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CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS LTD. N18

Body Repair Centre, Llanbadarn, Fawr

Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and Field Evaluation



By
Phil Evans BA(Hons)



CAP Report No. 199

ARCHAEOLOGICAL Desk-based Assessment and Evaluation

Body Repair Centre, Llanbadarn Fwar

BY *Phil Evans BA (Hons)*

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ii) IFA Standards and Guidance

THE INSTITUTE OF FIELD ARCHAEOLOGISTS (IFA)

Standard and Guidance for a desk-based assessment

The Standard

A desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature of the archaeological resource within a specified area. It will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the *Code of conduct*, *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology*, and other relevant by-laws of the IFA.

Definition of a desk-based assessment

The definition of an desk-based assessment is a programme of assessment of the known or potential archaeological resource within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater.

It consists of a collation of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely character, extent, quality and worth of the known or potential archaeological resource in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

This definition and *Standard* do not cover chance observations, which should lead to an appropriate archaeological project being designed and implemented, nor do they apply to monitoring for preservation of remains *in situ*.

Purpose of a desk-based assessment

The purpose of a desk-based assessment is to gain information about the known or potential archaeological resource within a given area or site (including presence or absence, character and extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and relative quality of the potential archaeological resource), in order to make an assessment of its merit in context, leading to one or more of the following:

- ◆ the formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource.
- ◆ the formulation of a strategy for further investigation, whether or not intrusive, where the character and value of the resource is not sufficiently defined to permit a mitigation strategy or other response to be devised.
- ◆ the formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research.

The Standard and Guidance for an archaeological desk-based assessment was formally adopted as IFA approved practice at the Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on 14th October 1994.

ii) IFA Standards and Guidance

THE INSTITUTE OF FIELD ARCHAEOLOGISTS (IFA)

Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation

The Standard

An archaeological field evaluation will determine, as far as it is reasonably possible, the nature of the archaeological resource within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the projects, and comply with the *Code of conduct*, *Code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology*, and other relevant by-laws of the IFA.

Definition of field evaluation

The definition of an archaeological field evaluation is a limited programme of non-intrusive and / or intrusive fieldwork which determines the presence or absence of archaeological features, structures, deposits artefacts or ecofacts within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. If such archaeological remains are present field evaluation defines their character, extent quality and preservation, and enables an assessment of their worth in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

Purpose of field evaluation

The purpose of field evaluation is to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including presence or absence, character, extent, date, integrity, state of preservation and quality), in order to make an assessment of its merit in the appropriate context, leading to one or more of the following:

- ◆ the formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource.
- ◆ the formulation of a strategy to initiate a threat to the archaeological resource.
- ◆ the formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research.

The Standard and Guidance for an archaeological field evaluation was formally adopted as IFA approved practice at the Annual General Meeting of the Institute held on 14th October 1994.

Non Technical Summary

The following report is the result of work undertaken by Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd. on behalf of Mr Evans as part of a condition attached to a planning application submitted by Mr Evans to Ceredigion County Council Planning Authority. The report has two main components; the desk-based assessment and the field investigation. The desk-based assessment is an appraisal of all readily available documentary, photographic and cartographic evidence relating to the site and its environs. The field investigation is designed to determine whether any archaeological deposits are present on the site and to excavate and record their character and significance. The desk-based assessment revealed the possibility of remains relating to the site of a pre-conquest monastic settlement. However, the field evaluation only revealed evidence that the site had been used as a gardens, divided by a boundary wall, during the late 19th century before being converted into a yard for the body repair centre.

1 Introduction

The following text details the findings and work undertaken by CAP Ltd. on behalf of Mr Evans as part of a condition attached to a planning application submitted by Mr Evans to Ceredigion County Council Planning Authority (application A010063).

CAP Ltd. submitted a tender and specification in accordance with the brief written by CA – HM, the brief stated that an archaeological assessment and evaluation of land at the Body Repair Centre, Bridge Terrace, Llanbadarn Fawr should be undertaken prior to planning consent for the proposed housing development. This tender was accepted and the work was carried out accordingly by CAP Ltd. in November 2001.

All works were undertaken in accordance with both the IFA's *Standards and guidance: for an archaeological desk-based assessment and archaeological evaluation excavation* and current Health and Safety legislation.

1.1 Planning Background

Mr A J Evans has submitted a planning application (Planning application No. A010063) to Ceredigion Planning Authority. The site of the proposed development is located at NGR SN 599810 and involves the construction of three new residences with associated access, parking and landscaping.

1.2 Site Description

The site is located on the corner of Church Street where it joins the lower section of Primrose Hill (NGR SN599810). At present the site consists of a Body Repair Centre and yard. The evaluation trench was undertaken 1m to the north of the Repair Centre, within the yard area (Fig.). The site lies near to St Padarn's Church which dates from the Medieval Period, and the church itself lies on the site of a pre-conquest monastic foundation, and episcopal centre in the earlier pre-conquest period.

1.3 Soil and Geology

According to the Soil Survey of England and Wales the soil present on the site lies on the border between Cegin and Dengigh 1. The underlying geology is conforms to the Llandovery series.

1.4 Archaeological Background

A brief for archaeological works to be undertaken at the site was prepared by Lucy Rowley-Williams (Cambria Archaeology – Heritage Management). The brief sets out the requirements for an archaeological assessment and evaluation of the of the proposed development prior to the determination of the planning application (Application No. A010063). This work must be undertaken in order to adequately assess the extent, condition and significance of any remains on site.

A full account of the archaeological background of the site is given in the Desk-based Assessment section of this report.

2 Aims and Objectives

Desk-based assessment

- Collate and assess relevant information held in the Regional Sites and Monuments Record, including the results of previous archaeological investigations.
- Collate and assess all cartographic information relevant to the area.
- Assess the topography and landuse of the area through maps and site visits.

Field Evaluation

- The evaluation should include a programme of linear trial trenching to adequately sample the site and excavate sufficient archaeological features to assess the potential impact of the development. In this instance one trench will be excavated due to site constraints.
- The location of the trench should include coverage along Bridge Terrace street frontage, and across any burgage or garden plots running back from 'Heol y Llan'. Due to the location of the site there is also potential for remains associated with the monastic settlement, and this should be examined.

3 Methodology (Field Evaluation)

A mechanical excavator with a 1.2m wide ditching bucket was used for the removal of topsoil and modern overburden.

The archaeological contractor then '*field walked*' this area recovering any dateable material that was evident.

Thereafter the evaluation trench was excavated by hand.

Recording of the trenches was in three formats:

i) *Photographic record*

Photographs were taken in 35mm Colour slide, colour print, black and white and digital formats.

ii) *Drawn record*

Site drawings were produced at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50 on drafting film. Finished

drawings have been related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

iii) *Written record*

Written text was produced using a continuous numbering sequence for all contexts, and identified features tied in to the OS survey grid where applicable.

The underlying natural deposits were located in the trenches and investigated to establish whether any deep cutting archaeological features were present.

An environmental sampling and sampling and processing strategy was in place should the archaeological deposits warrant it. However, in this instance it was not felt that the deposits encountered required sampling.

All works were undertaken in accordance with both the IFA's *Standards and guidance: for an archaeological watching brief* and current Health and Safety legislation.

Part 1: THE DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

Prehistoric

There is little evidence of prehistoric activity within the assessment area; the only evidence of early activity is that of a Chambered Tomb (PRN 5406). (outside assessment area)

Medieval

St. Padarn's Church (PRN 3994/3995/4847)

The church (NGR SN59918101) is dedicated to St. Padarn a 6th century saint who was alive at the same time as St. David. In fact it is said that he accompanied St. David and St. Teilo on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem where all 3 were consecrated bishops. The only remains of the monastery are two crosses which are now housed in the South Transept. The taller one dates from the 10th century and the smaller to the 11th century.

After the Norman Conquest of Cerridigion in the 12th century (c.1116) the monastery became a cell to the great Benedictine abbey of St. Peter's in Gloucestershire. Until 1175 the famous Welsh chronicle Brut Y Tywysogion was compiled at the abbey, but was moved to Strata Florida Abbey. Soon after the monastery went into decline and when Gerald the Welshman visited the abbey in 1188, he was shocked to see that it was in the hands of the Lay Abbot and his sons.

Henry III took control of the church in 1246 and it remained under the control of the crown until 1360 when it was granted to the Cistercian abbey of Vale Royal in Cheshire. The church underwent heavy restoration works between 1868 and 1885, and the choir vestry and storehouse were added c.1900. Despite these works the majority of the church maintains its medieval fabric.

Post-Medieval

TY-Mawr (PRN 8727)

Modernised 19th century dwelling. (outside assessment area)

Bridge Terrace (PRN 9667)

A row of four terrace houses composed of local rubble covered with lime mortar and dating to the 19th century. (adjacent to assessment area)

Maes-Mawr Hall (PRN 23457)

Modernised 19th century dwelling (outside assessment area)

Cartographic Evidence

1610 John Speed Map (Fig. 2)

The village of Llanbadarn Fawr is located on this map but it reveals no detail of the village itself.

1796 Ogilvy Map (Fig.3)

This map reveals no detail of the village of Llanbadarn, but again its position is located.

1776 Base Map Gogerdan (Fig.3a)

This letter was taken from a letter to Richard Avent (CADW) from Steven Briggs (RCHMW) and no original source was given. The position of the monastic settlement is likely to be speculative and based on similar settlements in Ireland. It is therefore only possible to say that the development lies within a possible monastic settlement.

1843 Tithe Map (Fig. 4)

The assessment area is clearly shown on the 1843 Tithe Map. This map indicates that the buildings to the north of the development area had not been constructed at this time and that the area was probably used as a field. Unfortunately the numbers relating to the apportionment are illegible so no definite detail of the landuse can be given.

1890 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 5)

This map shows that the settlement of Llanbadarn Fawr continued to grow, but there are no noticeable changes within the development area since the 1843 Tithe Map.

1906 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map (Fig. 6)

Once again there appears to have been very little, if any change, in the landuse of the assessment area.

Part 2: The Evaluation Excavation (Figs. 7 – 8, Plates 1 – 6)

A trench measuring 2m by 8m was excavated in order to establish any archaeological remains that may be present within the area of the proposed development. After the removal of the compact yard surface (01) a limestone and red brick wall (11) was located running north/south across the trench. To either side of the wall a dark brown garden loam deposit (09) was revealed. This deposit contained large quantities of late 19th /early 20th century pottery and glass. The area to the west of the wall was then excavated by hand to a depth of 1.10m. The excavation showed the loam deposit to be 0.4m thick and that it in turn overlay a greyer iron stained deposit (10). This deposit contained early to late 19th century pottery. Once this deposit was removed the natural stone bedrock was revealed at a depth of 1.10m.

After consultation with Cambria Archaeolog HM it was decided that the area to the east of the wall could be carefully excavated by machine. This revealed the same series of deposits located to the west of the wall, again with natural bedrock lying at c. 1.10m.

No other archaeological features were located within this trench.

6 Conclusions

The Desk-based Assessment indicated that there are possible remains relating to the pre-conquest monastic settlement at Llanbadarn Fawr within the development area, and that the site had been left undeveloped throughout its cartographic history, since 1843. However, the field evaluation only produced evidence of the site having been used as two separate gardens, separated by a boundary wall. The datable evidence recovered revealed that the gardens had been in use since the mid 19th century and was then developed into a yard for the Body Repair Centre in the early 20th century. The gardens related to the properties to the north of the assessment area and the revealed wall lies in alignment with the present visible boundary to these properties.

7 Acknowledgments

Thanks to; Kevin Blockley for his help and advice during the compilation of this report and to Helen Milne for her assistance with the fieldwork.

Also thanks to; the Curatorial staff at ACAHM, The National Library of Wales and the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments (Wales), for their help during the Desk-based Assessment.

7 References and Bibliography

Bowen, E. G. 1997. *Saints, Seaways and Settlements in the Celtic Lands*. Cardiff University of Wales Press.

Davies, W. 1982. *Wales in the Early Middle Ages*. Leicester University Press.

Edwards, N and Lane, A (Eds). *The Early Church in Wales and the West*. Oxbow Monograph 16.

Rowley- Williams, L. 2001 *Brief for an archaeological assessment and evaluation*. CA-HM.

7.3 Cartographic Sources

1610 John Speed Map

1796 Ogilvy Map (Photograph taken from St Pardan's Church Display board)

1797 Base Map, Gogerdann (No original source – Take from letter to Richard Avent from Steven Briggs)

1843 Tithe Map

1890 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map

1906 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map

7.4 Photographic Sources

RAF Aerial Photographic Sources – Sheet 127

FORMAT	PHOTOGRAPHIC ANGLE	SORTIE	FRAME	DATE
B/W	Vertical	106G/UK/1457	4203	02/05/46
"	"	"	3212	"
"	"	"	3213	"
"	"	"	3214	"
"	"	541/515	3128	11/05/51
"	"	"	3129	"
"	"	"	4091	"
"	"	"	4092	"
"	"	106G/UK/1457	4143	02/05/46

Tithe Map Schedule Details

Number	Landowner	Description
196		Church and yard of Llanbadarn Fawr
197	Evan Heeling	Black Lion Inn
222	Lewis Pugh	Stack Yard

223	Isaac Jones	House & Garden
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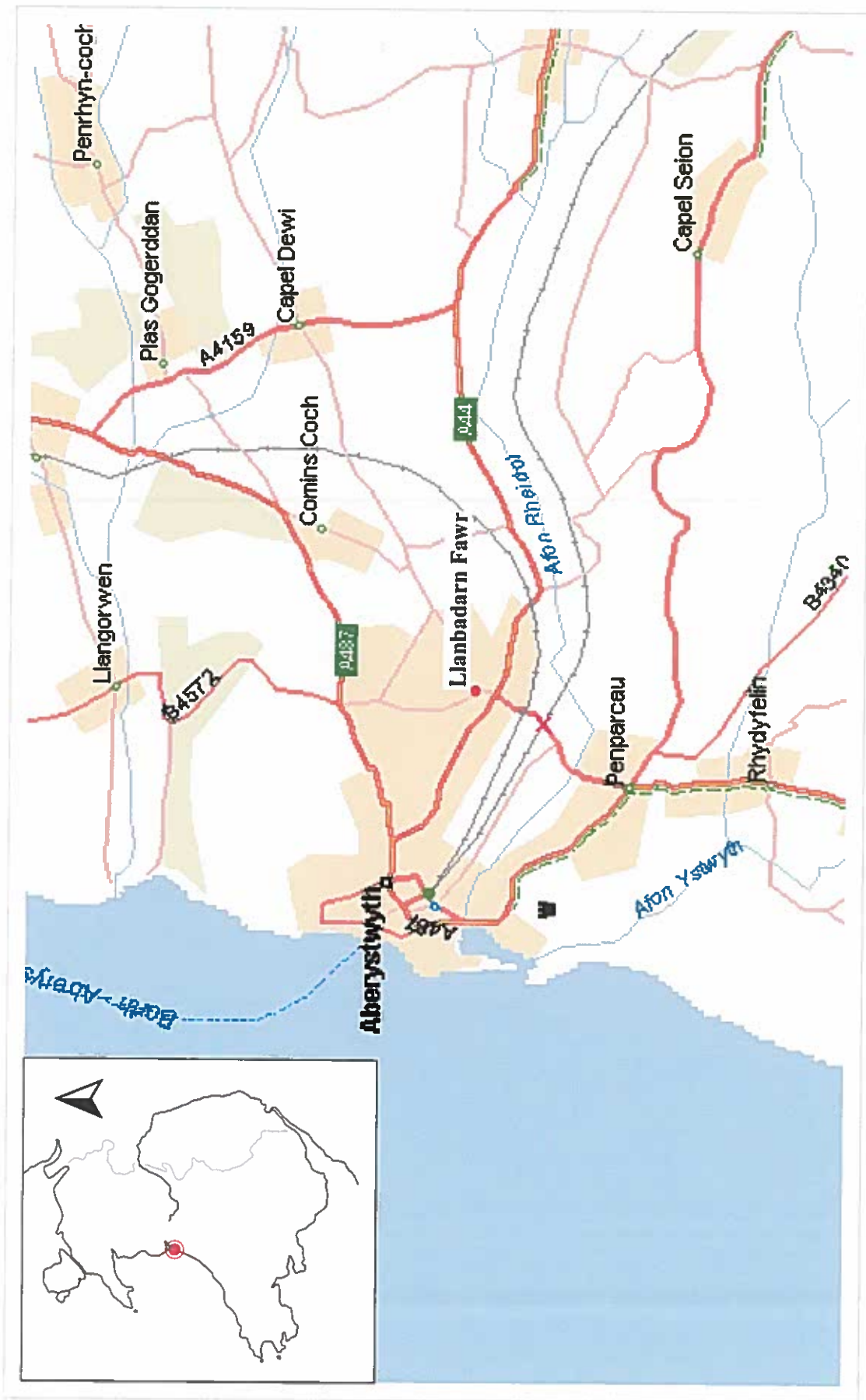


Figure 01: General Location Plan



Figure 3: Ogilvy 'improved' Map 1724

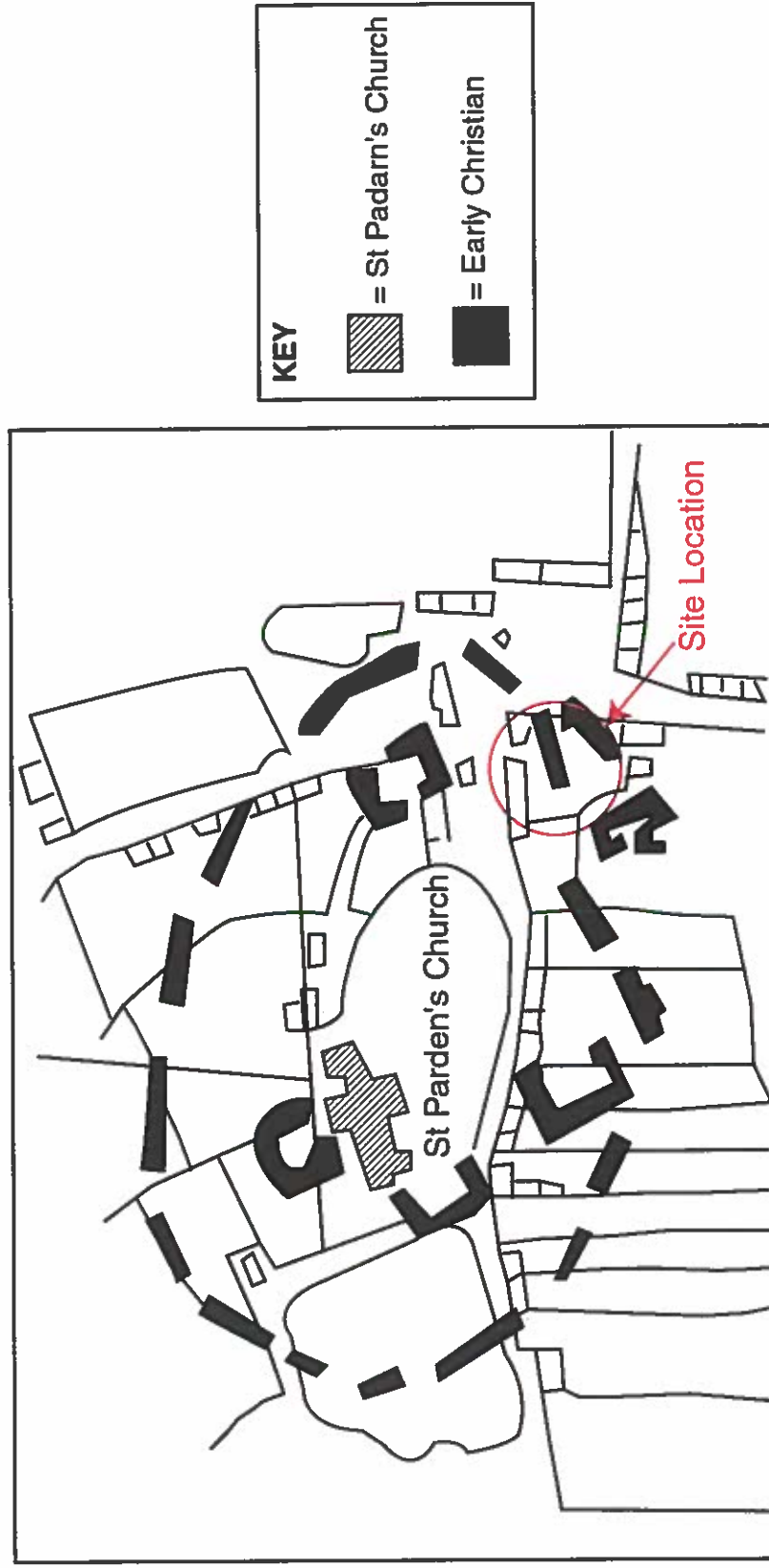


Figure 3a: Probable site of early Christian Monastery - Base Map Gogerdann c.1797
(from a letter to Richard Avent from Steven Briggs)

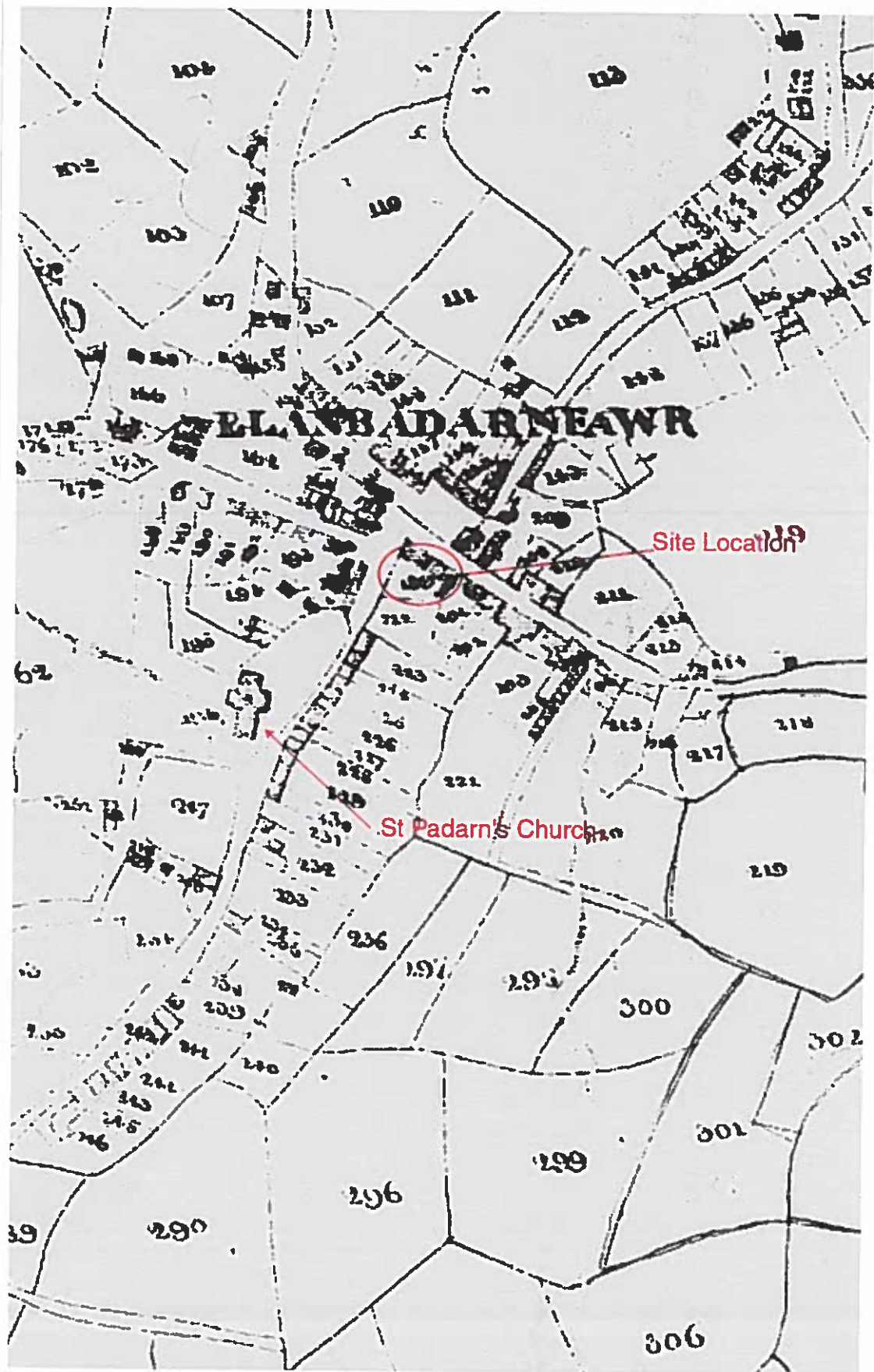


Figure 4:Part of 1843 Tithe Map



Figure 05: Part of 1st edition Ordnance Survey Map 1890

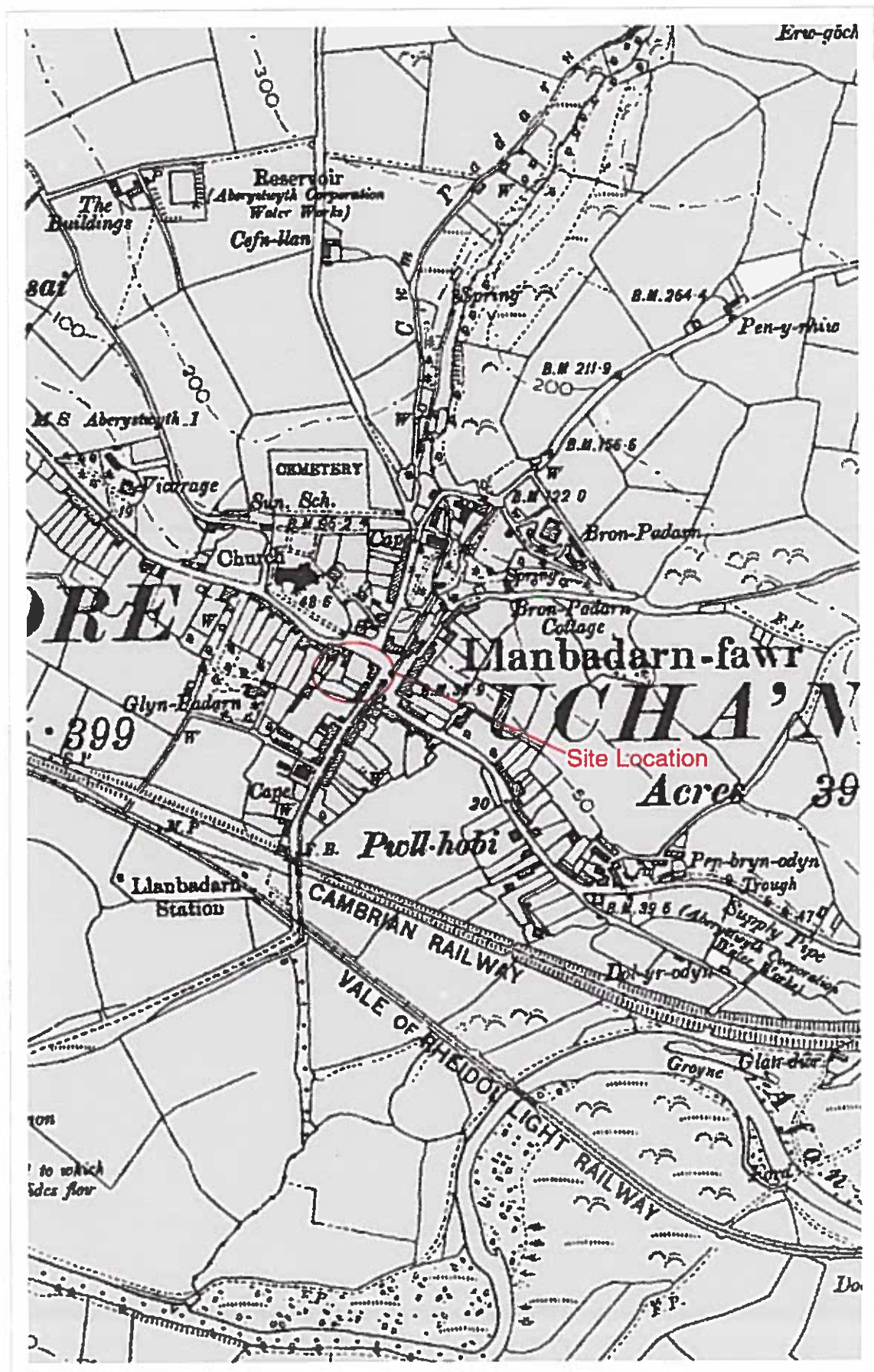


Figure 6: Part of 1906 2nd edition Ordnance Survey Map

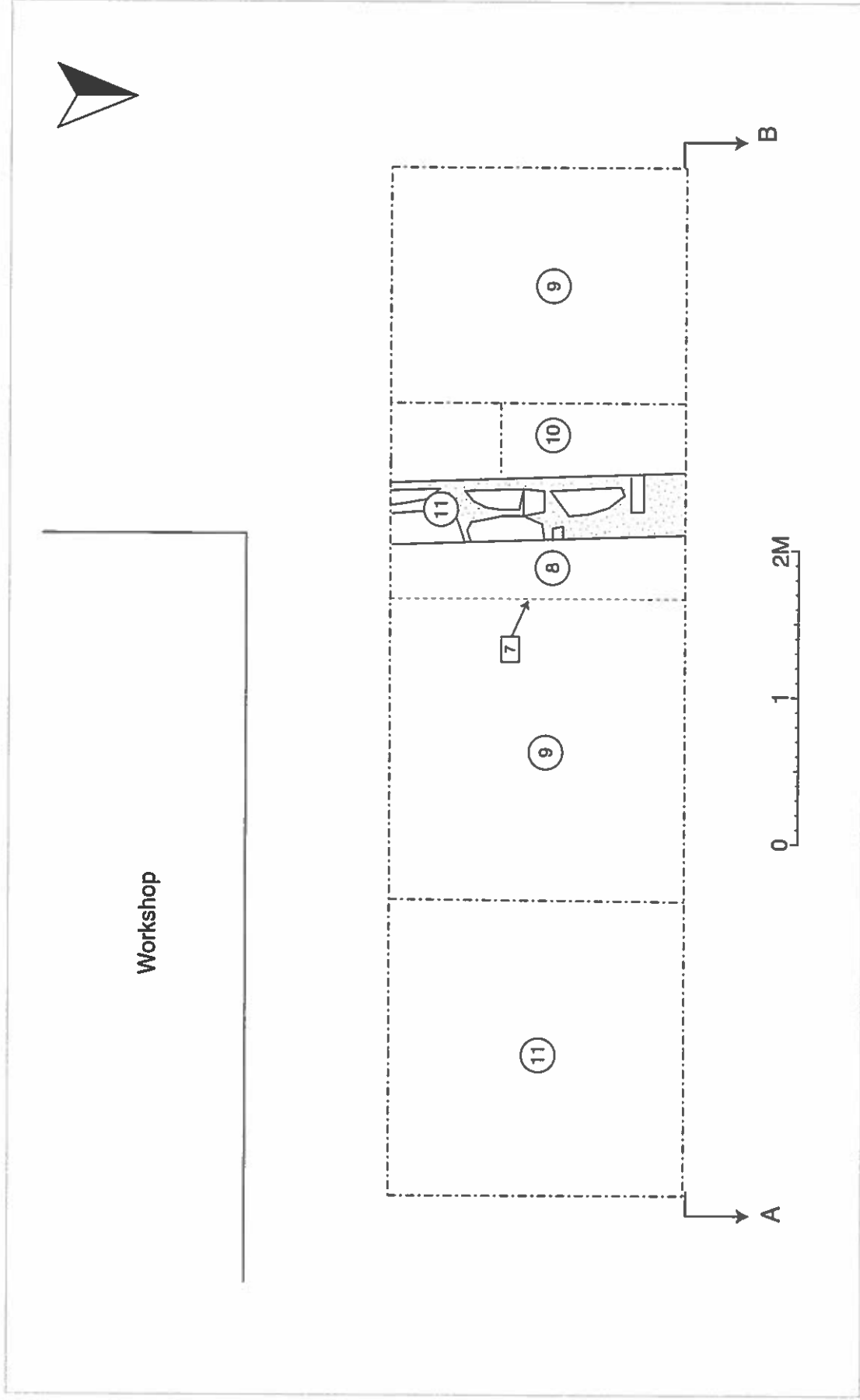


Figure 7: Plan of Evaluation Trench

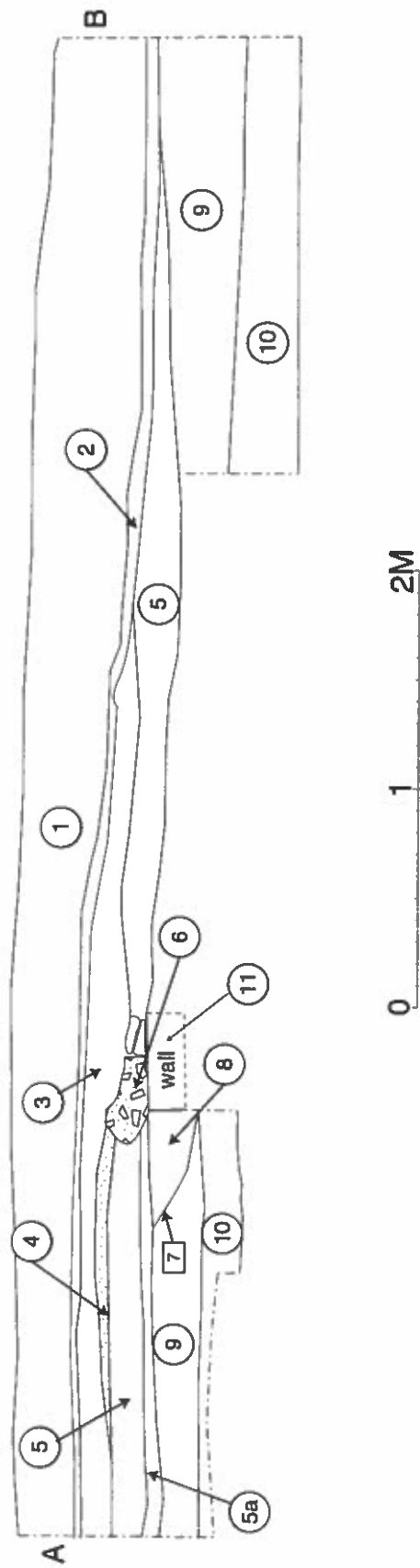


Figure 8: South Facing Section of evaluation trench



Plate 01: Overview of Evaluation Trench, Looking east, Scale 2m.



Plate 02: Detail of boundary wall, looking west, scale 1m



Plate 03: Detail of cut for wall, looking south, scale 1m



Plate 04: Detail of Wall and natural bedrock, overview, scale 1m



APPENDIX I: **Chronological Divisions**

_____ **MODERN** (1901 -)

_____ **INDUSTRIAL** (1700 - 1901)

_____ **POST-MEDIEVAL** (1547 - 1700)

_____ **MEDIEVAL** (1066 - 1547)

_____ **EARLY MEDIEVAL** (AD 450 - 1066)

_____ **ROMAN BRITAIN** (AD 43 - AD 450)

_____ **IRON AGE** (700 BC - AD 43)

_____ **BRONZE AGE** (2300 - 700 BC)

_____ **NEOLITHIC** (4000 - 2300 BC)

_____ **MESOLITHIC** (10,000 - 4000 BC)

_____ **PALAEOLITHIC** (500,000 - 10,000 BC)

Chronological Divisions as used by the Council for British Archaeology (CBA),
in the *British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography*.



APPENDIX II: **Archive Cover Sheet**

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Body Repair Centre, Llanbadarn Fawr (BRC/01/DT/EV)

ARCHIVE DESTINATION – CARMARTHEN MUSEUM

Site Name:	Body Repair Centre, Llanbadarn Fawr
Site Code:	BRC/01/DT/EV
PRN:	N/A
NPRN :	N/A
SAM:	N/A
Other Ref No:	N/A
NGR:	SN 599810
Site Type:	Medieval Burgage Plot/monastic site
Project Type:	Desk-based Assessment and Archaeological Investigation
Project Officer:	Phil Evans
Project Dates:	November 2001
Categories Present:	N/A
Location of Original Archive:	N/A
Location of duplicate Archives:	N/A
Number of Finds Boxes:	1
Location of Finds:	Not assigned
Museum Reference:	Not assigned
Copyright:	CAP Ltd
Restrictions to access:	None



APPENDIX III: **Context Register**

SUMMARY OF CONTEXTS

Body Repair Centre, Llanbadarn (BRC/01/DT/EV)

- 1 Hardcore Yard Surface
- 2 Ash and Cinder
- 3 Rubble
- 4 Mid brown silty Clay with high mortar content
- 5 mid brown silty clay
- 6 Rubble Deposit attached to wall
- 7 Cut
- 8 Fill of 7
- 9 Garden Loam
- 10 Dark Brown silty Clay with FE Staining
- 11 Wall



APPENDIX IV: **Finds Catalogue**

Key to Pottery Fabric Abbreviations:

BOW	– Border ware, whiteware from Surrey/Hamps border, <i>C17</i>
BSW	– Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware, <i>C17-C18</i>
BSS	– Bristol/Staffordshire Slipware
BSM	– Bristol/Staffordshire Mottled
BW	– Blackware, <i>C17-C18</i>
BC	– Bone China, <i>late C18</i>
CB	– Coalmeasures Buff, <i>C17-C18</i>
Cist	– Cistercian wares, (Black- glazed drinking vessels in cylindrical forms), <i>C16</i>
CMB	– Coalmeasures Black, <i>C17-C18</i>
CMR	– Coalmeasures Red, <i>C17-C18</i>
CW	– Cream Ware, <i>C18</i>
DW	– Delft Ware
DWW	– Industrially produced Developed White Wares, <i>C19-C20</i>
ESW	– English Stone Ware
FP	– Flower Pot
GRE	– Lead-Glazed Red Earthenware, <i>C17-C18</i>
ISW	– Industrial Stone Ware
IYW	– Industrially produced Yellow ware, <i>C19-C20</i>
LRE	– Local Red Earthenware
LRE (LG)	– Local Red Earthenware Lead Glazed
MSW	– Martincamp, <i>late C15-early C16</i>
MP	– Midland Purple
MW	– Mottled ware
NSW	– Nottingham Brown Stoneware, <i>C18</i>
ND	– North Devon Gravel Tempered Ware, <i>C17-C18</i>
P(Chi)	– Chinese Porcelain, <i>C18</i>
PW	– Pearlware, <i>C18-C19</i>
SGW	– South Glamorgan Ware
SW	– Slipware
SWW	– Surrey Whiteware (Tudor Green)
SRS	– Staffs Red Stoneware, <i>C18</i>
SRE	– Staffs Fine Red Earthenware
TG	– Tudor Green, <i>C15-C16</i>
TGE	– Tin Glazed earthenware, (Eng), <i>C17-mid C18</i>
ESG	– English Salt Glazed Stoneware, <i>C18</i>
WdSW	– Westerwald German Stoneware, <i>C18</i>
WSG	– White Salt Glazed Stoneware
YSW	– Bristol or Staffs Buff Coalmeasures

SUMMARY OF FINDS

Body Repair Centre, Llanbadarn (BRC/01/DT/EV)

CONTEXT 5

Pottery

FABRIC TYPE	NUMBER SHERDS	OF	WEIGHT (g)
DWW	10		50
LRE	5		25
IYW	1		5

CONTEXT 9

FABRIC TYPE	NUMBER SHERDS	OF	WEIGHT (g)
DWW	8		20
LRE	3		10
FP	1		20
IYW	2		10

CONTEXT 10

FABRIC TYPE	NUMBER SHERDS	OF	WEIGHT (g)
DWW	6		10
LRE	5		15
WdSW	1		5
BSM	1		5
BSS	4		10
IYW	3		5



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