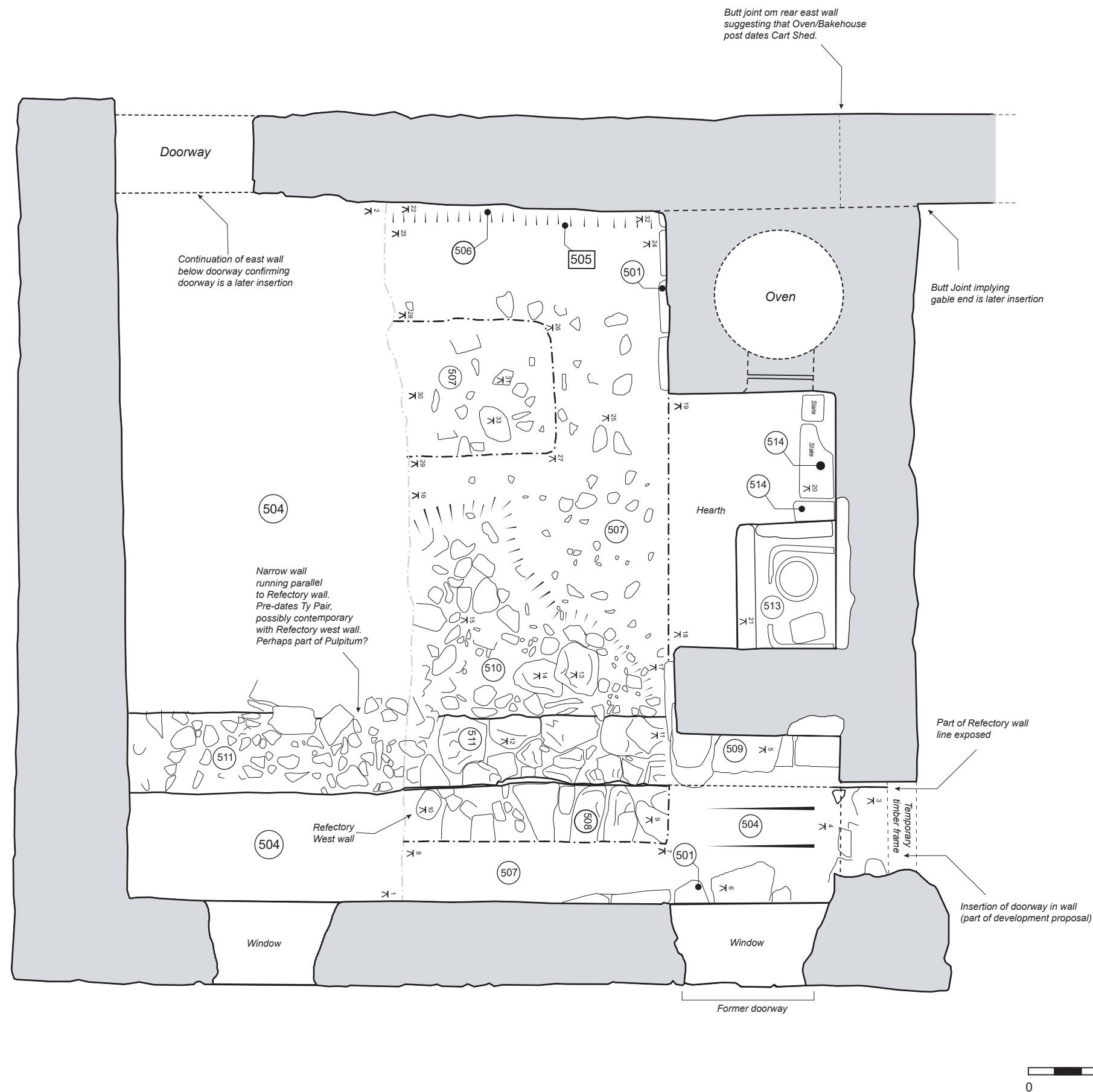




Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion	
Date: 15th March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Figure 27.

Trench 5 - Ground Plan within Ty Pair Ovenhouse following excavated area.

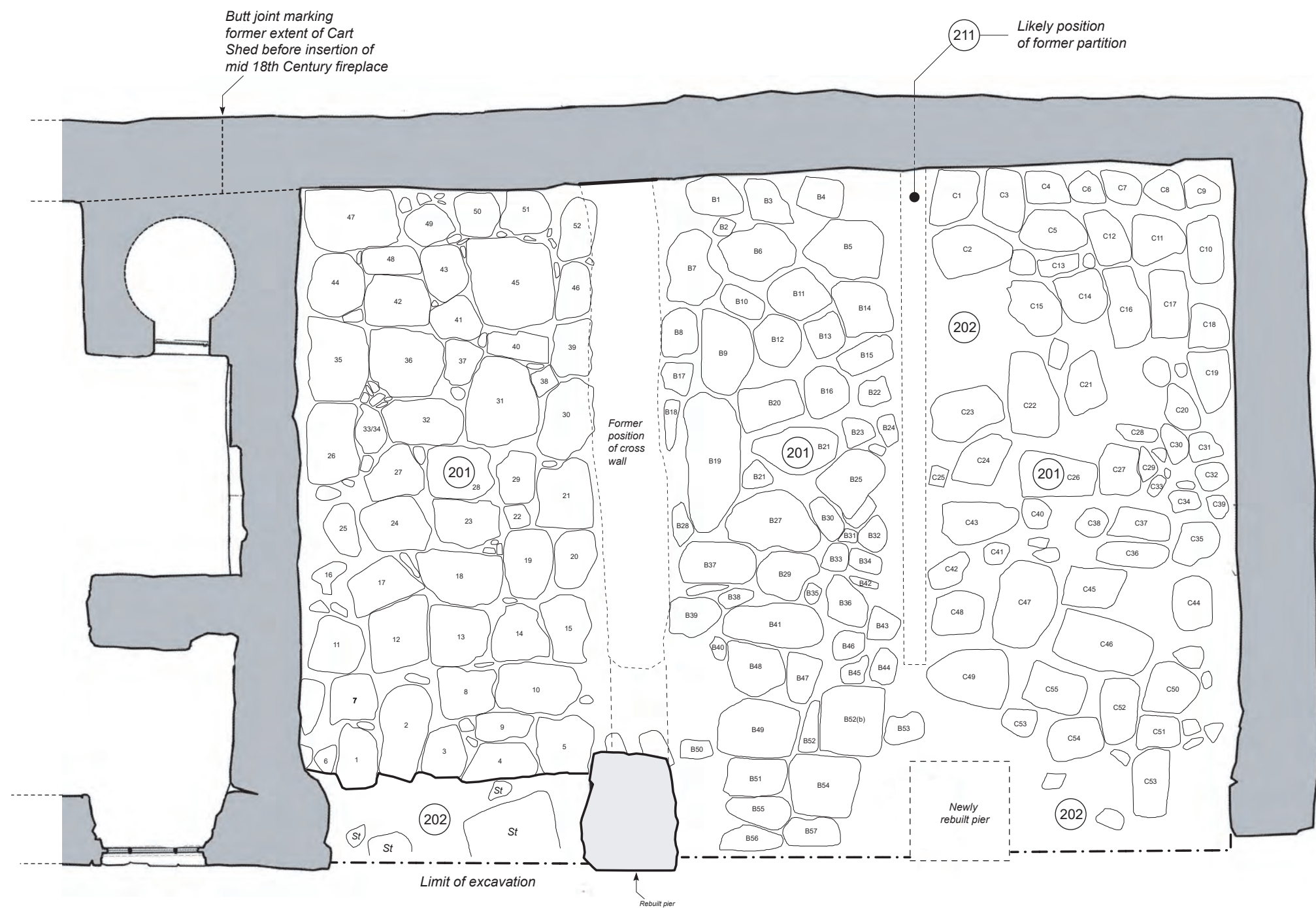


- 500 - Modern concrete floor
- 501 - Remains of former slabbed floor.
- 502 - Sub base (rubble core and soil with 19th Century material, including three Victorian shoes)
- 503 - Peat deposit.
- 504 - Stone rubble with clay
- 505 - Compact grey/green clay andgrit mortar spread
- 506 - Cut for east wall of Ty Pair
- 507 - Compact clay/sandy grit mortar spread.
- 508 - Remains of Cistercian west Refectory wall.
- 509 - Remains of slab floor (same as 501).
- 510 - Compact clay/sany grit with rubble(Demolition rubble. Same as 507).
- 511 - Wall running parallel to Refectory wall.
- 512 - 18th/19th Century hearth
- 513 - Cast iron bracket/pot swinging arm and cooking area
- 514 - Stone slabs.

Drawn by:	BS.I	Drawing No.
------------------	------	--------------------



HRS
HERITAGE & ARCHAEOLOGICAL
CONSULTANT AND CONTRACTOR



Contexts

- 200 - Turf/soil/weeds
- 201 - Slabbed floor (slate)
- 202 - Mid brown soil
- 203 - Loose soil with roots below slab floor (19th Century pottery fragment)
- 204 - Deposit of irregular stones intermixed with clay and grit and soil below slabbed floor.
- 205 - Deposit of irregular stones including Dundry stone and fragments of Cistecian floor tile.
- 206 - Remains of apparent cobbled surface below walling.
- 207 - Curb stones.
- 208 - Channel with slate base (slurry channel?).
- 209 - Remains of 12th /13th Century Refectory west wall.
- 210 - Deposit of earth and stone alongside Refectory wall.
- 211 - Likely position of former partition.

Scale



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

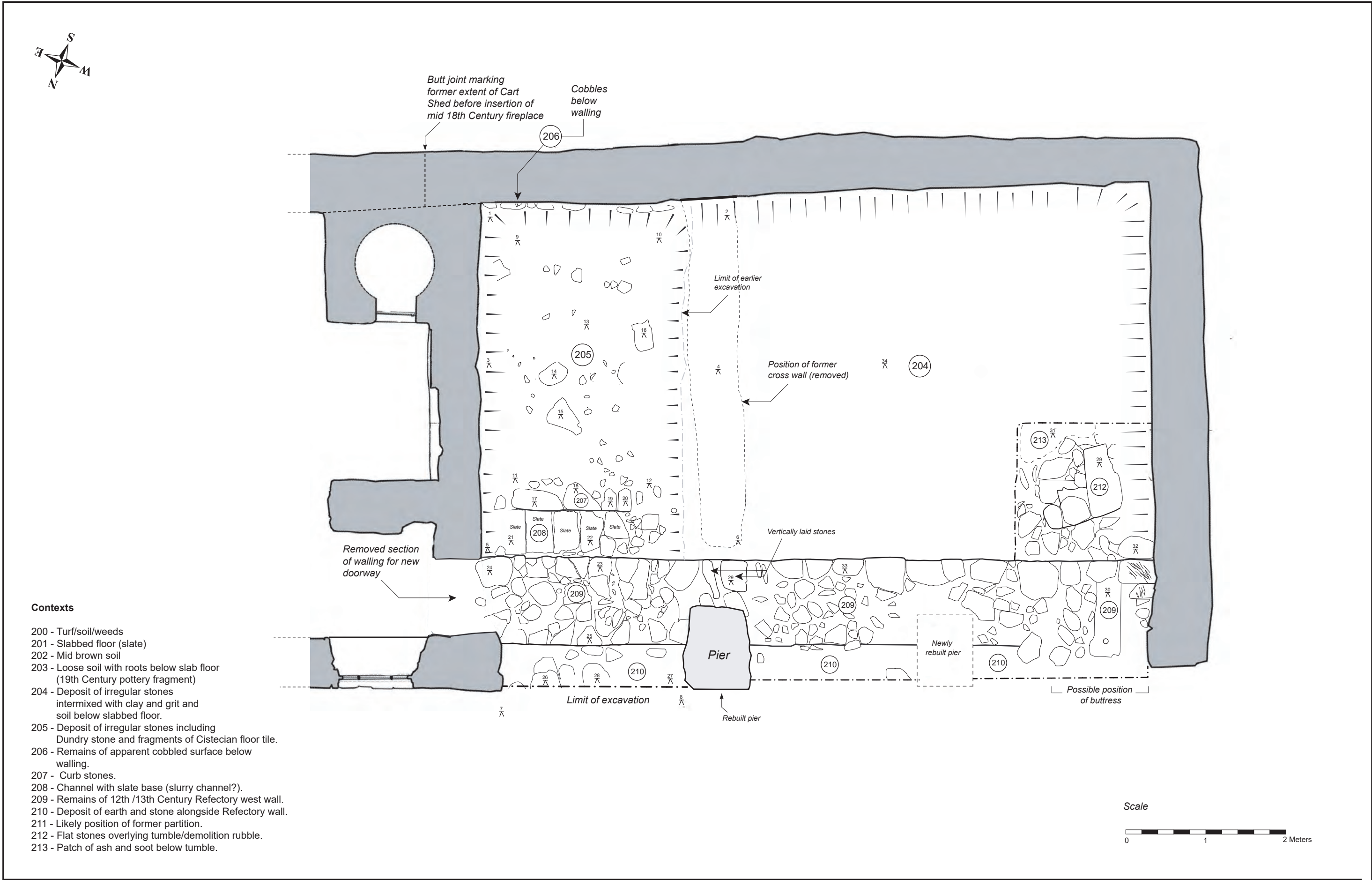
Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.

Figure 29.

Cart Shed - Ground Plan following exposing of slabbed floor at central and southern end following watching brief.



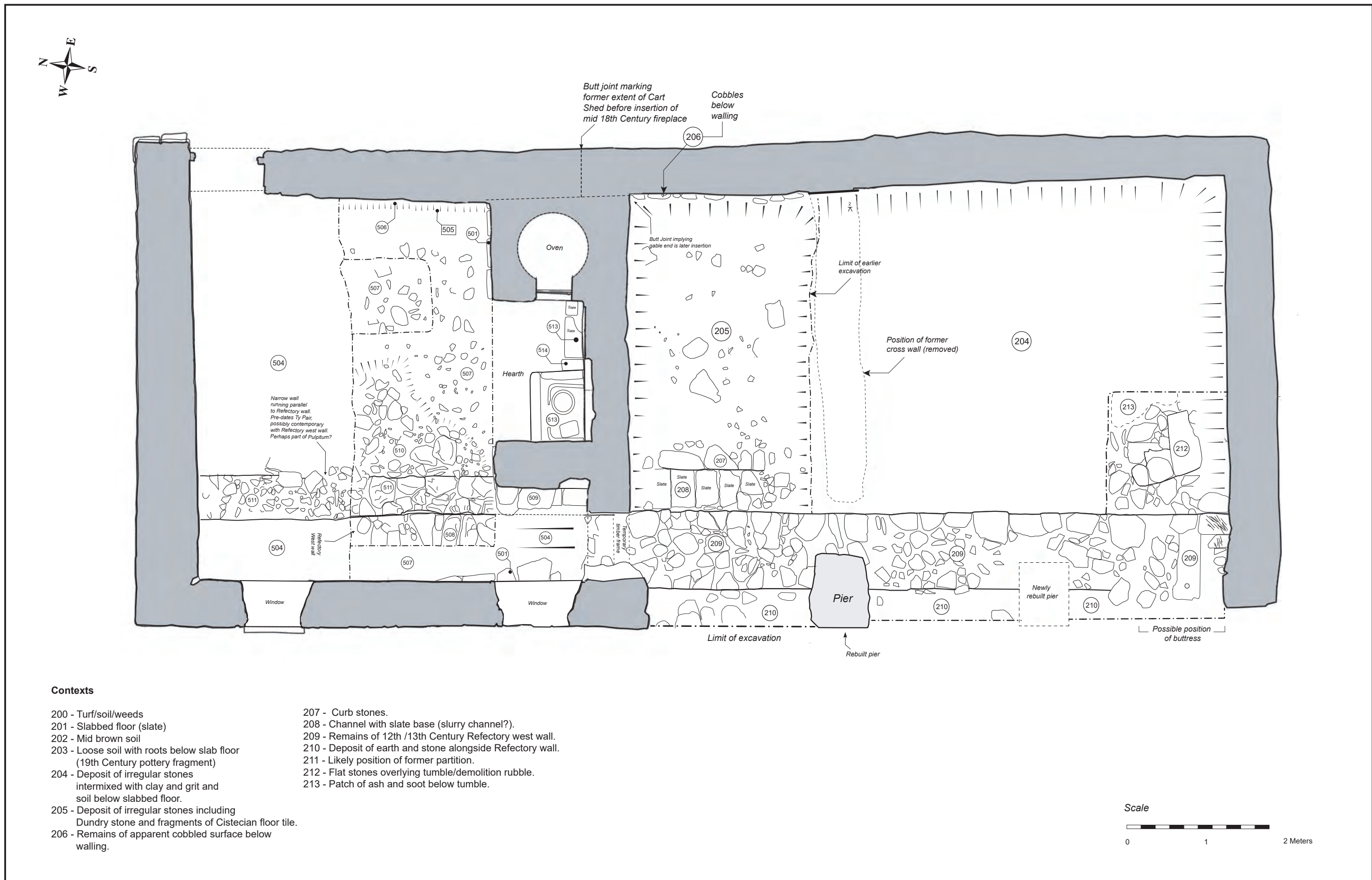
Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by:

Drawing No.



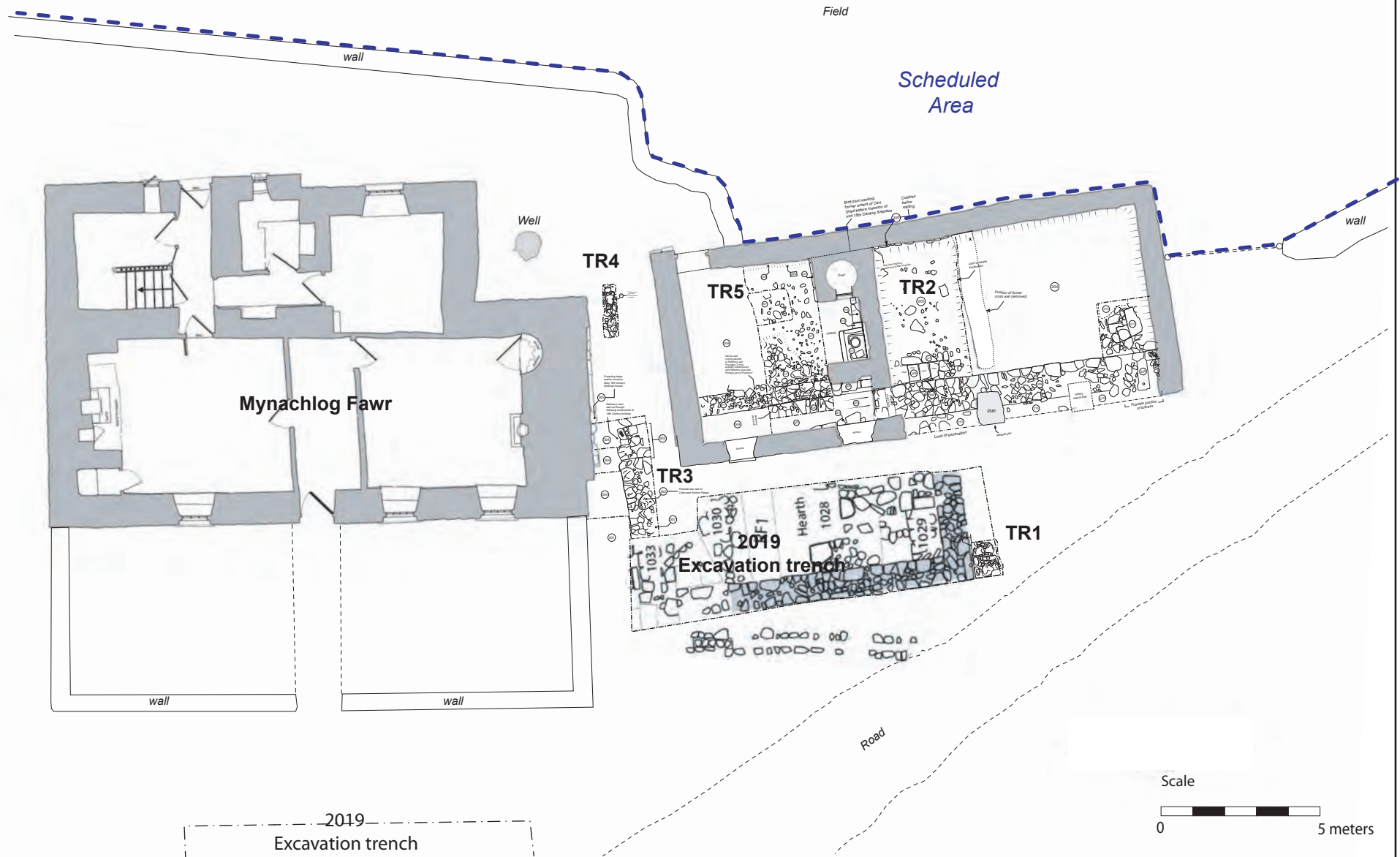
Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion	
Date: 15th March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Drawn by:	Drawing No.

Figure 31. Cart Shed - Ground Plan of Ty Pair and Cart Shed following excavation and Watching Brief.



Legend

--- Cadw Scheduled Area



Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Drawn by: RSJ

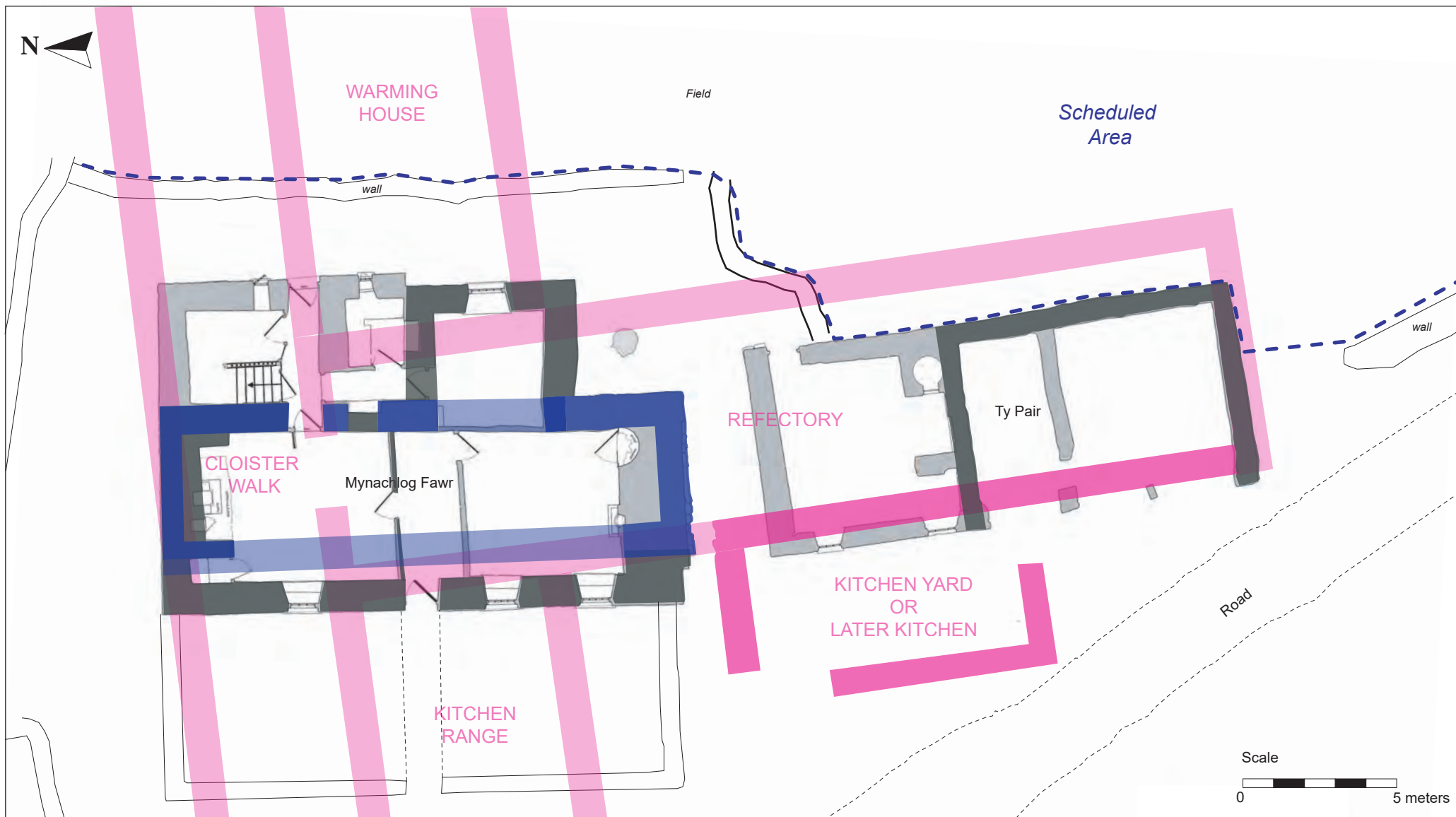
2019
Excavation trench

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawing No.

Figure 32.

Overall Ground Plan showing results of excavation, watching brief results in conjunction with 2019 excavation.



Legend

- Earlier Medieval Refectory west wall
(as confirmed from excavation and watching brief)
- Projection of probable footprint of earlier Medieval Refectory, Cloister Range, Warming House and Kitchen Range

- 15th - 17th Century
- Projection of probable footprint of 15th - 17th Century building.

- 1670 buildings
- Mid - late 18th Century to present day

Project Title: Ty Pair, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

Date: 15th March 2021

Approx. Scale (@ A4):

Drawn by: RSJ

Drawing No.

Figure 33.

Conjectured Chronological Ground Plan of early medieval Cloister Range in conjunction with later buildings following results of excavation and watching brief.

APPENDIX II:

Photo plates



Plate 01. Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse. Looking eastwards.



Plate 02. Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. Oven/Bakhouse on left with Cart Shed on right.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
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Photo Plates

01 - 02





Plate 03. Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. Looking north.



Plate 04. Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. Looking northeast.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

03 - 04





Plate 05. Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. Looking southeast.



Plate 06. Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. View of north facing elevation of Oven/Bakehouse. Looking east.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid		Photo Plates 05 - 06	
Date Taken: March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):		
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.		





Plate 07. Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. View of north facing elevation of Oven/Bakehouse. Looking southwest.



Plate 08. Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. Looking northwest.

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Date Taken: March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

07 - 08





Plate 09. Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. Looking northwest.



Plate 10(a). Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. Looking west.



Plate 10(b). Ty Pair building prior to proposed development and conservation work. Butt joint between cart shed and Ty Pair.



Plate 10(c). Far southern end of east wall of Mynachlog Fawr showing numerous features including apparent line of former tall window.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: March 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

09 - 10





Plate 11. Ty Pair building prior to conservation work. Interior of Oven/Bake House. Looking SW.



Plate 12. Ty Pair building prior to conservation work. Interior of Oven/Bake House. Looking SE.



Plate 13. Ty Pair building prior to conservation work. Interior of Oven/Bake House. Looking S.



Plate 14. Ty Pair building prior to conservation work. Interior of Oven/Bake House. Looking SE.



Plate 15. Ty Pair building prior to conservation work. Interior of Oven/Bake House. Looking NE.



Plate 16. Ty Pair building prior to conservation work. Interior of Oven/Bake House. Looking E.



Plate 17. Ty Pair building prior to conservation work. Interior of Oven/Bake House. Looking NE.



Plate 18. Ty Pair building prior to conservation work. Interior of Oven/Bake House. Looking NE.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: September 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

11 - 18





Plate 19. Trench 1 prior to excavation. Looking north.



Plate 20. Trench 1 prior to excavation. Looking south.



Plate 21. Trench 1 following excavation. Looking east.



Plate 22. Trench 1 following excavation. Looking south.



Plate 23. Working shot showing contractor dismantling partition wall in Cart Shed. Looking northwards.



Plate 24. Working shot showing contractor dismantling partition wall in Cart Shed. Looking northwards.



Plate 25. Working shot during clearance of vegetation and loose material within area of Trench 2 within Cart Shed. Looking eastward.



Plate 26. Area of Trench 1 in Cart Shed cleared of vegetation. Looking southeast.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: September 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

19 - 26





Plate 27. Trench 2 - Aerial drone shot of Trench 2 in Cart Shed following trowelling back of stone slabbed surface.



Plate 28. Trench 2 - View of stone slabbed surface following trowelling back. Looking east.



Plate 29. Trench 2 - View of stone slabbed surface following trowelling back. Looking west.



Plate 30. Trench 2 - View of stone slabbed surface with id markers following trowelling back. Looking northeast.



Plate 31. Trench 2 - View of stone slabbed surface with id markers following trowelling back. Looking north.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: September 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 32. Trench 2 - View of sub surface deposit (203) directly below slabbed floor. Looking east.



Plate 33. Trench 2 - View of sub surface deposit (203) directly below slabbed floor. Looking west.



Plate 34. Trench 2 - View of exposed sub-deposit (202/204) below slabbed floor following trowelling back. Looking east.



Plate 35. Trench 2 - View of exposed sub-deposit (202/204) below slabbed floor following trowelling back. Looking west.



Plate 36. Trench 2 - Aerial drone shot of Trench 2 in Cart Shed showing overburden deposit (205).

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: September 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 37. Trench 2 - View of overburden deposit (205) following removal of (204). Looking east.



Plate 38. Trench 2 - View of overburden deposit (205) following removal of (204). Looking east.



Plate 39. Trench 2 - View of overburden deposit (205) following removal of (204). Looking west.



Plate 40. Trench 2 - View of overburden deposit (205) following removal of (204) and south facing elevation of Oven/Bake House. Looking north.



Plate 41. Trench 2 - Aerial drone shot of Trench 2 in Cart Shed following removal of part of overburden deposit (205) and exposure of west wall of Refectory.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: September - October 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 42. Trench 2 - Working shot during excavation of Trench 2 in Cart Shed. Looking eastwards.



Plate 43. Trench 2 - View of exposed west wall of Refectory wall ((209). Looking east.



Plate 44. Trench 2 - View of exposed west wall of Refectory wall ((209). Looking southeast.



Plate 45. Trench 2 - View of exposed west wall of Refectory wall ((209). with apparent post medieval drain (208) running alongside. Looking north.



Plate 46. Trench 2 - View of exposed west wall of Refectory wall (209) with post medieval drain alongside. Looking north.



Plate 47. Trench 2 - View of exposed west wall of Refectory wall (209) with post medieval drain alongside. Looking south.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: September - October 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 48. Trench 3 - Area of Trench 3 prior to excavation. Looking east.



Plate 49. Trench 3 - Area of Trench 3 prior to excavation. Looking east.



Plate 50. Trench 2 - Trench 3 - Area of Trench 3 prior to excavation. Looking west.



Plate 51. Trench 2 - View of trench following removal of turf and tarmac surface. Looking west.



Plate 52. Trench 2 - View of trench following removal of turf and tarmac surface. Looking east.



Plate 53. Trench 2 - View of trench following removal of overburden deposit. Looking northeast.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: September - October 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 54. Trench 3 - Extension to Trench 3. Looking northeast.



Plate 55. Trench 3 - Extension to Trench 3. Looking west.



Plate 56. Trench 3 - Extension to Trench 3. Looking south.



Plate 57. Trench 3 - Extension to Trench 3. North end of Refectory west wall cut through following construction of earlier building. Looking north.



Plate 58. Trench 3 - Extension to Trench 3. Looking west along line of likely former kitchen range rear wall.



Plate 59. Trench 3 - Extension to Trench 3. View of cut through Refectory wall and south facing elevation of Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse. Looking north.



Plate 60. Trench 3 - View of stratigraphy in east facing section showing depth of overburden. Looking west.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: Oct - Nov 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

54 - 60





Plate 61. Trench 3 - Sawing marks on masonry block of Refectory wall.



Plate 62. Trench 3 - View of exposed south facing elevation of farmhouse showing phases of building in relation to west wall of Refectory. Looking north.



Plate 63. Trench 3 - View along line of possible rear wall of Kitchen Range. Looking west.



Plate 64. Trench 3 - View of possible rear wall of Kitchen Range. Looking north.



Plate 65. Trench 3 - View along line of possible rear wall of Kitchen Range and end of Refectory west wall. Looking east.



Plate 66. Trench 3 - View along line of possible rear wall of Kitchen Range and end of Refectory west wall. Looking west.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: Oct 2020 - Feb 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 67. Trench 4 - Turf and modern tar-mac removed. Looking east.



Plate 68. Trench 4 - Turf and modern tar-mac removed. Looking west.



Plate 69. Trench 4 - Excavated trench showing rubble stones. Looking east.



Plate 70. Trench 4 - Excavated trench showing rubble stones. Looking west.



Plate 71. Trench 3 - Excavated trench showing rubble stones. Looking southwest.



Plate 72. Trench 3 - Excavated trench showing rubble stones at east end. Possible former dry-stone wall delineated by line of stones.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: Oct 2020 - Feb 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 73. Trench 5 - Concrete floor removed in Oven/Bake House. Looking southwest.



Plate 74. Trench 5 - Concrete floor removed in Oven/Bake House. Looking southeast.



Plate 75. Trench 5 - Concrete floor removed in Oven/Bake House. West end. Looking west.



Plate 76. Trench 5 - Remains of stone slabs at far southeast corner of room following removal of slate cooler box. Looking east.



Plate 77. Trench 5 - Concrete floor removed in Oven/Bake House and swept. Area on west side of inglenook fireplace adjacent to newly created opening. Looking south.



Plate 78. Trench 5 - Sub base removed from excavated area of Oven/Bake House. East end. Looking southeast.



Plate 79. Trench 5 - View of excavated area following complete removal of sub base deposit. Looking west.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: Oct 2020 - Feb 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 80. Trench 5 - View of excavated area following removal of sub-base deposit. Looking southwest.



Plate 81. Trench 5 - Southwest corner of room alongside inglenook fireplace following removal of sub-base deposit. Looking north.



Plate 82. Trench 5 - Southwest corner of room alongside inglenook fireplace following removal of sub-base deposit. Looking south.



Plate 83. Trench 5 - Excavated area following removal of sub-base deposit. Looking southeast.



Plate 84. Southwest corner of room alongside inglenook fireplace following removal of sub-base deposit. Looking south.



Plate 85. Trench 5 - View of Inglenook fireplace following removal of sub-base deposit. Looking southwest.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: Oct 2020 - Feb 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

80 - 85





Plate 86. Trench 5 - Aerial drone photo of section of Refectory west wall (508) exposed following insertion of investigation trench. Note parallel wall (511) running alongside Refectory wall.



Plate 87. Trench 5 - View of section of Refectory west wall (508) and parallel wall (511) running alongside. Looking south with continuation of Refectory wall in background..



Plate 88. Trench 5 - View of section of Refectory west wall (508) and parallel wall (511) running alongside. Looking north.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd		
Date Taken:	Oct 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by:	RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

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Plate 89. Trench 5 - View of section of Refectory west wall at base of investigation trench. Looking southwards.



Plate 90. Trench 5 - View of section of Refectory west wall and parallel running wall. Looking west.



Plate 91. Trench 5 - View of section of Refectory west wall and parallel running wall, which could possibly be remnant of a pulpitum. Looking westward.



Plate 92. Trench 5 - View of section of Refectory west wall and parallel running wall, which could possibly be remnant of a pulpitum. Looking southwest.



Plate 93. Trench 5 - Stratigraphy in south facing section of investigative trench 2. Looking north.



Plate 94. Trench 5 - View of investigative trench 2. Looking northeast.



Plate 95. Trench 5 - View of inglenook fireplace and hearth following cleaning. Looking southwest.



Plate 96. Trench 5 - View of inglenook fireplace and hearth following cleaning. Looking southeast.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd		
Date Taken:	Oct 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by:	RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

89 - 96





Plate 97. View of inglenook fireplace following excavation. Looking southwest.



Plate 98. View of cooking area in hearth of inglenook fireplace. Note pot swing with tongs. Looking southwards.



Plate 99. View of cooking area in hearth of inglenook fireplace. Looking southwards.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd		
Date Taken:	Oct 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by:	RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

97 - 99





Plate 100. Cart Shed - Remains of slabbed floor exposed in central and southern area of Cart Shed prior to removal. Looking southeast.



Plate 101. Cart Shed - Remains of slabbed floor exposed in central and southern area of Cart Shed prior to removal. Looking south.



Plate 102. Cart Shed - Remains of slabbed floor exposed in central and southern area of Cart Shed prior to removal. Looking southwest.



Plate 103. Cart Shed - Remains of slabbed floor exposed at southern area of Cart Shed prior to removal. Looking west.



Plate 104. Cart Shed - Remains of slabbed floor exposed at central area of Cart Shed prior to removal. Looking east.



Plate 105. Cart Shed - Remains of slabbed floor exposed at southern end of Cart Shed prior to removal. Looking east.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: Oct 2020 - Feb 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

100 - 105





Plate 106. Cart Shed - Stone slabbed floor removed. Looking northwest.



Plate 107. Cart Shed - Stone slabbed floor removed. Looking southwest.



Plate 108. Cart Shed - Continuation of Refectory west wall now fully exposed within Cart Shed following removal of slabs and floor reduction work. Looking southwest.



Plate 109. Cart Shed - Continuation of Refectory west wall now fully exposed within Cart Shed following removal of slabs and floor reduction work. Looking northwest.



Plate 110. Cart Shed - Refectory west wall exposed. Looking westwards.



Plate 111. Cart Shed - Refectory west wall exposed. Looking northwest.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: January 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

106 - 111





Plate 112. Cart Shed - Investigation trench at far southwest end of Cart Shed to investigate feature (212). Looking southwest.



Plate 113. Cart Shed - Investigation trench at far southwest end of Cart Shed to investigate feature (212). Looking south.



Plate 114. Cart Shed - Investigation trench at far southwest end of Cart Shed to investigate feature (212). Looking east.



Plate 114. Cart Shed - Overhead view of feature (212) in investigation trench at far southwest end of Cart Shed.



Plate 115. Cart Shed - Investigative slot inserted into drain feature (208) at north end of Cart Shed in order to investigate possible continuation of feature (511) edxposed within Trench 5 in Bakehouse. Looking north.



Plate 116. Cart Shed - Complted watching brief during ground reduction work. Looking northwest.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaid	
Date Taken: January 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

112 - 116





Plate 117. Cart Shed - Ground reduction work completed. Looking southeast.



Plate 118. Cart Shed - Ground reduction work completed. Looking south.



Plate 119. South facing elevation of Oven/Bake House.



Plate 121. Cart Shed - Refectory west wall. Looking north along line.

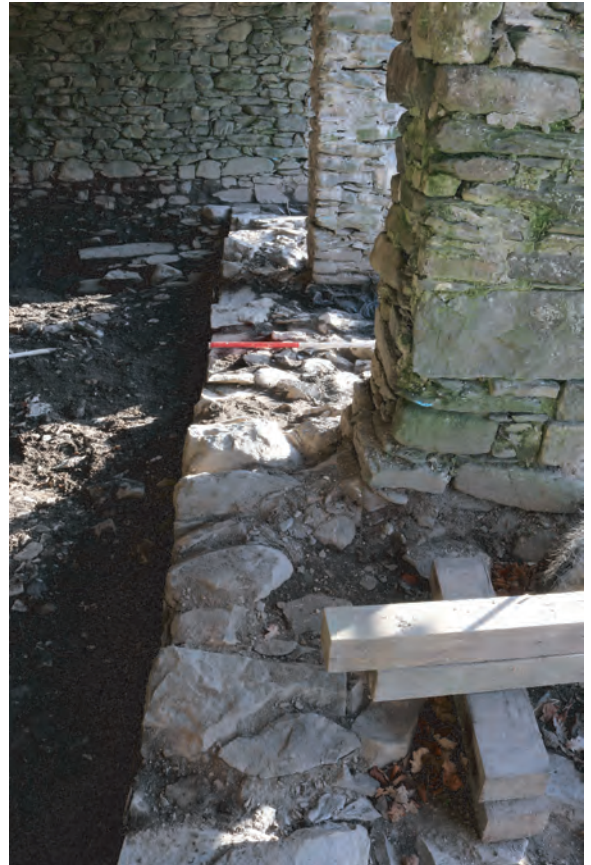


Plate 120. Cart Shed - Refectory west wall. Looking south along line.



Plate 122. Cart Shed - Refectory west wall. Looking northwest.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdfendigaidd	
Date Taken: January 2021	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates

117 - 122





Plate 123. Oven/Bake House - Continuation of low wall (511) exposed during watching brief during ground reduction work. Looking northwest.



Plate 124. Oven/Bake House - Continuation of low wall (511) exposed during watching brief during ground reduction work. Looking northwest.



Plate 125. Oven/Bake House - South facing internal elevation following ground reduction work. Looking north.



Plate 126. Oven/Bake House - East facing internal elevation following ground reduction work. Looking west.



Plate 127. Oven/Bake House - West facing internal elevation following ground reduction work. Looking east.



Plate 128. Oven/Bake House - Base of opening in east wall showing continuation of wall foundation, implying doorway is a later insertion.



Plate 129. Oven/Bake House - Inglenook fireplace following removal of loose paint and mortar. Looking south.



Plate 130. Oven/Bake House - Completed floor reduction work following watching brief. Looking northeast.

Project Title: Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida Abbey, Pontrhdyfendigaid	
Date Taken: September 2020	Approx. Scale (@ A4):
Appropriated by: RSJ	Drawing No.

Photo Plates
123 - 130



APPENDIX III:

Context Register

**Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr,
Strata Florida, Pontrhydfendigaid,
Ceredigion.**

**APPENDIX III
Context Register**

TRENCH 1 (*Extension trench 1m x 1m at Southwest corner of 2019 trench*)

Contexts

- 100 - Turf
- 101 - Wall
- 102 - Stone surface

TRENCH 2 (*Cart Shed excavation including finds recovered from watching brief*)

Contexts

- 200 - Turf/soil/weeds.
- 201 - Slab floor (shale/slate). Irregular in form, with many being up to 7 inches in thickness.
- 202 - Mid brown soil.
- 203 - Loose soil with roots below slab floor 19th Century pottery fragment).
- 204 - Deposit of irregular stones intermixed with clay and grit and soil below slab floor. 12th – 18th Century dateable material.
- 205 - Deposit of irregular stones including Dundry stone and fragments of Cistercian floor tile.
- 206 - Remains of apparent cobbled surface below walling.
- 207 - Curb stones.
- 208 - Channel with slate base (slurry channel?).
- 209 - Remains of 12th /13th Century Refectory west wall.
- 210 - Deposit of earth and stone alongside Refectory wall.

TRENCH 3

Contexts

- 300 - Turf
- 301 - Modern asphalt surface.
- 302 - Stone wall (possibly rear wall of 13th Century Kitchen Range).
- 303 - West wall of 13th Century Refectory. Measures 1.14m in width. Bonded with a clay and grit mortar.
- 304 - Deposit of overburden (Demolition deposit). Contains material with date range between 12th – 17th Century.
- 305 - Projecting ledge of earlier 16th Century building.
- 306 - SW corner of Mynachlog Fawr farmhouse (18th Century facade).
- 307 - Clay mortar.

TRENCH 4

Contexts

- 400 - Turf
- 401 - Modern Tarmac surface
- 402 - Deposit of dark soil intermixed with stone fragments.
- 403 - Deposit of rubble stones
- 404 - Possible remains of dry-stone wall made from rubble.

TRENCH 5 (*Oven/Bake House, including finds recovered during watching brief*)

Contexts

- 500 - Modern concrete floor
- 501 - Remains of former slab floor.
- 502 - Sub base (rubble core and soil with 19th Century material, including three Victorian shoes)
- 503 - Peat deposit. Contained 18th / 19th Century pottery and 18th Century floor tile
- 504 - Stone rubble with clay and grit mix. 12th – 14th Century material.
- 505 - Compact grey/green clay and grit mortar spread
- 506 - Cut for east wall of Ty Pair
- 507 - Compact clay/sandy grit mortar spread.
- 508 - Remains of Cistercian west Refectory wall.
- 509 - Remains of slab floor (same as 501).
- 510 - Compact clay/sandy grit with rubble (Demolition rubble. Same as 507).
- 511 - Wall running parallel to Refectory wall.
- 512 - 18th/19th Century hearth.
- 513 - Cast iron bracket/pot swinging arm and cooking area
- 514 - Stone slabs.

APPENDIX IV:

Finds Register

**Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr,
Strata Florida, Pontrhydfendigaid,
Ceredigion.**

APPENDIX IV

Finds Register

TRENCH 1 (*Extension trench 1m x 1m at Southwest corner of 2019 trench*)

- Pottery -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight (grams)
101	Pottery fragments (body sherds)	3	Light brown glaze with grey fabric. One glazed piece only.	12 th – 16 th Century	20gms

- Other Finds -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Description	Date Range	Weight (grams)
101	Window glass	2		Post Medieval	4gms

TRENCH 2 (*Cart Shed excavation including finds recovered from watching brief*)

- Pottery -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight (grams)
202	Roof tile fragment	1	Perforated grey roof tile	13 th – 19 th Century	64gms
202	Pottery fragment	1	White china	19 th Century	11gms
202	Pottery fragment	1	White china. Saucer fragment with gold gilt decoration	19 th Century	5gms
202	Pottery fragment (body sherds)	4	Brown glaze earthenware	Post Medieval	37gms
202	Pottery fragment (body sherd)	1	Brown glaze earthenware	Medieval?	18gms
202	Pottery fragment (body sherd)	1	Olive brown glazed earthenware with incised decoration	Medieval	15gms
203	White ceramic egg	1	White ceramic egg used for ritual purpose to encourage egg produce.	19 th Century	15gms
203	Floor tile fragment	1	Incised floor tile fragment. Oak leaf pattern (723 – Lewis 1999)	13 th – 14 th Century	76gms
203	Floor tile fragment	1	Incised floor tile fragment. Flower motif (721 – Lewis 1999)	13 th – 14 th Century	35gms
203	Floor tile fragment	1	Incised floor tile fragment. Flower stalk motif (722 – Lewis 1999)	13 th – 14 th Century	95gms
203	Floor tile fragment	1	Incised floor tile fragment. Flower stalk motif (722 – Lewis 1999)	13 th – 14 th Century	58gms
203	Pottery	10	Weathered yellow lead	13 th – 16 th Century	154gms

	fragments. Body sherds)		glaze. Part of jug.		
203	Pottery fragments	1	White china with red and green line decoration. Welsh pottery. Saucer.	18 th – 19 th Century	19gms
203	Pottery fragment	1	Blue on white decoration	18 th – 19 th Century	4gms
204	Pottery fragment	1	Olive/yellow lead glaze with incised line on internal side.	13 th – 16 th Century	11gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	Residual cream slip with slight glaze and pattern. Unidentified.	13 th – 14 th Century	67gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	Slight glaze residue	13 th – 14 th Century	85gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	Incised with leaf and flower motif (721 – Lewis 1999)	13 th – 14 th Century	8gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	Unglazed. Weathered. No discernible markings.	13 th – 14 th Century	27gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	Slight cream coloured glaze with slight incised area. Unidentified.	13 th – 14 th Century	45gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	No discernible pattern	13 th – 14 th Century	39gms
204	Pottery fragments. Body sherds)	5	Yellow lead glaze only on interior. Part of jug.	13 th – 16 th Century	73gms
204	Pottery fragment. Body sherd)	1	Fragment of jug handle.	13 th – 16 th Century	28gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	Incised floor tile fragment. Oak leaf pattern (723 – Lewis 1999)	13 th – 14 th Century	37gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	Brown glaze. No discernible pattern	13 th – 14 th Century	30gms
204	Floor tile fragment	1	Unglazed. Possible fragment of oak leaf pattern (723 – Lewis 1999)	13 th – 14 th Century	13gms
204	Pottery fragment	1	Early salt glaze fragment	Medieval	1gm

- Animal Bones -

Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Description	Date Range	Weight (grams)
202	Animal tooth	1	Tooth	Post Medieval?	5 gms
202	Animal bone fragment	1	Spine fragment	Post Medieval?	10gms

- Other Finds -

Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight (grams)
202	Iron (Fe) nail. Approximately 3 inches in length	1	Iron (Fe)	Post Medieval	17gms

TRENCH 3

- Pottery -

Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight (grams)
303	Pottery fragment.	1	Blackware. Part of base	12 th – 16 th Century	59gms


	Base fragment.		of bowl with scratched diamond pattern in glaze.		
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	51gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	42gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	57gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	6gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	24gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	16gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	17gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	17gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	10gms
303	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Yellow/brown lead glaze over gravel tempered earthenware.	Post Medieval	16gms
304	Pottery fragment. Body sherd.	1	Base of large bowl. Mottled yellow/brown lead glaze	Post Medieval	78gms
304	Pottery fragment. Rim sherd.	1	Rim sherd	Post Medieval	26gms
304	Pottery fragments Body sherds	2	Body sherds. Olive green lead glaze. Coiled with grey fabric	Medieval	51gms



- Animal bones -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight (grams)
303	Animal bone	1	Fragment of sheep's jaw	Unknown	52gms
303	Animal bone	1	Fragment of rib	Unknown	11gms
303	Animal tooth	1	Sheep tooth	Unknown	4gms
304	Animal tooth	1	Horse tooth	Unknown	30gms
304	Animal tooth	1	Horse tooth	Unknown	10gms
304	Animal tooth	1	Horse tooth	Unknown	6gms
304	Animal bone fragment	1	Bone fragment	Unknown	12gms

TRENCH 4

- Other Finds -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight (grams)
402	Roof tile	1	Perforated slate roof tile (approx. 45cm x 18cm). Broken on one side	12 th – 18 th Century	2.1Kg

TRENCH 5 (Oven/Bake House, including finds recovered during watching brief)




- Pottery -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Fabric Type	Date Range	Weight (grams)
502	Pottery fragment (Body sherd)	1	Slipware	18 th Century	40gms
502	Pottery fragment (Body sherd)	1	Mottled brown glaze with yellow core	17 th Century	5gms
502	Pottery fragment (Body sherd)	1	Slipware	18 th Century	3ms
502	Pottery fragment (Body sherd)	1	Yellow/beige lead glazed earthenware	Post Medieval	5gms
502	Pottery fragment (Body sherd)	1	Brown glazed earthenware	Post Medieval	20gms
502	Pottery fragments (Plate sherds)	5	Hand painted Windsor ware	19 th Century	105gms
502	Pottery fragment (Saucer sherd)	1	Hand painted white china with gold gilt edging	19 th Century	38gms
502	Pottery fragment (Saucer sherd)	1	Hand painted white china.	19 th Century	30gms
502	Pottery fragment (Saucer sherd)	1	Blue on white ware	19 th Century	8gms
503	Floor tile fragments	5	Fragments from large 5x5 terracotta floor tile with lime and charcoal inclusions	18 th – 19 th Century	1.76Kg
504	Pottery fragments (Body sherds)	2	Blue on white pottery fragments.	18 th Century	5gms
504	Floor tile fragment	1	No markings discernible, Very weathered	12 th – 14 th Century	101gms
504	Floor tile fragment	1	Unglazed. Fragment of incised oak leaf pattern (723 – Lewis 1999)	12 th – 14 th Century	200gms
504	Floor tile fragment	1	Glaze worn away. No discernible pattern	12 th – 14 th Century	80gms
504	Floor tile fragment	1	Incised decoration. Flower motif (721 – Lewis 1999)	12 th – 14 th Century	72gms
504	Floor tile fragment	1	Lead glaze with unidentified pattern	12 th – 14 th Century	44gms
504	Floor tile fragment	1	Cream glaze with Incised decoration. Flower motif (721 – Lewis 1999)	12 th – 14 th Century	59gms
					
507	Floor tile fragment	1	Brown/green lead glaze with hooded figure decoration (728 – Lewis 1999)	12 th – 14 th Century	179gms

					
507	Floor tile fragment	1	Slip decoration. Unidentified. Very weathered.	12 th – 14 th Century	151gms
507	Floor tile fragment	1	Brown/green lead glaze with Incised oak leaf pattern (723 – Lewis 1999) 	12 th – 14 th Century	161gms

- Animal bones -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Description	Date Range	Weight (grams)
502	Animal bone fragments	2	Skull fragments	Post Medieval?	23gms

- Glass					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Description	Date Range	Weight (grams)
502	Bottle glass fragments	2	Bottle glass (Clear)	19 th – 20 th Century	20gms

- Other Finds -					
Context	Find Type	No. of pieces	Description	Date Range	Weight (grams)
502	Staple	1	Iron (Fe)	Post Medieval	20gms
502	Nail	1	Iron (Fe) – 5 inches long. Heavily encrusted.	Post Medieval	91gms
502	Horse shoe	1	Iron (Fe) Horseshoe	Post Medieval	510gms
502	Door latch fragment	1	Iron (Fe) door latch	Post Medieval	117gms
502	Shoe	1	Leather shoe. Late Victorian. Ankle boot.	19 th Century	-

					
502	Shoe	1	Leather shoe. Late Victorian.	19 th Century	
					
502	Shoe	1	Leather shoe. Late Victorian.	19 th Century	
					

APPENDIX V:

Levels Register

**Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr,
Strata Florida, Pontrhydfendigaid,
Ceredigion.**

**APPENDIX V
Levels Register**

TRENCH 1 (*Extension trench 1m x 1m at Southwest corner of 2019 trench*)

Level/s# IH = 1.50m @ 194.6AOD

- 1)1.51
- 2)1.57
- 3)1.52

TRENCH 2 (*Cart Shed excavation including finds recovered from watching brief*)

Level/s# - IH = 1.50m @ 195.5 AOD

- 1)1.57
- 2)1.46
- 3)1.45
- 4)1.43
- 5)1.47
- 6)1.42
- 7)1.32
- 8)1.37
- 9)1.79
- 10) 1.74
- 11)1.69
- 12)1.66
- 13)1.78
- 14)1.79
- 15)1.64
- 16)1.66
- 17)1.49
- 18)1.52
- 19)1.57
- 20)1.53
- 21)1.66
- 22)1.63
- 23)1.54
- 24)1.57
- 25)1.63
- 26)1.43
- 27)1.68
- 28)1.53
- 29)1.37

TRENCH 3

Level/s# - IH = 1.50m @ 195.5 AOD

- 1)1.32
- 2)1.56
- 3)1.23
- 4)1.21
- 5)1.22
- 6)1.34
- 7)1.76

- 8) 2.26
- 9) 1.79
- 10) 1.32
- 11) 1.68
- 12) 1.61
- 13) 1.58

TRENCH 4

Level/s# - IH = 1.52m @ 195.5 AOD

- 1) 1.33
- 2) 1.32
- 3) 1.19
- 4) 1.18
- 5) 1.48
- 6) 1.56

TRENCH 5 *(Oven/Bake House, including finds recovered during watching brief)*

Level/s# - IH = 1.53m @ 194.6 AOD

- 1) 1.53 *(concrete)*
- 2) 1.53 *(concrete)*
- 3) 1.66
- 4) 1.82
- 5) 1.48
- 6) 1.70
- 7) 1.92
- 8) 1.73
- 9) 2.05
- 10) 2.02
- 11) 1.81
- 12) 1.73
- 13) 1.76
- 14) 1.78
- 15) 1.87
- 16) 1.72
- 17) 1.81
- 18) 1.60
- 19) 1.54
- 20) 1.43
- 21) 1.35
- 22) 1.67
- 23) 1.62
- 24) 1.68
- 25) 1.75
- 26) 1.68
- 27) 1.74
- 28) 1.67
- 29) 1.71
- 30) 2.03
- 31) 1.95
- 32) 1.77
- 33) 1.82

APPENDIX VI:
Archive Cover Sheet

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion

ARCHIVE DESTINATION - RCAHMW

Site Name:	Ty Pair, Mynachlog Fawr, Strata Florida, Pontrhydfendigaid, Ceredigion
Site Code:	TPSF/2020/EX+WB
PRN:	
NPRN:	
SM No.	
LB No.	82979 (Grade II Listed)
Other Ref No.	HRSW Rpt No. 222
NGR:	SN 74667 65668
Site Type:	17th - 19th Century building attached to Mynachlog Fawr
Project Type:	Archaeological Excavation & Watching Brief
Project Manager:	Richard Scott Jones
Project Date(s):	17th September 2020 - March 2021
Categories Present:	None
Location of Original Archive:	RCAHMW
Location of Duplicate Archive:	Dyfed Archaeological Trust
Number of Find Boxes:	1
Location of Finds:	Strata Florida Trust
Museum Ref:	
Copyright:	HRS Wales
Restrictions to Access:	None



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