



Aeron Valley School, Lampeter Road Felinfach, Ceredigion

Archaeological Evaluation



Accession Number: TBC
Ref: 270540.03
November 2022



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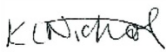
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Document Information

Document title	Aeron Valley School, Lampeter Road, Felinfach, Ceredigion
Document subtitle	Archaeological Evaluation
Document reference	270540.3
Commissioned by	TPAC Architects Ltd
Address	Pembroke House Ellice Way Wrexham Technology Park Wrexham Clwyd LL13 7YT
On behalf of	Wynne Construction Ltd
Address	Charles House Kinmel Park Abergele Road Bodelwyddan Denbighshire LL18 5TY
Site location	Lampeter Road Felinfach SA48 8AD
County	Ceredigion
National grid reference (NGR)	253015 255429 (SN 53015 55429)
Planning authority	Ceredigion County Council
Museum name	Ceredigion Museum / Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW)
Museum accession code	TBC
OASIS Id	wessexar1-511133
WA project code	270540
Date of fieldwork	14 th to 17 th November 2022
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Quality Assurance

Issue	Date		Author	Approved by
1	23/11/2022	Draft to client	VH	

Draft



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Summary

Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by TPAC Architects Ltd on behalf of Wynne Construction Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 2.3 ha parcel of land to the west of Lampeter Road, in Felinfach, Ceredigion, SA48 8AD. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 253015 255429. The works took place between 14th and 17th November 2022.

The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of seven evaluation trenches, all within one field. Trenches were located to target anomalies identified during a previous geophysical survey.

Archaeological features comprised linear features, drainage and furrows, of uncertain date but are likely to represent a single period of probable post-medieval activity. A single sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from one of the ditches.

The evaluation demonstrated that the eastern of two curvilinear field boundaries, shown on the Llanfihangel Ystrad Tithe Map of 1839 within the site, survives as below ground remains. This was visible as a sinuous ditch that continued through Trenches 5 and 7. The ditch also corresponded well with the curvilinear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Sumo Geophysics Ltd 2021), which indicated that the geophysics survey results are reliable.

N.B A translation in Welsh of the above will be included in the final draft of the report.

Acknowledgements

Wessex Archaeology would like to thank TPAC Architects Ltd, for commissioning the archaeological evaluation and to Wynne Construction Ltd for their help during the project. Wessex Archaeology is also grateful for the advice of Archaeological Planning Officer and Heritage Management Team for Dyfed Archaeological Trust, who monitored the project for the Local Planning Authority, and to Smiths Plant for their cooperation and help on site.

Aeron Valley School, Felinfach

Archaeological Evaluation

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by TPAC Architects Ltd, to conduct an Archaeological Evaluation of a 2.3 ha parcel of land to the west of Lampeter Road, in Felinfach, Ceredigion, SA48 8AD. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 253015 255429 (**Figure 1**).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development is for the construction of a new primary school with associated carpark, sports pitch, and landscaping.
- 1.1.3 The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of seven trial trenches (each measuring 30 m by 1.8 m), equating to a 2% sample of the proposed development area.
- 1.1.4 This evaluation is part of staged approach in determining the archaeological potential of the site, and follows other non-intrusive archaeological work, comprising a geophysical survey undertaken in March 2021 (Sumo Geophysics Ltd 2021).

1.2 Scope of document

- 1.2.1 This evaluation report details the methods and standards employed and the results of the works carried out. In format and content, it conforms to current best practice, as well as to the guidance in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE, Historic England 2015a) and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a).
- 1.2.2 This document will be submitted to the Archaeological Planning Officer for Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT), archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), for approval.

1.3 Location, topography and geology

- 1.3.1 The proposed evaluation area is located on the southern edge of Felinfach village, 8.5 km to the north-west of Lampeter, and 10 km to the south-east of Aberaeron. The development site comprises a single irregularly shaped field, bounded by the A482 Lampeter Road to the east, a residential property known as Caer Gwilym to the south, agricultural land to the south-west and west, and Felinfach Football Club and a residential care home known as Sycharth to the north.
- 1.3.2 Topographically, the site is situated at the foot of a hill on the south-western side of the Aeron Valley. There is a north-east flowing stream known as Avon Gwili 0.3 km to the north-west of the site, and another unnamed stream, 0.2 km to the south-east. Both streams are tributaries of Avon Aeron.

- 1.3.3 Existing ground levels range between 87.54 m on the road frontage to 95.91 m at the western end of the site.
- 1.3.4 The underlying geology is mapped as Silurian Mudstone of the Borth Mudstone Formation. The solid geology is overlain by up to 3.55 m of superficial deposits of Devensian diamicton (clay and gravel), which is in turn capped by 0.1–0.3 m of clayey silt topsoil. There is a small area in the north-east corner of the site with no recorded superficial deposits (British Geological Survey 2022; Earth Science Partnership 2022).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 The archaeological and historical background is drawn from Archwilio (2022), the online Historic Environment Records (HER) of Wales; Coflein, the online database of the National Monuments Record of Wales (2022); *Welsh Tithe Maps* (National Library of Wales 2022a); and historic Ordnance Survey (OS) plans available on the National Library of Scotland (2022) website. Additional sources of information are referenced, as appropriate.
- 2.1.2 Scheduled monuments are identified by their reference numbers (prefixed CD); monuments on the HER are identified by their Primary Reference Number (prefixed PRN); monuments listed on Coflein are prefixed NPRN.

2.2 Previous investigations related to the proposed development

Geophysical survey (2021)

- 2.2.1 A geophysical survey undertaken by Sumo Geophysics Ltd (2021) identified three main features of potential archaeological interest (**Figure 2**). These comprise: an L-shaped ditch-like response in the north-east corner of the site; a curvilinear ditch-like response to the south-west of the L-shaped feature; and a broad curvilinear anomaly in the south-western half of the site.
- 2.2.2 Both curvilinear features correspond with former field boundaries depicted on the Llanfihangel Ystrad Tithe Map of 1839. Historic Ordnance Survey maps show that these boundaries were removed before 1887.

2.3 Archaeological and historical context

Prehistoric (pre-AD 43)

- 2.3.1 There are no known prehistoric remains in the immediate vicinity of the site. The HER lists two prehistoric monuments within 1 km of the site: a Bronze Age standing stone, probably a glacial erratic, known as Garreg Samson (PRN 4779), 1.27 km to the north-west of the site; and a probable Bronze Age round barrow (PRN 39024), 0.93 km to the east.
- 2.3.2 Slightly further afield, there are three scheduled hillforts, probably Iron Age in date: Castell Cwmere (CD079; PRN 3987), 1 km to the south-east; Pen-y-Gaer (CD272; PRN 5885), 1.65 km to the north-west; and Pen Clawdd-Mawr (CD262; PRN 4790), 2.4 km to the east.

Romano-British (AD43–410)

- 2.3.3 The site lies c. 10 km to the north-west of the nearest Roman road, known as Sarn Helen, and there are no recorded Romano-British remains within 7 km of the site.

Early medieval (410–1066)

- 2.3.4 During the early medieval period, this part of Wales formed part of the petty kingdom of Ceredigion, which remained independent until it became part of the adjacent kingdom of Seisyllwg in AD 872.
- 2.3.5 The medieval monastery of Llanllyr Priory, 1 km to the north-east of the site, is thought to have early medieval origins (PRN 50142). This is supported by the presence of the Tesqitus Stone Pillar (CD112; PRN 4781), a stone inscribed with Latin and depicting crosses which appears to record the granting of land for use as a hermitage or monastery in the late 8th or early 9th century AD.
- 2.3.6 In AD 909, Seisyllwg was merged with the petty kingdom of Dyfed to form the kingdom of Deheubarth. Ceredigion remained a part of Deheubarth until AD 1093.
- 2.3.7 There are no known early medieval sites in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site.

Medieval (1066–1500)

- 2.3.8 In 1093, Deheubarth was conquered by the Normans, and in 1107, Ceredigion, subsequently known as the Lordship of Cardigan, was granted Gilbert Fitz Richard, 2nd feudal baron of Clare.
- 2.3.9 The Lordship of Cardigan was controlled by the de Clare family until it was recaptured by the combined forces of the kings of Gwynedd and Deheubarth at the Battle of Crug Mawr in 1136. Ceredigion was then controlled by the kings of Gwynedd until it was conquered by Maredudd, king of Deheubarth, and his brother Rhys ap Griffith, in 1153. Rhys ap Griffith, known as Lord Rhys, became king of Deheubarth following the death of his brother in 1155.
- 2.3.10 In 1158, Lord Rhys was forced to surrender Ceredigion to the English King, Henry II, who then gave it back to the de Clare family. Ceredigion was eventually reclaimed by Lord Rhys after a bloody conflict that began in 1164 and ended with a peace settlement in 1171. Ceredigion was then ruled by various Welsh Kings until it was conquered by Edward I in 1283.
- 2.3.11 In about 1180, Lord Rhys founded a Cistercian nunnery, known as Llanllyr Priory (PRN 4786), 1 km to the east of the site. The priory was dissolved in 1536.
- 2.3.12 Llanfihangel Ystrad parish church (PRN 4777; NPRN 420296) is located c. 0.85 km to the north-west of the site. It was built on the site of a medieval chapel of the Deanery of Sub-Aeron. The existing church was constructed in 1877.
- 2.3.13 Other medieval remains in the surrounding area comprise: the 'medieval mansion' of Llwydsiac (PRN 11007; later Anglicised to Lloyd Jack), 0.77 km to the north of the site; and a c. 1272–1307 penny of Edward I (PRN 128639), which was found 0.93 km to the south-east of the site.
- 2.3.14 There are no known medieval sites in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development site.

Post-medieval – modern (1500+)

- 2.3.15 Apart from historic field boundaries, there are no known post-medieval remains within the site, and most of the post-medieval HER entries for the surrounding area relate to features depicted on historic mapping.

- 2.3.16 Ystrad (Ystrad Aeron) and Lloyd Jack are both depicted on Tinney Kitchin's 1754 *Map of Cardiganshire*. Felinfach does not appear on this map.
- 2.3.17 In 1791, the Cardiganshire Turnpike Trust constructed a new road between Lampeter and Aberaeron along the line of the modern A482 (Breverton 2012). The first houses in Felinfach (English meaning: 'Little Mill') were probably constructed soon after the turnpike road was built. The first map to show individual buildings is Thomas Budgen's map dated 1811, which depicts Felinfach as an unnamed cluster of five buildings to the south of the turnpike bridge (NPRN 23864) over Avon Gwili.
- 2.3.18 The Llanfihangel Ystrad Tithe Map of 1839 shows two curvilinear field boundaries within the site that do not appear on later plans. The mapping is a result of the 1836 Tithe Commutation Act whereby the one tenth tithes were converted to rents. The Tithe Survey was established to find out the areas subject to tithes, who owned them, how much was payable and to whom.
- 2.3.19 The Tithe map and accompanying Apportionment also shows that fields formed part of a block of 14 enclosures associated with a farmstead known as Ty Cam. The apportionment lists the landowner as Henry Touchet Davies Esq. and the occupant as Evan Lloyd. Ty Cam formed part of the Lloyd Jack estate, which had been owned by Henry Touchet Davies since at least 1834. The Lloyd Jack estate included the whole of Felinfach, Ystrad Aeron, and most of the outlying farms. Felinfach village is depicted on the map as a group of nine buildings, labelled 'Dolfach Cottages' and 'Felynfach' (National Library of Wales 2022a-b; Pembrokeshire County Council 2022).
- 2.3.20 These two curvilinear field boundaries correspond well with the curvilinear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Sumo Geophysics Ltd 2021).
- 2.3.21 The 1889 Ordnance Survey map (surveyed 1887) shows that the current field boundaries existed by this date. The village of Felinfach, identified on the map as 'Felin-fach-ystrad', shows a similar pattern of development to the 1839 map, but by this date, the settlement also contained a school and a post-office. One of the buildings is labelled 'corn mill' (NPRN 420771), which may be the village's namesake.
- 2.3.22 The 1906 OS map (surveyed 1904) shows essentially the same layout, but with additional notation identifying the corn mill as disused, and another building as a smithy.
- 2.3.23 The 1953 OS map (surveyed 1948) shows a similar layout to the preceding plans, but by this date a few detached houses had been constructed along the Lampeter Road frontage, one of which was adjacent to the north-east corner of the site.
- 2.3.24 The northern edge of the site is bounded by Felinfach Football Club playing field. The football club was founded in 1980 (Gareth's Football Travels 2020).
- 2.3.25 By the end of the 20th century, ribbon development along Lampeter Road had effectively merged the formerly separate villages of Felinfach and Ystrad Aeron into a single linear settlement. The proposed development site is situated at the southern end of this settlement.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 General aims

3.1.1 The general aims (or purpose) of the evaluation, in compliance with the *CIfA Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation* (CIfA 2014a), were to:

- provide information about the archaeological potential of the site; and
- inform either the scope and nature of any further archaeological work that may be required; or the formation of a mitigation strategy (to offset the impact of the development on the archaeological resource); or a management strategy.

3.2 General objectives

3.2.1 In order to achieve the above aims, the general objectives of the evaluation were to:

- determine the presence or absence of archaeological features, deposits, structures, artefacts or ecofacts within the specified area;
- establish, within the constraints of the evaluation, the extent, character, date, condition and quality of any surviving archaeological remains;
- place any identified archaeological remains within a wider historical and archaeological context in order to assess their significance; and
- make available information about the archaeological resource within the site by reporting on the results of the evaluation.

3.3 Site-specific objectives

3.3.1 Following consideration of the archaeological potential of the site, the site-specific objectives of the evaluation were to:

- test the results of the geophysical survey (Sumo Geophysics Ltd 2021);
- determine the date and purpose of the probable archaeological features identified by the geophysical survey.

4 METHODS

4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in CIfA guidance (CIfA 2014a). The methods employed are summarised below.

4.2 Fieldwork methods

General

4.2.1 The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the positions proposed in the WSI (**Figure 1**).

4.2.2 Seven evaluation trenches, each measuring 30 m in length and 1.8 m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed.

- 4.2.3 Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.
- 4.2.4 Spoil from machine stripping and hand-excavated archaeological deposits was visually scanned for the purposes of finds retrieval. Artefacts were collected and bagged by context. All artefacts from excavated contexts were retained, although those from features of modern date (19th century or later) were recorded on site and not retained.
- 4.2.5 Trenches completed to the satisfaction of the client and the Archaeological Planning Officer for Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT), archaeological advisor to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), were backfilled using excavated materials in the order in which they were excavated, and left level on completion. No other reinstatement or surface treatment was undertaken.

Recording

- 4.2.6 All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales (generally 1:20 or 1:50 for plans and 1:10 for sections) and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.
- 4.2.7 A Leica GNSS connected to Leica's SmartNet service surveyed the location of archaeological features. All survey data is recorded in OS National Grid coordinates and heights above OD (Newlyn), as defined by OSTN15 and OSGM15, with a three-dimensional accuracy of at least 50 mm.
- 4.2.8 A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels and included trench and context record shots along with general working views. Digital images have been subject to managed quality control and curation processes, which has embedded appropriate metadata within the image and will ensure long term accessibility of the image set.

4.3 Finds and environmental strategies

- 4.3.1 Strategies for the recovery, processing and assessment of finds and environmental samples were in line with those detailed in the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022). The treatment of artefacts and environmental remains was in general accordance with: *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (ClfA 2014b), *Environmental Archaeology. A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation* (English Heritage 2011), and ClfA's *Toolkit for Specialist Reporting* (Type 2: Appraisal).

4.4 Monitoring

- 4.4.1 The Archaeological Planning Officer for DAT, archaeological advisor to the LPA monitored the evaluation on behalf of the LPA, and undertook a site visit in order to sign off on the works.

5 STRATIGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

5.1 Introduction

- 5.1.1 Three of the seven excavated trenches (Trenches 5-7) contained archaeological features and deposits, and indicated archaeological remains are present in the north-east part of the site, (**Figures 1 & 2**).
- 5.1.2 The uncovered features comprised linear features interpreted as ditches, drainage features or furrows, of uncertain date are likely to represent a single period of probable post-medieval activity.
- 5.1.3 The following section presents the results of the evaluation with detailed descriptions of individual contexts provided in the trench summary tables (**Appendix 1**). Figure 2 shows all archaeological features recorded within the trenches, together with the preceding geophysical survey results (Sumo 2021).

5.2 Soil sequence and natural deposits

- 5.2.1 The overall sequence of natural geology, overlain by subsoil and sealed by a topsoil horizon was recorded across the whole area. In Trenches 3 and 4 to the south-west, as a result of the topographic nature of the site a sequence, two further layers of colluvial material, were identified (**Figure 4**).
- 5.2.2 The natural drift geology was a consistent light yellow-brown, silty clay, with rare sub-angular small gravel and pockets of degraded mudstone.
- 5.2.3 To the south-west, the lower colluvial layer was a mid-yellow-brown, silty clay which was overlain by a mid-red-brown, silty clay colluvium.
- 5.2.4 Overlying the localised colluvial layers, and extending across the entire site, was a subsoil of mid-yellow-brown silty clay, with rare sub-angular gravel inclusions.
- 5.2.5 Overlying this was the top soil horizon comprising a dark brown, firm silty clay, which had a depth of approximately 0.25 m across the site.

5.3 Uncertain / Post-medieval date

Trench 5

- 5.3.1 The trench contained two linear features 504 and 506 (**Figures 2 & 3**). Feature 504 was a north-west to south-east aligned shallow ditch, 1.15 m wide and 0.16 m deep (**Figures 3 & 6**). It contained a single fill, 505, likely to have derived from surrounding topsoil, probably ploughed or washed into the ditch from the immediate vicinity. The ditch may have functioned as a boundary and drainage feature.
- 5.3.2 Feature 506, to the immediate east was an earlier north-west to south-east aligned shallow probable furrow, 1.35 m wide and 0.16 m deep (**Figures 3 & 7**). It contained a single fill, 507.

Trench 6

- 5.3.3 A single narrow linear feature, 604, was north-south aligned, 0.34 m wide and 0.18 m deep (**Figures 2, 3 & 8**). It contained a single fill, 605, likely to have derived from the surrounding topsoil, mixed with some natural sediment. The feature may have been a small drainage feature.

Trench 7

- 5.3.4 Feature 704 was a north-west to south-east aligned shallow ditch, 1.74 m wide and 0.14 m deep (**Figures 2, 3 & 9**). It contained a single fill, 705, likely to have derived from surrounding topsoil from the immediate vicinity which contained a single sherd of post-medieval pottery (section 6 below). The ditch is likely to have functioned as a boundary and drainage feature.

5.4 Late post-medieval to modern

- 5.4.1 A number of linear French drains were identified across the area, with most located in Trenches 4 and 5 (**Figure 5**). They truncated the subsoil and were overlain by topsoil.

6 FINDS EVIDENCE

6.1 Pottery

- 6.1.1 A single sherd of post-medieval salt-glazed stoneware was recovered from ditch fill 705.

Table 1 Finds by material type

Context	No. of fragments	Weight (g)
705	1	5

7 CONCLUSIONS

7.1 Discussion

Post-medieval Period

- 7.1.1 The uncovered features comprised linear features interpreted as ditches, drainage features or furrows. The evaluation demonstrated that the eastern of the two curvilinear field boundaries, shown on the Llanfihangel Ystrad Tithe Map of 1839, survives as below ground remains. The field boundary was visible as a sinuous ditch that continued through Trenches 5 and 7. The western boundary was not visible within Trench 3 and given the shallow nature of that seen in Trenches 5 and 7 it may not have been as deep.
- 7.1.2 The accompanying Tithe Apportionment documents that these fields formed part of a block of 14 enclosures associated with a farmstead known as Ty Cam. The land was owned, from at least 1834, by Henry Touchet Davies Esq. as part of the Lloyd Jack estate and included the whole of Felinfach, Ystrad Aeron, and most of the outlying farms. The occupant, and presumed tenant farmer, of the fields in 1839 was listed as Evan Lloyd.
- 7.1.3 Tithes, which were payments due, were normally commuted as part of the enclosure process, areas covered by tithe maps often lack subsequent enclosure maps. These field boundaries do not appear on later plans or Ordnance Survey maps which may indicate economic, social or tenurial changes.
- 7.1.4 The agricultural sector remained important in Wales in the period between 1750 and 1899 and saw many fundamental changes in this period (Gwyn et al 2011). The evidence of the land drains suggested a degree of effort indicative of utilising these fields for arable production. Those in Trenches 4 and 5 closely corresponded to the results of the geophysical survey.

- 7.1.5 The features, including the boundary ditch and land drains, correspond well with the curvilinear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Sumo Geophysics Ltd 2021), which indicates that the geophysics survey results are reliable.

8 ARCHIVE STORAGE AND CURATION

8.1 Museum

- 8.1.1 The archive resulting from the evaluation is currently held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury. Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) has agreed in principle to accept the documentary archive (digital and analogue) on completion of the project. Ceredigion Museum has agreed in principle to accept the finds archive on completion of the project, accession code TBC. Deposition of any finds with the museum will only be carried out with the full written agreement of the landowner to transfer title of all finds to the museum.

8.2 Preparation of the archive

Documentary archive

- 8.2.1 The physical archive currently includes paper records (site registers only), graphics and artefacts. Born digital data include site records, finds and environmental data, photographs, survey data and reports. Physical and digital records will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (Brown 2011; ClfA 2014c; NPAAW 2017; SMA 1995).
- 8.2.2 All archive elements will be marked with the accession code, and a full index will be prepared. The physical archive currently comprises the following:
- 1 file/document case of paper records and A3/A4 graphics

8.3 Selection strategy

- 8.3.1 It is widely accepted that not all the records and materials (artefacts and ecofacts) collected or created during the course of an archaeological project require preservation in perpetuity. These records and materials will be subject to selection in order to establish what will be retained for long-term curation, with the aim of ensuring that all elements selected to be retained are appropriate to establish the significance of the project and support future research, outreach, engagement, display and learning activities, i.e., the retained archive should fulfil the requirements of both future researchers and the receiving Museum.
- 8.3.2 The selection strategy, which details the project-specific selection process, is underpinned by national guidelines on selection and retention (Brown 2011, section 4) and generic selection policies (SMA 1993; Wessex Archaeology's internal selection policy) and follows ClfA's *Toolkit for Selecting Archaeological Archives*. It should be agreed by all stakeholders (Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists, external specialists, local authority, museum) and fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.3 Project-specific proposals for selection are presented below. These proposals are based on recommendations by Wessex Archaeology's internal specialists and will be updated in line with any further comment by other stakeholders (museum, local authority). The selection strategy will be fully documented in the project archive.
- 8.3.4 Any material not selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by Wessex Archaeology.

Finds

- 8.3.5 The finds comprise a very small assemblage of relatively recent date. The finds have little or no archaeological significance and no further research potential. No recommendation is made for retention for long-term curation.

Documentary data

- 8.3.6 Paper records comprise site registers (other pro-forma site records are digital), drawings and reports (written scheme of investigation, client report). All will be retained and deposited with the project archive.

Digital data

- 8.3.7 The digital data comprise site records (tablet-recorded on site) in spreadsheet format; survey data; photographs; reports. All will be deposited, although site photographs will be subject to selection to eliminate poor quality and duplicated images, and any others not considered directly relevant to the archaeology of the site.

8.4 Security copy

- 8.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g., Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

8.5 OASIS

- 8.5.1 An OASIS (online access to the index of archaeological investigations) record (<http://oasis.ac.uk>) has been initiated, with key fields completed (Appendix 2). A .pdf version of the final report will be submitted following approval by the Archaeological Planning Officer for DAT on behalf of the LPA. Subject to any contractual requirements on confidentiality, copies of the OASIS record will be integrated into the relevant local and national records and published through the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) ArchSearch catalogue.

9 COPYRIGHT

9.1 Archive and report copyright

- 9.1.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative/digital archive relating to the project will be retained by Wessex Archaeology under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved. The client will be licenced to use each report for the purposes that it was produced in relation to the project as described in the specification. The museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use conforms to the *Copyright and Related Rights Regulations 2003*.
- 9.1.2 Information relating to the project will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record (HER) in accordance with the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records* (Welsh Archaeological Trusts 2018), where it can be freely copied without reference to Wessex Archaeology for the purposes of archaeological research or development control within the planning process.

9.2 Third party data copyright

- 9.2.1 This document and the project archive may contain material that is non-Wessex Archaeology copyright (e.g., Ordnance Survey, British Geological Survey, Crown



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Wessex Archaeology 2022. Aeron Valley School, Lampeter Road, Felinfach, Ceredigion *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation* Salisbury: unpublished report ref. 271540.1

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Trench summaries

Trench No 1		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.30 m
Easting 255896		Northing 255407		m OD 95.01
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
101		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown, silty clay, rare sub-angular small gravels	0.00–0.15
102		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay, rare sub-angular small gravels	0.15–0.25
103		Natural	To the east light yellowish brown, silty clay, no inclusions. To the west mid yellowish brown, sandy silt, abundant sub-angular mudstone gravels	0.25–0.30+

Trench No 2		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.33 m
Easting 252937		Northing 255391		m OD 92.9-94.48
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
201		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown, silty clay, rare sub-angular small gravels	0.00–0.10
202		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay, rare sub-angular small gravels	0.10–0.23
203		Natural	Light yellowish brown, sandy silt clay, rare sub-angular small mudstone gravels.	0.23–0.33+

Trench No 3		Length 30 m	Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.85 m
Easting 252942		Northing 255424		m OD 89.97-92.97
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)
301		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown, silty clay, rare sub-angular small gravels	0.00–0.20
302		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay, rare sub-angular small mudstone gravels	0.20–0.30
303		Colluvium	Mid reddish brown, silty clay, no inclusions	0.38–0.70
304		Colluvium	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay, no inclusions	0.30–0.60
305		Natural	Light yellowish brown, sandy silt clay, rare sub-angular small gravels. patches of degraded mudstone	0.60+



Trench No 4		Length 30 m		Width 1.80 m		Depth 0.40 m	
Easting 252988			Northing 255388			m OD 90.1-91.3	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL (m)	
401		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown, silty clay, rare sub-angular small gravels			0.00–0.25	
402		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam, rare sub-angular small gravels			0.25–0.37	
403		Natural	Light brownish grey, with patches of light yellowish brown, sandy silt clay, sparse sub-angular small gravels			0.37–0.65+	
404		Colluvium	Mid grey silt clay with rare coarse gravel deposits poorly sorted sub-angular			0.37–0.65	

Trench No 5		Length 30 m		Width 1.80 m		Depth 0.37 m	
Easting 253003			Northing 255458			m OD 89.24	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL (m)	
501		Topsoil	Dark yellowish brown, silty clay, rare sub-angular small gravels			0.00–0.20	
502		Subsoil	Mid yellowish brown, silty clay loam, rare sub-angular small stone gravels			0.20–0.37	
503		Natural	Light yellowish brown silty clay with no inclusions.			0.37+	
504	505	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned North - South with moderate, convex sides and a flat base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 1.15 m. Depth: 0.16 m.				
505	504	Ditch fill	Mid grey brown silty clay with rare sub-angular small stone gravels				
506	507	Furrow	Linear furrow aligned North - South with moderate, concave sides and a flat base. Length: 1.80 m. Width: 1.35 m. Depth: 0.16 m.				
507	506	Ditch fill	Mid grey brown silty clay with rare sub-angular small stone gravels				

Trench No 6		Length 30 m		Width 1.80 m		Depth 0.45 m	
Easting 253047			Northing 255455			m OD 89.16	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description			Depth BGL (m)	
601		Topsoil	Dark reddish brown, silty clay, rare sub-rounded, small inclusions			0.00–0.28	
602		Uncategorised context	Subsoil, mid reddish brown, silty clay, rare sub-rounded small inclusions			0.28–0.45	



603		Natural	Light yellowish brown, silty clay, sparse - common sub-rounded small inclusions.	0.45+
604	605	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned North-east to south-west with moderate, concave sides and a concave base. Length: >1.80 m. Width: 0.34 m. Depth: 0.18 m.	
605	604	Ditch fill	Mid grey brown silty clay with rare sub-angular small mudstone	
606	607	Natural feature	Linear natural feature aligned North-west to South-east with moderate, straight sides and a flat base. Length: >2.17 m. Width: 1.59 m. Depth: 0.14 m.	
607	606	Primary fill	Light blue grey silty clay with abundant coarse gravel, poorly sorted and sub-rounded	

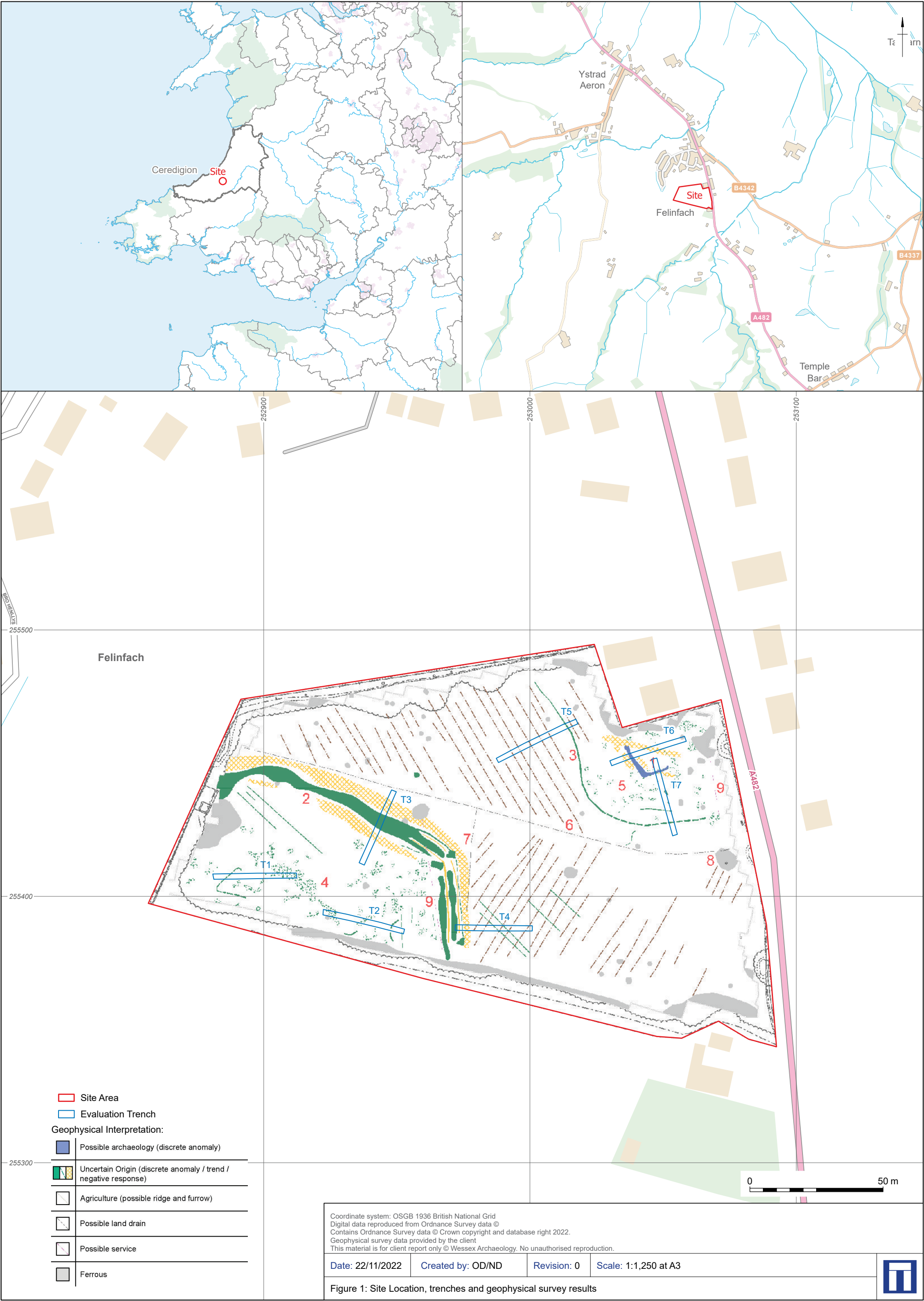
Trench No 7		Length 30 m		Width 1.80 m	Depth 0.30 m
Easting 253051		Northing 255433		m OD 89.15	
Context Number	Fill Of/Filled With	Interpretative Category	Description	Depth BGL (m)	
701		Topsoil	Dark reddish brown, silty clay, rare sub-rounded small inclusions	0.00–0.17	
702		Subsoil	Mid reddish brown, silty clay loam, rare sub-rounded small inclusions	0.17–0.21	
703		Natural	Light yellowish brown, sandy clay silt, common sub-rounded to sub-angular small gravels and mudstone.	0.21–0.30	
704	705	Ditch	Linear ditch aligned North-west to South-east with shallow, concave sides and a flat base. Length: >1.94 m. Width: 1.74 m. Depth: 0.14 m.	0.44	
705	704	Ditch fill	Dark grey brown silty clay	0.44	

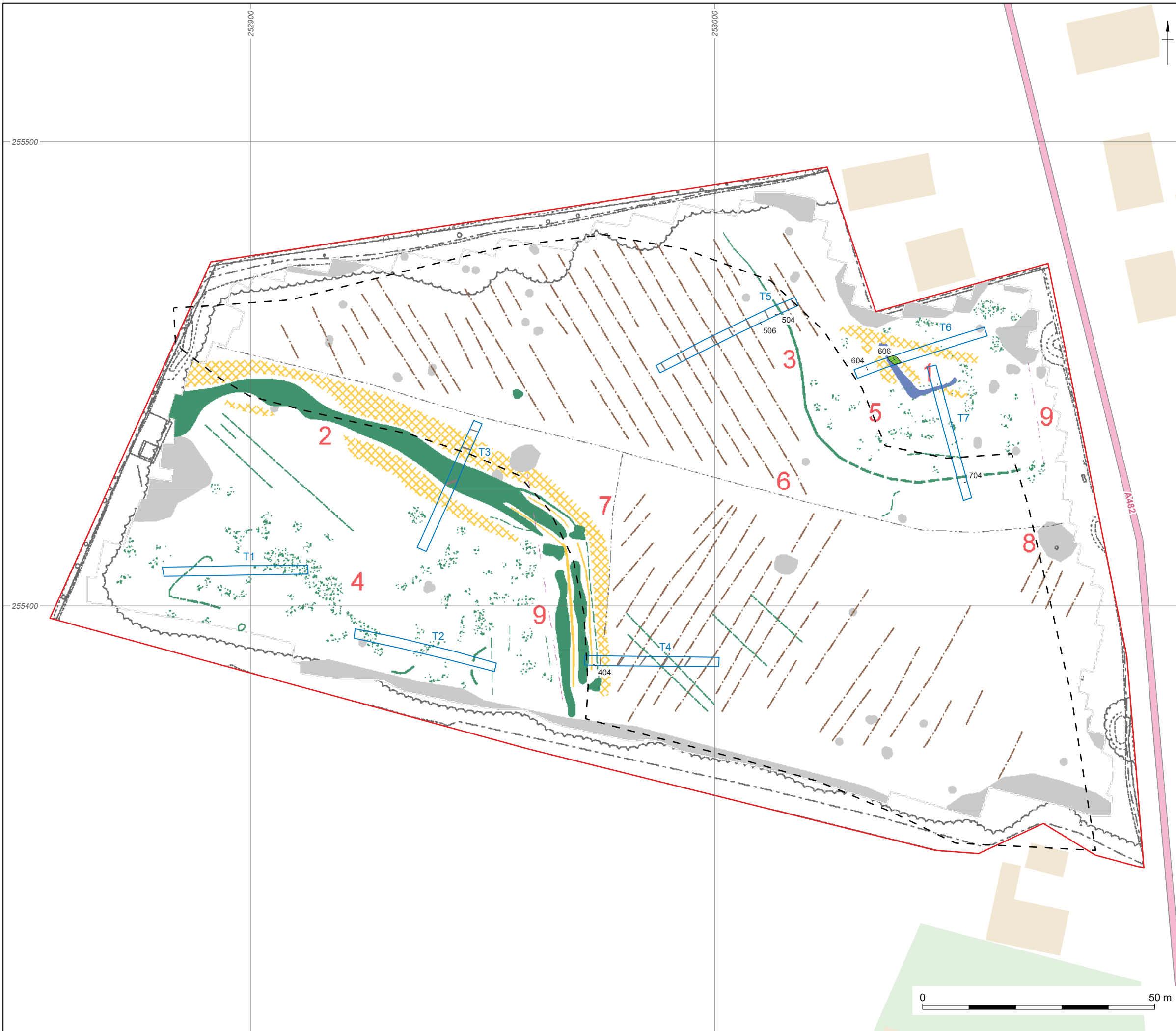
Appendix 2 OASIS summary

Summary for wessexar1-511133

OASIS ID (UID)	wessexar1-511133
Project Name	Evaluation at Aeron Valley School, Lampeter Road, Felinfach, Ceredigion
Sitename	Aeron Valley School, Lampeter Road, Felinfach, Ceredigion
Activity type	Evaluation
Project Identifier(s)	270540
Planning Id	N/A
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Between application and determination
Organisation Responsible for work	Wessex Archaeology
Project Dates	14-Nov-2022 - 17-Nov-2022
Location	Aeron Valley School, Lampeter Road, Felinfach, Ceredigion NGR : SN 53015 55429 LL : 52.177479414317, -4.15105088808852 12 Fig : 253015,255429
Administrative Areas	Country : Wales County : Dyfed District : Ceredigion Parish : Llanfihangel Ystrad
Project Methodology	<p>All works were undertaken in accordance with the detailed methods set out within the WSI (Wessex Archaeology 2022) and in general compliance with the standards outlined in ClfA guidance. The trench locations were set out using a Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS), in the positions proposed.</p> <p>Seven evaluation trenches, each measuring 30m in length and 1.8m wide, were excavated in level spits using a 360° excavator equipped with a toothless bucket, under the constant supervision and instruction of the monitoring archaeologist. Machine excavation proceeded until either the archaeological horizon or the natural geology was exposed. Where necessary, the base of the trench/surface of archaeological deposits were cleaned by hand. A sample of archaeological features and deposits was hand-excavated, sufficient to address the aims of the evaluation.</p> <p>All exposed archaeological deposits and features were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma recording system. A complete record of excavated features and deposits was made, including plans and sections drawn to appropriate scales and tied to the Ordnance Survey (OS) National Grid.</p> <p>A full photographic record was made using digital cameras equipped with an image sensor of not less than 16 megapixels and included trench and context record shots along with general working views.</p>

Project Results	<p>Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by TPAC Architects Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation of a 2.3 ha parcel of land to the west of Lampeter Road, in Felinfach, Ceredigion, SA48 8AD. The evaluation area is centred on NGR 253015 255429. The works took place between 14th and 17th November 2022.</p> <p>The evaluation comprised the excavation, investigation and recording of seven evaluation trenches across one field, located to target anomalies identified during the geophysical survey.</p> <p>The uncovered features comprised linear features interpreted as ditches, drainage features or furrows, of uncertain date are likely to represent a single period of probable post-medieval activity. A single sherd of post-medieval pottery was recovered from the ditch in Trench 7.</p> <p>The evaluation demonstrated that the eastern of two curvilinear field boundaries, shown on the Llanfihangel Ystrad Tithe Map of 1839 within the site, survives as below ground remains. This was visible as the sinuous ditch that continues through Trenches 5 and 7. The ditch also corresponded well with the curvilinear anomalies identified by the geophysical survey (Sumo Geophysics Ltd 2021), which indicated that the geophysics survey results are reliable. The present field layout does not appear to conceal an earlier landscape.</p>
Keywords	Ditch - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types Drain - FISH Thesaurus of Monument Types
Funder	TPAC Architects Ltd
HER	Dyfed Archaeological Trust - unRev - STANDARD
HER Identifiers	
Archives	





- Site Area
- Evaluation Trench
- Disturbance
- GEOLOGY
- Field boundary as shown on 1839 Tithe map (approx.)

Coordinate system: OSGB 1936 British National Grid
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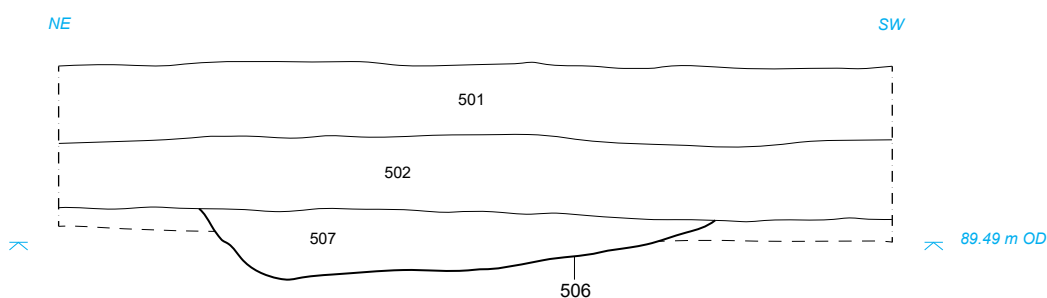


Figure 2: Archaeological results overlain onto the
geophysical survey results

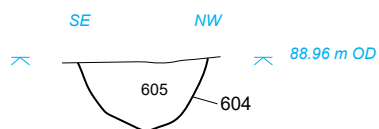
A. North-west facing section of ditch 504



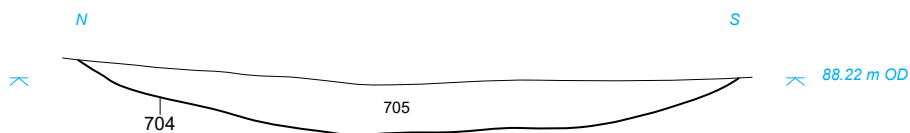
B. North-west facing section of ditch 506



C. North-east facing section of ditch 604



D. West facing section of field boundary 704



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Date: 23/11/2022 Created by: ND Revision: 0 Scale: 1:20 at A4

Figure 3: Sections of archaeological features in Trenches 5, 6 and 7: Ditch 504, furrow 506, feature 604 and ditch 704





Figure 4: Trench 3 showing colluvial layers, looking north-west, scale: 2 m



Figure 5: Trench 4 showing land drains, looking west, scale: 1 m and 2 m



Figure 6: Trench 5 ditch 504, looking south, scale: 1 m

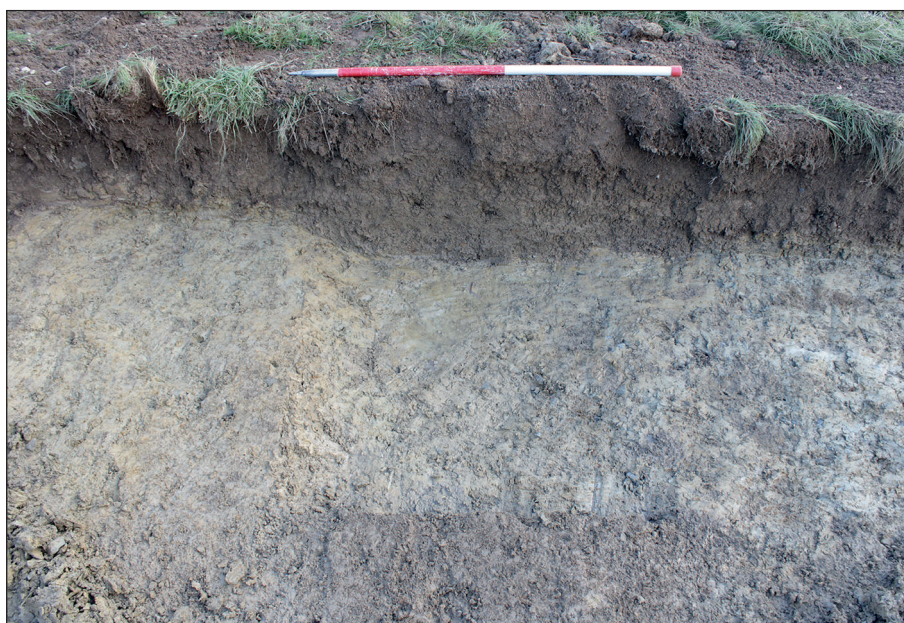


Figure 7: Trench 5 furrow 506, looking south, scale: 1 m



Figure 8: Trench 6 feature 604, looking south-west, scale: 0.3 m



Figure 9: Trench 7 ditch 704, looking east, scale: 1 m



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