

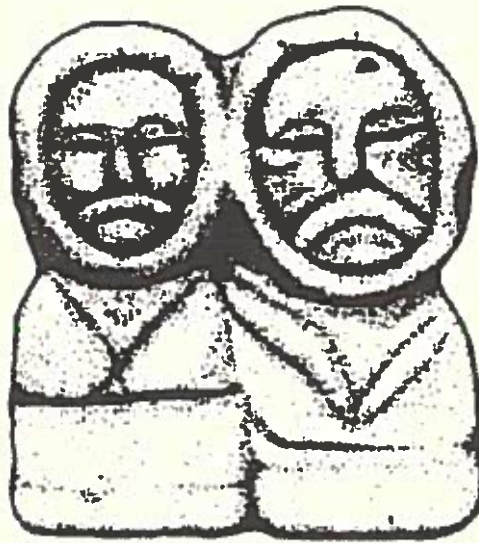


**CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECT**

Land to rear of garage west side of Perrot's Road, Haverfordwest:

An Archaeological Evaluation

By Phil Evans BA



**CAP Report No. 143**

Land to rear of garage west side of Perrot's Road, Haverfordwest:

**An Archaeological Evaluation**

By Phil Evans BA

Prepared for:  
**Lidl UK GmbH**  
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Project No: 242

Date: 20 July 2000

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June 2000

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## **1 INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In response to a consultation regarding the potential archaeological implications of the proposed development by Lidl GmbH to the west of Perrot's Road, Haverfordwest (NGR SM 951158), Cambria Archaeology Heritage Management advised Pembrokeshire County Council Planning Authority that the area of the proposed development lay in an area identified as being a site of a possible mass inhumation.
- 1.2 As a result Lidl GmbH, Wales requested Cambrian Archaeological projects to undertake an archaeological desk-top assessment (CAP Report No. 133) in order to obtain more detailed information on the potential survival and significance of archaeological features on the site. The desk-top assessment confirmed the likely presence of further burials in the development area.
- 1.3 In order to further evaluate the presence, location, extent, and significance of important archaeological remains, the Local Planning Authority considered it necessary that the results of an archaeological evaluation of the site are provided prior to any consideration of planning consent.
- 1.4 In June 2000, Lidl GmbH, Wales invited Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd to tender for the archaeological evaluation. This report details the findings of the archaeological evaluation.

## **2 OBJECTIVES**

- 2.1 The Cambria Archaeology Design Brief stated that the primary objective of this evaluation was to determine the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed development.
- 2.2 It was recommended by Cambria Archaeology that the evaluation should include at least two trenches of the maximum length which can be accommodated in the area of interest. This was considered to include between 5% and 10% of the area of interest.
- 2.3 As a result of the proposed development area currently being part of a garden heavily planted with trees and other plants the exact location of the trenches was determined by where they could be placed in order to fully assess the potential archaeological impact and limit damage to the garden (Fig. 2). The location of the trenches was agreed with Cambria Archaeology and Ms Thomas (Landowner) before work began on site.

- 2.4 The evaluation should also carefully consider the condition of any human skeletal remains identified and provide an assessment of the viability, for further study, by an appropriately qualified specialist. Human remains should be left *in situ*, covered and protected when discovered.
- 2.5 Topsoil and modern overburden were removed with the aid of a machine excavator, a Mini-digger with 1.2m toothless ditching bucket, down to the first recognisable archaeological horizon. Thereafter, the subsequent deposits were excavated manually using standard accepted archaeological recording techniques. The manual excavation of selected archaeological features was also undertaken in order to elucidate the character, distribution, extent and significance of the archaeological remains.

### **3 Trial Trenching Methodology**

- 3.1 The Design Brief allowed for the use of a mechanical excavator for the removal of topsoil and modern overburden, down to the first recognisable archaeological horizons. This was carried out using a mini-digger with a 1.2m wide toothless ditching bucket. Thereafter the deposits within the trenches were excavated using standard accepted archaeological techniques.
- 3.2 Each trench was cleaned and recorded. Recording of the trenches was in three formats:
  - 1) Photographic record shots were taken in 35mm. colour slide and black and white formats.
  - 2) Drawn records, plans and sections, were produced at scales of 1:10 and 1:20 on drafting film.
  - 3) Written records were produced using a continuous numbering sequence for all contexts.
- 3.3 Excavation of selected features was undertaken in order to ascertain their date, depth, preservation, extent, function and relationship to other features.
- 3.4 The natural deposits underlying the archaeology were located in at least one part of the trench section.
- 3.5 All works were conducted whilst adhering to current Health and Safety Regulations.

## 4 The Evaluation Trenches

4.1 Numbers in brackets in the following report refer to context numbers allocated during the evaluation fieldwork phase of the project.

### 4.2 Trench 1 (Figs: 3 & 4)

Trench 1 was located in the centre of the development area and ran north/south across the site. Within this trench, after the removal of the topsoil (1), various archaeological features were located. A deposit of redeposited natural bedrock (29) was located in a long linear band running north/south along the western edge of the trench. When a section was cut through this deposit it revealed that it was only 0.4m in depth with very straight, vertical edges and appears to either have been a pathway or used for drainage. In turn this feature was cut by two post holes (26&28) which were cut themselves by a modern planting bed (24). Immediately to the south of the planting bed, and butting deposit (29) another deposit similar to (29) was located (22). Again this appears to be a deposit of natural bedrock and to have been either a pathway or a drain. This deposit butted up to a modern stone wall (21). Within this trench the land to the south of the wall (21) had undergone recent disturbance. At the time the wall was constructed the overlying deposits to the south were removed, a stone culvert (19) was cut into the underlying clay (18) and sealed with yellow clay puddling (17). The levels were then made up to the top of the wall with a more modern landscaping deposit (15). The clay located at the base of this landscaping deposit is the same as (6&30) and appears to be infilling a natural feature/ alluvial channel.

describe!

confusing description

### 4.3 Trench 2 (Figs: 5 & 6)

Trench 2 was located in the Northwest corner of the site and excavation in this area revealed that the topsoil (1) was approximately 0.3m deep and that this came down onto the natural bedrock (46) which had been cut by several modern features. All of these features were very shallow and all contained fragments of modern pottery and china and would appear to have been the bases of tree/bush boles with the exception of (43) which would appear to be a long linear planting bed.

### 4.4 Trench 3 (Figs: 7 & 8)

Trench 3 was again located in the centre of the development area and ran east/west cutting across trench one. After the removal of the topsoil (1) a deposit of mid grey silty clay (2) was revealed. This deposit was up to 2m in depth and would therefore appear to be a dumped deposit possibly used to landscape the garden. This deposit contained a substantial amount of mid/late 17<sup>th</sup> to mid 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery (Mainly North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware). It had also been cut by two later features (9&10). Deposit (10) is part of the same linear feature located in trench 1 (29) and deposit (8) would appear to be an earlier garden feature, possibly a planting bed. Beneath deposit (2) at the western end of trench 3 lay a

layer of peat (5) which appears to have accumulated either in a natural hollow or in a quarry pit. This in turn overlay a deposit of gley clay which lay directly above the natural bedrock. It is a deposit that has formed due to low energy movement of water and again would support the theory of a natural hollow or quarry feature becoming waterlogged and gradually silting up. At the southern end of the trench a stone culvert was revealed. There was no cut for the culvert through the 'landscaping' deposit (2) but there was a cut through the clay (4) which had been back filled with yellow clay puddling, broken roof slate and a mid grey silty clay (47). The culvert capping stood proud of the clay layer (4) and it would therefore appear that the culvert was inserted immediately prior to the 'landscaping' deposit (2).

*Doesn't fully relate to plan & section*

#### 4.5 Trench 4 (Figs: 9 & 10)

Trench 4 was located at the eastern edge of the development area approximately 1m east of the beech hedge field boundary located on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition OS maps (CAP Report 131). After the removal of the topsoil (32) a deposit of mid grey silty clay (33) was revealed. This deposit was the same as that located in trench 3 (2). At the southern end of the trench a deposit of mortar (33) was located. The mortar was filling a cut into the 'landscaping' deposit (2) which appeared to continue under the present beech hedge. The only other archaeological feature located in this trench was a wall (34) which is a continuation of the wall located in trench 1 (21). The natural yellow/orange clay (13) was located at the far southern end of the trench at a depth of 1m and again at the northern end of the trench, where it joins trench 3.

### 5 Discussion of the pottery and its implications for dating stratigraphy (Kevin Blockley) – Appendix II

The small assemblage is typical of SW Wales. The pottery assemblage is mixed and was found in 17<sup>th</sup> century levelling deposits and infilling of an area of peat, and later levelling deposits. The 17<sup>th</sup> century levels are dated by a tobacco pipe bowl of around 1660-80 and North Devon gravel-tempered wares dating of the 17<sup>th</sup>-mid 18<sup>th</sup> century. The 17<sup>th</sup> century assemblage also contained Coal Measure red wares with black glazes could come from both the Buckley (Flints)/ Preston (Lancs) kilns and the West Midlands. The above material implies the peat deposit found is likely to have been the 17<sup>th</sup> century (and earlier) land surface.

Included in the 17<sup>th</sup> century levelling are sherds of residual medieval pottery. These comprise Merdia Ware, South-West Wales siltstone tempered ware, and local sandy wares. All of the medieval sherds date broadly to the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, with a termination date of the 15<sup>th</sup> century. These sherds had presumably been present in the levelling material and had undoubtedly been part of an area of



medieval occupation brought in to level the site. It need not imply nearby medieval features.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

The evaluation trenching revealed a large accumulation of topsoil and overburden. Directly beneath this layer a deposit of mid grey silty clay was located in every trench, with the exception of trench 2. This deposit would appear to date from the mid 17<sup>th</sup> to mid 18<sup>th</sup> century but also contained artefacts from the 14<sup>th</sup> century. This deposit is too deep to have developed naturally in such a short space of time and it would therefore appear to have been brought in from elsewhere. This theory looks more than plausible when the 1754 print of Haverfordwest is taken into consideration. The print would appear to indicate that the field had a much steeper gradient to it in the mid 18<sup>th</sup> century. This deposit had modern garden features cut into it and at the southern end of trench 1 there is evidence of modern landscaping. *where?*

Once the 'landscaping' deposit had been removed from trench 3 a layer of peat up to 0.5m deep was located at the western end of the trench, which in turn lay above a deposit of gley clay and natural bedrock and clays. The gley clay and the peat appear to have accumulated naturally in a quarry pit or natural hollow with a steep edge of natural bedrock at the western end of the feature which ran up to the level of the natural bedrock located just beneath the topsoil in trench 2. As the bedrock is partially soft and not much use for any construction works, and again by looking at the 1754 print of Haverfordwest it is likely that this drop in level is due to a natural formation. It therefore seems more likely that the peat formed within a natural hollow. Although the peat has been contaminated by later slate and red brick fragments the depth of the deposit suggests that the peat would have taken a long time to develop and it is likely that the peat represents the land level that was present at the time of the 1652 plague.

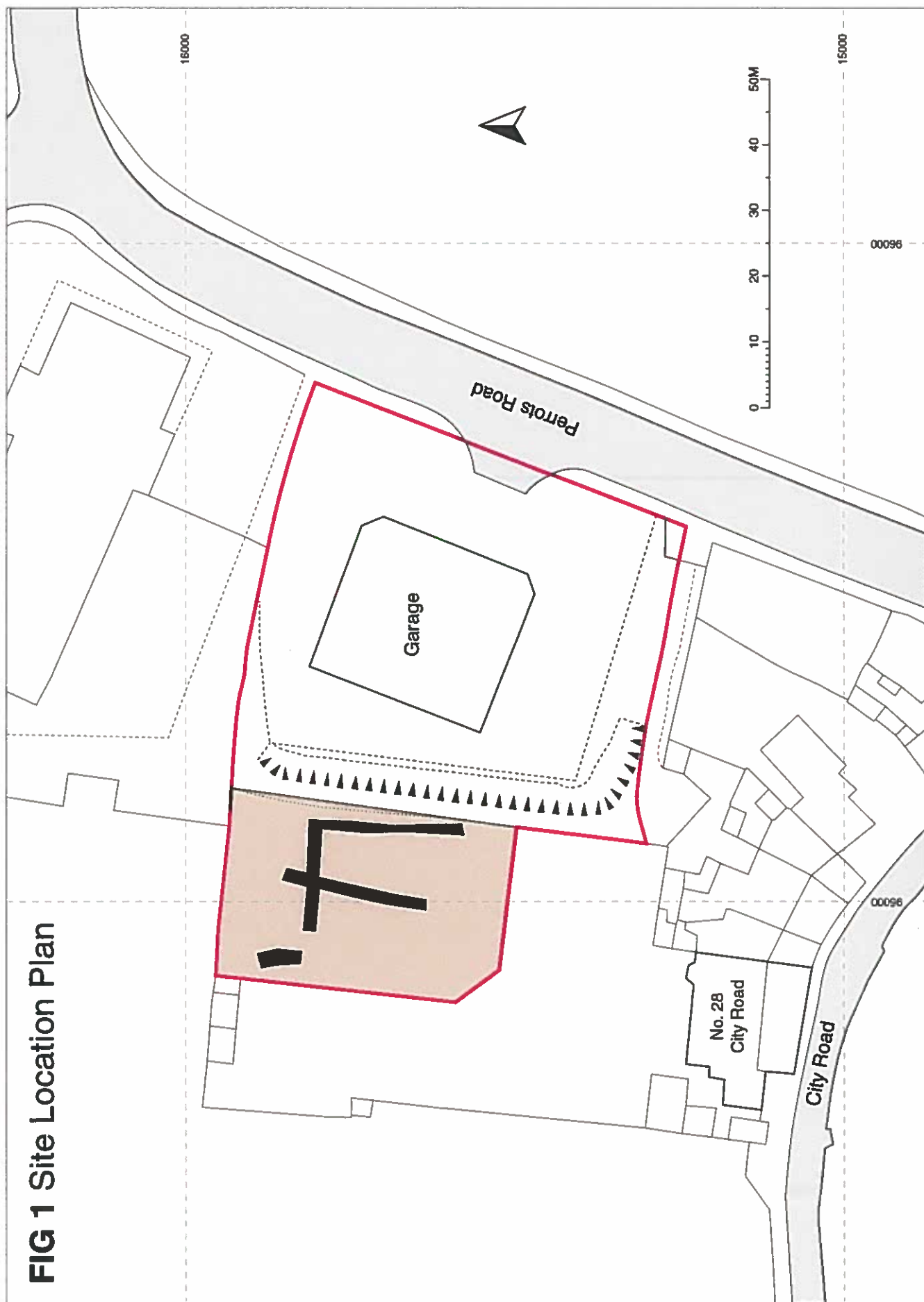
Despite the evaluation trenching revealing no human remains on the site it should be remembered that the evaluation trenching only covered 10% of the development area and due to possible human remains found during the construction of the garage to the east and the close proximity of the Pest house that was located on city road it is still possible that a plague pit(s) could still be located within the development area.

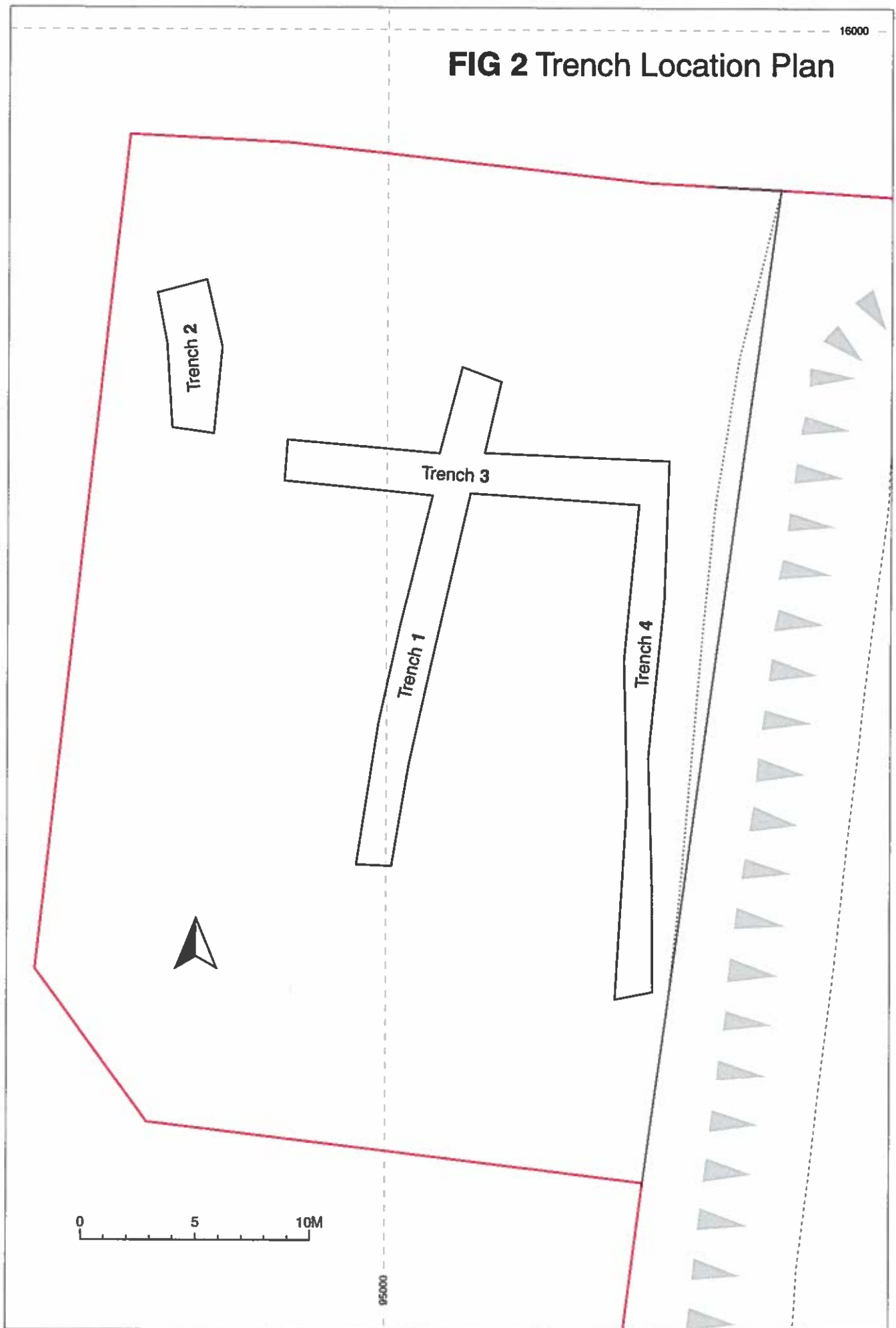
## 7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

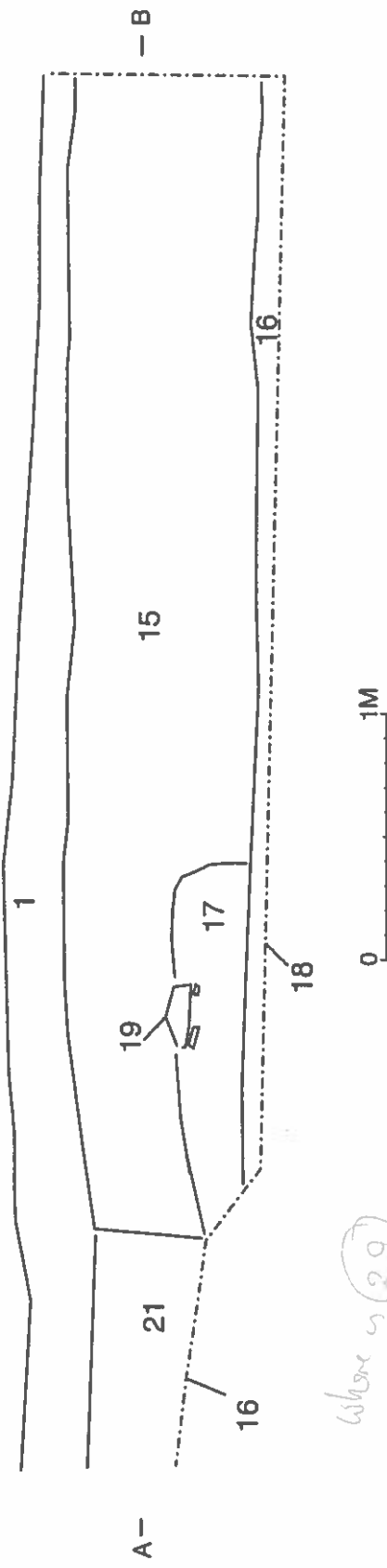
Thanks to; Kevin Blockley for his help and advice during the compilation of this report; Attila Csaba, Ian Halfpenny, Richard Jones, Awen Jones and Roger Linnard for their assistance with the fieldwork.

**FIGURES: 1 - 7**

**FIG 1 Site Location Plan**



**FIG 2 Trench Location Plan**



where is 29?

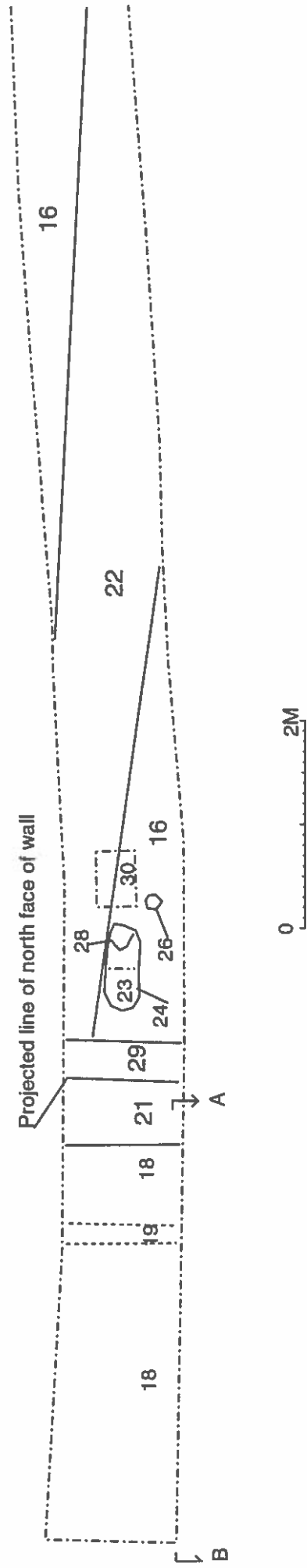
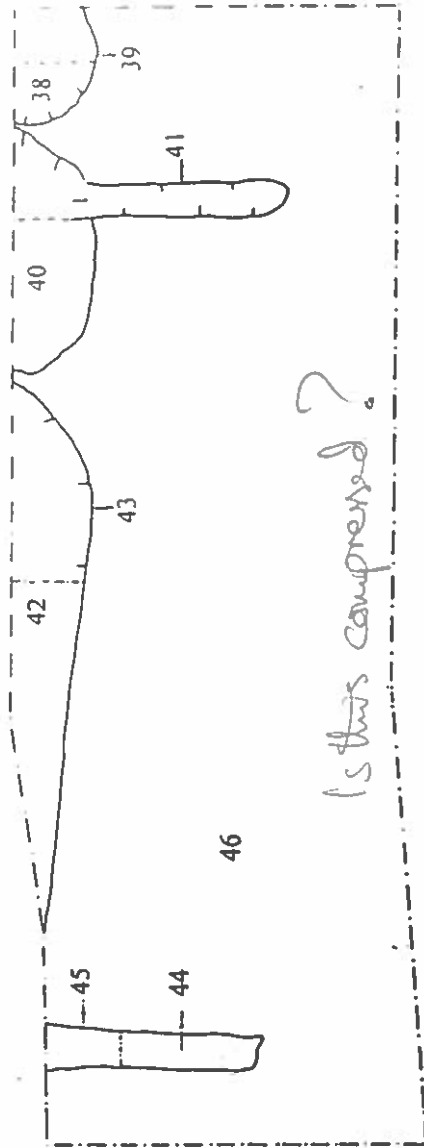


Fig. 3: West facing section and plan - Trench 1



Is this compressed?

Scale?

these do not make sense together

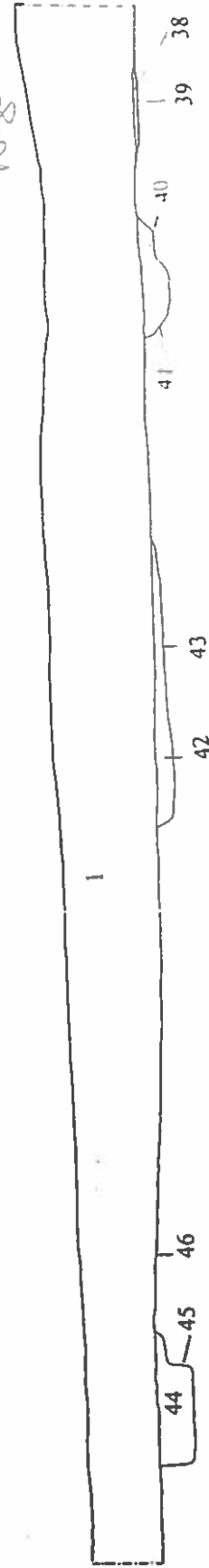


Figure 4: Plan and west facing section – Trench 2



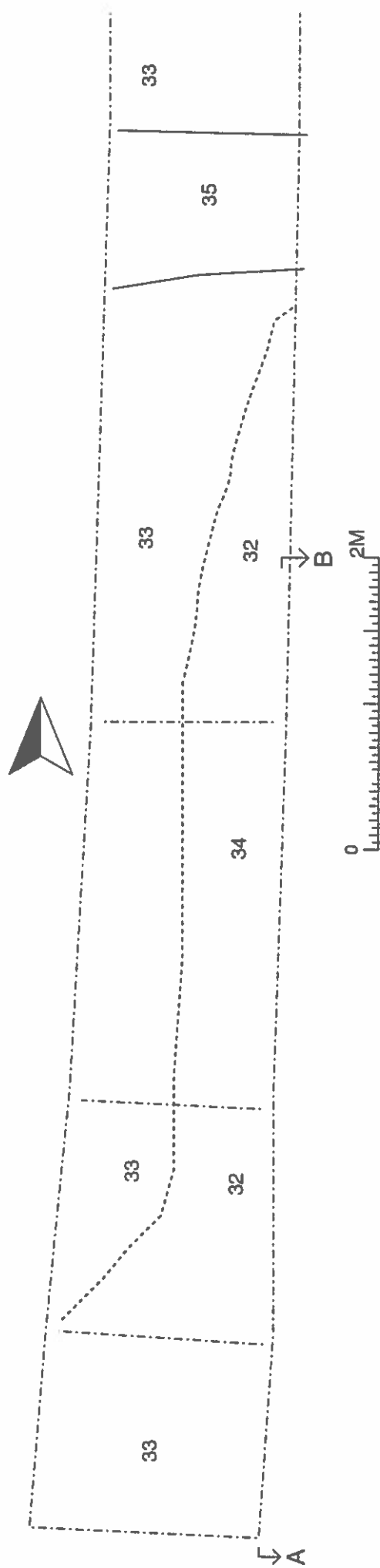
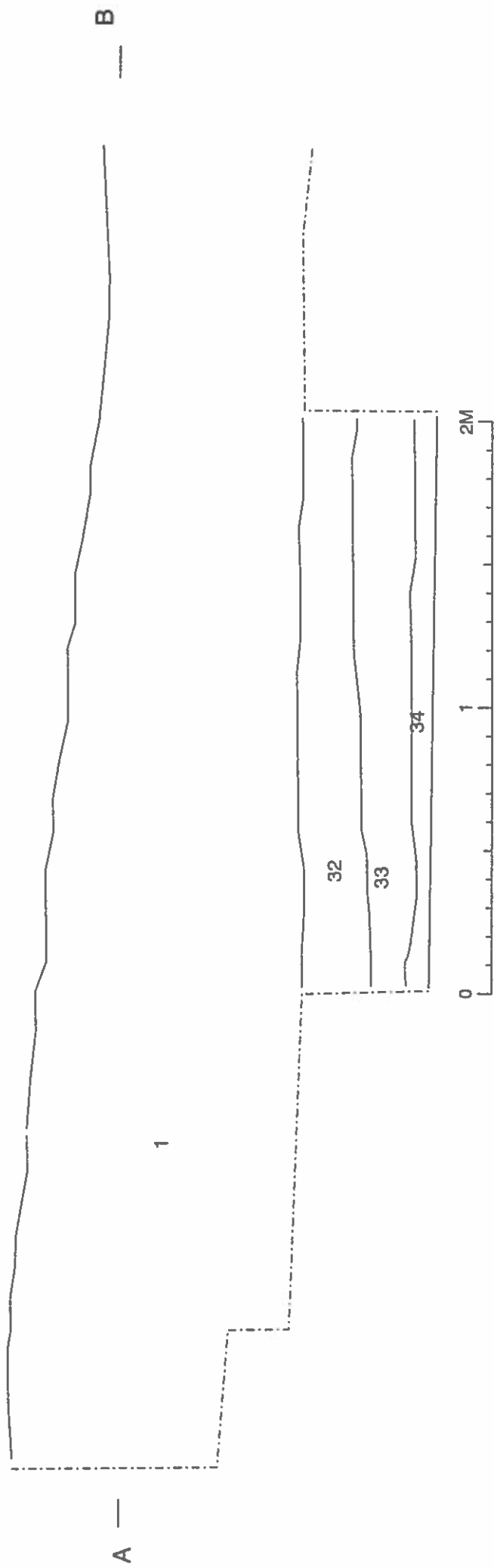


Fig.7: Plan and west facing section - Trench 4



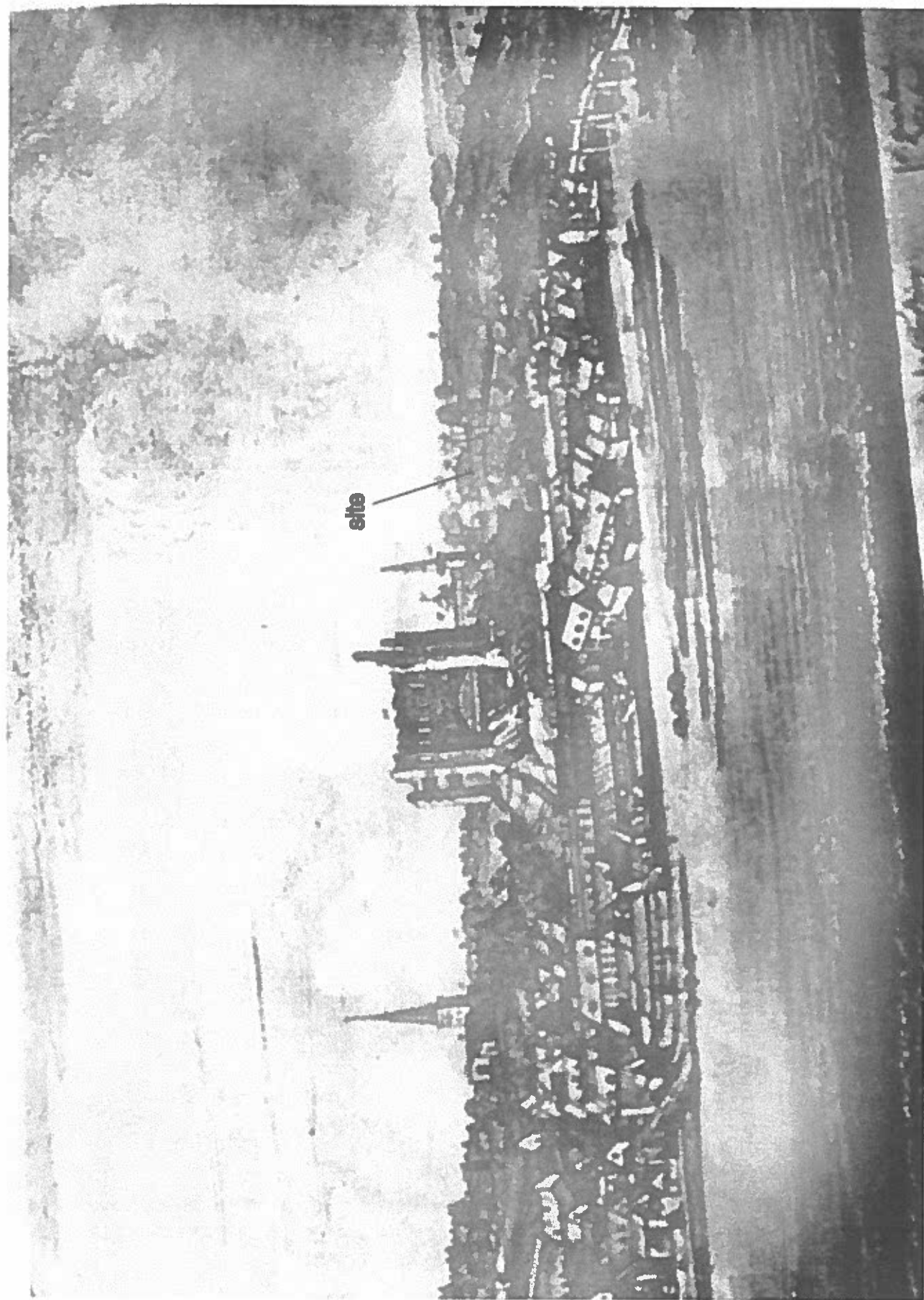


Fig. 7: 1754 Print of Haverfordwest

## **APPENDICES**

## APPENDIX I: CONTEXT LIST

- 1 Topsoil
- 2 Mid grey silty clay with inclusions of charcoal, North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware, small sub-angular stones, animal bones, mortar flecks.
- 3 Band of broken roof slates
- 4 void
- 5 Peat
- 6 Very soft grey clay
- 7 Natural bedrock (Trench 1)
- 8 Cut
- 9 Yellow clay fill of cut 8
- 10 Redeposited natural bedrock fill of cut 11 (Path/Drain)
- 11 Cut for 10
- 12 Cut for culvert 49
- 13 Natural yellow/orange clay at eastern end of trench 3
- 14 Cut
- 15 Mid brown silty clay with inclusions of mortar flecks, charcoal flecks, animal bone and pottery
- 16 Mid grey silty clay with inclusions of charcoal, North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware, small sub-angular stones, animal bones, mortar flecks.
- 17 Yellow clay puddling around culvert 19.
- 18 Grey clay same as 31, 6
- 19 Stone culvert
- 20 Cut for culvert 19
- 21 Mortared stone wall trench 1
- 22 Redeposited natural bedrock
- 23 Dark brown silty clay (fill of 24)
- 24 Cut
- 25 Mid brown silty clay (fill of cut 26)
- 26 Posthole
- 27 Fill of 28
- 28 Posthole
- 29 Redeposited natural bedrock
- 30 Grey clay
- 31 Light grey clay similar to 6
- 32 Mortar dup deposit
- 33 Mid grey silty clay with inclusions of charcoal, North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware, small sub-angular stones, animal bones, mortar flecks.
- 34 Natural clay
- 35 Wall
- 36 Void
- 37 Void
- 38 Fill of cut 29

- 39 Cut
- 40 Fill of cut 41
- 41 Cut
- 42 Fill of cut 43
- 43 Cut
- 44 Fill of cut 45
- 45 Cut
- 46 Natural bedrock (trench 2)
- 47 Fill of cut 12
- 48 Yellow clay puddling around culvert 49
- 49 Culvert eastern end of trench 3

## **Appendix II: Summary of finds**

### **HAVERFORDWEST FINDS (PR2000)**

#### **Key to Pottery Fabric Abbreviations:**

**BSW** – Brown Stoneware  
**BSS** – Bristol/Staffordshire Slipware  
**BSM** – Bristol/Staffordshire Mottled  
**BW** – Blackware  
**BC** – Bone China  
**CB** – Coalmeasures Buff  
**CMB** – Coalmeasures Black  
**CMR** – Coalmeasures Red  
**CW** – Cream Ware  
**DW** – Delft Ware  
**DWW** – Industrially Produced developed White Wares  
**ESW** – English Stone Ware  
**FP** – Flower Pot  
**ISW** – Industrial Stone Ware  
**LRE** – Local Red Earthenware.  
**LRE(LG)** – Local Red Earthenware Lead Glazed  
**ND** – North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware  
**PW** - Pearlware  
**SGW** – (GGAT) South Glamorgan Ware  
**SW** – Slipware  
**SRS** – Staffs Red Stoneware  
**TG** – Tudor Green  
**ESG** – English Salt Glazed Stoneware  
**WdSW** – Westerwald German Stoneware

#### **Context 1**

3 Fragments stoneware C19-C20, 400g

11 Fragments animal bone, 650g  
1 TP stem, 4g  
16 Fragments ND, C17-C18, 408g  
2 Fragments brick, 73g  
3 Fragments CMR, C17-C18, 430g  
1 Fragment tile, 43g  
1 Fragment LRE, 43g

Fragments fired clay, 15g

1 Metal wire, discarded

1 Fragment LRE, post medieval, 5g

1 Fragment fired clay, 125g

2 Fragments ND, C17-C18, 17g

1 Large fragment CMR, C17-C18, 252g

4 Fragments animal bone, 100g

3 Fragments sandy LRE, medieval, 5g

1 Fragment silty LRE, medieval, 1g

2 Fragments ND, C17-C18, 8g

1 Fragment animal bone, 11g

1 Fragment silty LRE, medieval, 20g,

3 Fragments ND, C17-C18, 50g

### **Context 30**

1 TP bowl and stem, 1660-80, 8g

1 TP stem, 2g

2 Fragments animal bone, 10g

2 Fragments merida ware, 15g, C14-C15

1 Fragment ridge tile, medieval, 30g

1 Fragment sandy LRE, medieval, 3g

9 Fragments ND, C17-C18, 50g

7 Fragments silty LRE, medieval, 50g

1 Fragment FP, 4g

Some fragments fired clay, (disintegrating) 45g

1 Fragment of fired clay, 14g

### **Context 36**

6 Fragments animal Bone, 50g

2 Fragments LRE, 13g

### **Un-Stratified, (U-S)**

Fragments fired clay, 60g

1 Fragment WsWD, C18, 5g

1 Fragment stoneware, post medieval, 400g

1 Fragment ND, C17-C18, 7g

## ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Site Name:	Land to the rear of Perrot's Road, Haverfordwest.
NPRN:	N/A
SAM:	N/A
Site code:	PR00
Site Type:	Post-Med ?
Project Type:	Archaeological Evaluation
Project Officer:	Phil Evans
Project Dates:	19 <sup>th</sup> – 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2000
Location of Original Archive:	Cambria Archaeology Curatorial
Location of Finds:	Haverfordwest Museum
Copyright:	CAP Ltd
Restrictions on Access:	None