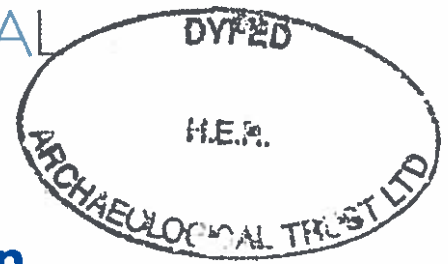


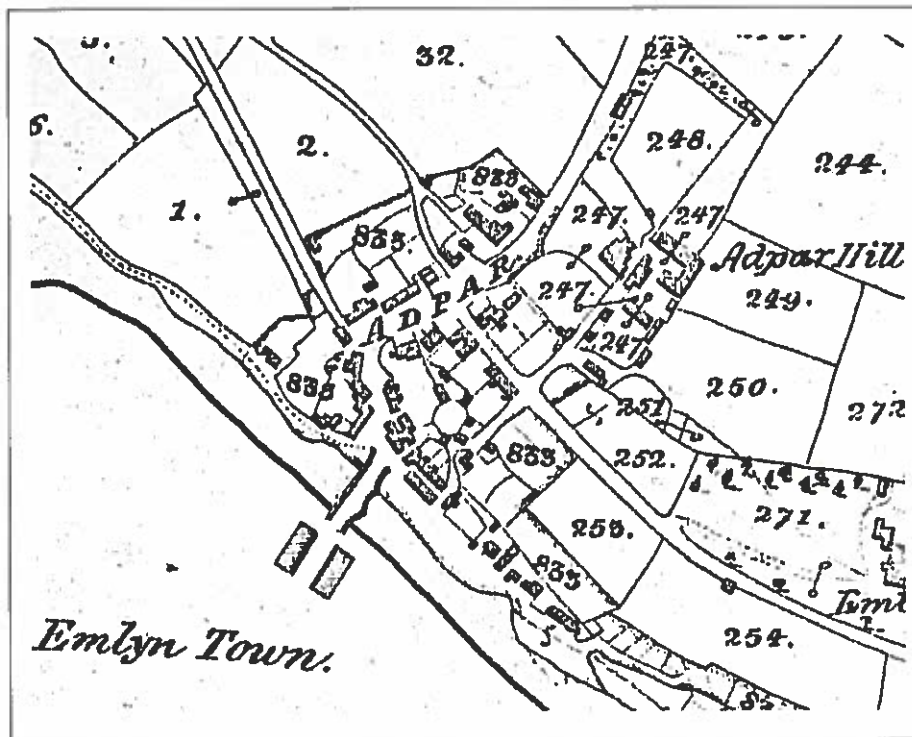


CAMBRIAN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
PROJECTS



**Rear of Ivory House,
Adpar, Newcastle Emlyn,
Ceredigion.**

Archaeological Evaluation



By
Richard Scott Jones (BA Hons, MA, MIFA)

Report No. 573

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Rear of Ivory House, Adpar, Newcastle Emlyn, Ceredigion.

Archaeological Evaluation

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On Behalf of:

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Non Technical Summary

The following report is the result of an archaeological evaluation on land at the rear of Ivory House, Adpar, Newcastle Emlyn, Ceredigion. The evaluation work was undertaken to inform the planning process in advance of outline planning permission being granted for the erection of three residential dwellings on the site. The proposed development area is located immediately north of the medieval motte at Adpar, a scheduled monument, situated on the threshold of the Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion county boundary overlooking the Afon Teifi, only 200m southeast of the stone castle at Newcastle Emlyn. It is believed that the medieval motte may have formed part of an 11th century Norman motte and bailey, hence being the forerunner to the later stone castle.

The evaluation sank three trenches within the proposed development area, strategically placed so as to provide maximum information with minimum disturbance to archaeological deposits.

Two of the evaluation trenches exposed two sections of a cut ditch approximately 4m in width x 0.75m in depth orientated in a north-south direction, thus appearing to continue toward the existing scheduled motte, which lies immediately to the south. The fill of one exposed ditch section was removed so as to firstly, gain a profile of the ditch, and secondly, to recover dateable material. Pottery fragments recovered from the upper parts of this fill included several fragments of 12th – 16th century Dyfed gravel-tempered ware and one fragment of an earthenware jug handle with remains of yellow/green glaze dated to the 12th – 14th century. These fragments were the earliest dateable material recovered from the removed fill of this section of the ditch. Within the same fill at a lower level, a stony deposit held several fragments of 17th – 18th century brown/yellow glazed North Devon gravel-tempered ware all from one or two large bowls. These latter fragments may imply an 18th century date at which the ditch was back-filled.

The only other features exposed in the evaluation trenches were two post-holes, an early stone covered surface and a shallow cut timber slot, each positioned east of the exposed line of the cut ditch. The date for each of these features has not been determined. However, one of the post-holes and the cut timber slot, are likely medieval in date. West of the ditch, the evaluation also exposed a fairly modern grave holding the skeletal remains of a dog.

Although two of the evaluation trenches exposed two sections of a ditch running north to south from the scheduled motte, neither of the exposed sections gave any indication of the extent of the ditch or whether it forms part of a larger ring-work contemporary with the motte. Although the evaluation also found no conclusive evidence to suggest which side of the ditch the former bank was positioned, elements from both the desk based assessment and the archaeological interpretation both suggest that a fairly substantial bank likely lay on the west side of the ditch, which may imply that a bailey was positioned to the northwest, where presently the space is occupied by 18th and 19th century buildings.

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The following report is the result of an archaeological evaluation on land at the rear of Ivory House, Adpar, Newcastle Emlyn, Ceredigion. The evaluation work was undertaken to inform the planning process in advance of outline planning permission being granted for the erection of three residential dwellings on the site. The proposed development area is located immediately north of the medieval motte at Adpar, a scheduled monument, situated on the threshold of the Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion county boundary overlooking the Afon Teifi, only 200m southeast of the stone castle at Newcastle Emlyn. It is generally believed that this motte is Norman in origin and thus it was likely to have had an accompanying bailey. As such, the motte is considered to be the forerunner to the later 13th century stone castle, which was founded by Maredudd ap Rhys.

Background of proposals

- 1.1 Glyn Hazelby Architect, acting on behalf of Edward Fitzwilliams of Ivory House, Adpar, Ceredigion applied for planning permission to Ceredigion County Council (henceforth CCC) for the erection of

three residential dwellings on formerly wooded land at the rear of Ivory House, Adpar (*Ref: A080771 / A080804*). Dyfed Archaeological Trust (henceforth DAT), acting as the archaeological advisers to CCC advised that there is important archaeological potential for the site, which could survive as a significant below-ground resource. Consequently, the historic environment was a major dimension and constraint to the planning applications. DAT advised the planning authority that the results of an intrusive archaeological field evaluation were required to inform the planning process (*Welsh Office circular 60/96 – Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*).

- 1.2 Cambrian Archaeological Projects (henceforth CAP) were contacted by Glyn Hazelby Architects to undertake the evaluation and work began on 22nd June 2009 following the submission and approval of a project specification (*Ref: 1034*) to DAT in accordance with their Design Brief.

Site Location & Description

- 1.3 The proposed development lies on land at approximately 45m OD, to the rear of Ivory House, Adpar, Newcastle Emlyn (NGR: SN 30934 40958). The site is in immediate proximity to a scheduled monument, supposedly a Norman Motte (SAM Ref: CD104 / PRN: 2338), which may have been the forerunner to the later stone castle at Newcastle Emlyn. The motte would have held a timber castle, which may have had an accompanying bailey or defended enclosure, with an extended settlement close by. The motte overlooks the Afon Teifi and Newcastle Emlyn to the south at a crossing point between the two medieval territories of Deheubarth and Ceredigion, presently the counties of Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire. The application area will, therefore, very likely contain significant buried evidence for medieval buildings, other structures, occupation and a wide variety of cultural material.

Geology

- 1.4 The geology of the area is one that was laid down in the Ordovician period and consists of Llandeilo and Ashgill sedimentary rocks. The local underlying soils encountered in the development area were ones of yellow/orange sands and clays with shales and pea-grit with occasional alluvial deposits.

2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 In accordance with IFA's *Standards and guidance for an archaeological Field Evaluation*, the primary objective of this assessment is to gain information about the archaeological resource within a given area or site (including its 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 mitigate a threat to the archaeological resource
- the formulation of a proposal for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research

The proposed archaeological work

- 2.2 The proposed archaeological work relates to the whole of the site, i.e. all of the application area.

The aim of the work was to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on the site. The work includes the following elements:

- Desk top analysis (Stage 1)
- Strategic field evaluation (Stage 2)
- The production of an illustrated report and the deposition of the site archive (Stage 3).

3 Methodology

- 3.1 The evaluation trenches were excavated using a mechanical digger with a two metre wide grading bucket as well as manual mattock and shovel and trowel.
- 3.2 Once archaeological features and deposits became exposed limited excavation of the feature/s was undertaken to establish the date, depth, preservation, extent and function of the feature as well as to try and elucidate its relationship to all other exposed features and deposits.
- 3.3 Recording of the trenches was undertaken in three formats:
- i) *Photographic record* - Photographs were appropriated in digital format to a minimum 10 mega-pixel resolution.
 - ii) *Drawn record* - Site drawings, plans and sections, 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 records were produced using a continuous numbering sequence for all contexts.
- 3.4 An environmental sampling and processing strategy was in place in case the archaeological deposits warranted it.
- 3.5 All archaeological features identified were to be tied in to the OS survey grid and fixed to local topographic boundaries.
- 3.6 All works were undertaken in accordance with both the IFA's *Standards and guidance: for an archaeological Field Evaluation* and current Health and Safety legislation.

4 Results of Desk Based Assessment

Historical Background

- 4.1 The original Cantref of Emlyn uwch Cych stretched from the upper region of the parish of Llangeler to the lower reaches of Cilgerran. Newcastle Emlyn lay in the upper parts of the old parish of Cenarth and was known as the Hamlet of Emlyn [the town, its lands, the demesne and Parc Nest].
- 4.2 The name Emlyn is thought to have derived from the name 'Emelinus' – a Roman chieftain, who during the Roman occupation was perhaps in some way connected with an early settlement in the area.
- 4.3 Adpar was not in the Cantref of Emlyn, but in Iscoed and formed part of the parish of Llandyfriog. It was originally known as Trehedyn, and later as the name of a part of the Borough of Adpar – the part of Adpar just over the bridge from Newcastle Emlyn. Its boundaries were the Teifi on the south, the Ceri on the west (above Cwm Ceri there was the 40 acres of the Forest of Adpar) and to the south and east down to the Teifi.

- 4.4 Due to the rich fertile lands on the banks of the Teifi, the name Adpar could originally have been At-pawr (At-Pori) – meaning a good 'second crop' for grazing. When English settlers arrived in the area Atpawr became known as Atpar and over the years changed yet again to Adpar.
- 4.5 When the Normans began their penetration into Wales under the reign of William I, strategic power centres in the hands of powerful Norman barons were placed on the Welsh border, at Hereford, Shrewsbury and Chester. The Domesday Survey in 1086 reveals the extent of the Norman advance by this time as having established themselves as far west as Caerleon. In 1087 William II began a second phase of conquest and by 1094 almost all Wales was under Norman control, until the Welsh revolt began in North Wales, which soon spread south, leading to the recovery by the Welsh of Ceredigion and Dyfed, with only Pembroke holding out.
- 4.6 The strategy of the Normans was to advance into territories and quickly build defensive motte and bailey castles at strategic points to cover their lines of communication and subdue local inhabitants. These early castles were simple in design and construction. A mound was thrown up leaving a ditch around it and a timber outpost or 'castle' was built on the mound where an armed guard could be mounted. A bailey or stockade (a fenced enclosure) provided protection for goods and chattels and certain living quarters for the garrison. Normally the bailey area covered no more than 2 hectares in area and its limits were no more than an arrows firing distance from the motte, roughly about 100m. After 1093 Roger Montgomery and his Norman army penetrated as far as Cardigan and motte and bailey castles were constructed to cover the river crossings at Newcastle Emlyn (overlooking the bridge at Adpar) and at Cenarth. The mound at Cenarth, when measured during the last century, was some 20 feet high and some 450 feet in circumference, and lying as it did on rather elevated ground was in a commanding position to control the river crossing. The mound at Adpar, within the old parish of Llandyfriog, is a subcircular, flat-topped mound, 22m in diameter and is about 3.5m high, set on ground falling to the south. Much of the mound has been mutilated by later post medieval use (SAM CD104).
- 4.7 The building of the stone castle on the opposite side of the Afon Teifi to the Adpar motte, in the territory known as Emlyn, was built by Meredith ap Rhys Gryg in the year 1240. The castle brought a great change in the character of Emlyn. Up until this time only a few roughly built cottages stood around the outer banks of the river – the homes of the tenants [serfs] who owed compulsory service to the 'chieftains demesne' – and on the other side of the river, on the Bishops of St. David's' estate in Adpar, similar cottages were the homes of the tenants [serfs] of the 'bishops demesne'.
- 4.8 Soon there sprang up a cluster of dwelling houses near the castle – houses for Lord Meredith's dependants, soldiers, newcomers to Emlyn, traders from Pembrokeshire and also those who sought the Lord's protection. It became known as Trecastell. One of these old houses still stands near Trecastell today – a stone cottage with a thatched roof.
- 4.9 Although Meredith ap Rhys represented Welsh traditions the tendency was for the newcomers, mainly Anglo-Norman or English, to keep themselves apart from the Welsh tenants. By the beginning of the 14th century due to an increase in the population, Emlyn was converted into one organised community and made a borough by royal charter, known as Newtown in Emlyn. [The same took place on the Bishop's demesne and Adpar also became a borough]. The status of a borough brought about certain privileges like the exclusive right to trade and exemption from paying certain taxes. It also encouraged trade and ensured a supply of food and other necessities for the castle garrison.
- 4.10 In 1349 the Black Death hit Wales. This led to a period of general discontent, with lands left uncultivated, a scarcity of food and extreme poverty. This depression continued and worsened until the town ceased to be thought of as a borough. With the return of the new Welsh Lords at the beginning of the fifteenth century, things began to change for the better.
- 4.11 By the end of the 17th century, Newtown in Emlyn and Adpar had recovered from the depressing economic effects of the Civil War. There was a good market for corn all the year round, due to the rich fertile lands around the area.

- 4.12 The economic recovery of Newtown in Emlyn and Adpar seems to have been due chiefly to the industrial revolution, which opened up coal and iron works and canals in Kidwelly and neighbouring towns. This created a demand for agricultural produce which proved beneficial for Emlyn and Adpar. The fairs which had begun to improve about the middle of the 18th century became very popular at the beginning of the 19th century, with horses and cattle filling the streets from Adpar to Aberarad on the chief fair days.
- 4.13 Samuel Lewis in his Topographic Dictionary of Wales (1833) lists the parish of Llandyfriog and the township of Adpar thus,

"LLANDYVRIOG (LLAN-DYFRIOG), a parish, in the union of Newcastle-Emlyn, hundred of Troedraur, county of Cardigan, South Wales, 1½ mile (E.) from the town of Newcastle Emlyn; containing 925 inhabitants. This parish, which derives its name from the dedication of its church to St. Tyvriog, an eminent British saint who lived towards the close of the sixth century, is pleasantly situated on the northern bank of the river Teivy, and on the turnpike-road from Newcastle Emlyn to Lampeter. The hamlet of Atpar is within its limits, and forms a suburb to Newcastle-Emlyn, constituting that portion of the town situated in the shire of Cardigan. The area of the parish is 2615 acres; the lands are inclosed and in a good state of cultivation, and the soil is generally fertile. The scenery is of a pleasing character, in many parts enriched with thriving plantations, and diversified with well-wooded eminences: Atpar Hill, an elegant villa, is beautifully situated on an eminence commanding a view of the town, and the banks of the Teivy. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £8, and endowed with £600 royal bounty, with the living of Llanvair-Trêlygon annexed; present net income, £147, with a glebe-house; patron, the Bishop of St. David's. The tithes of the parish have been commuted for £250, of which £166. 13. 4. are payable to the impropriator, who has also a glebe of twenty-six acres, valued at £52 per annum, and £83. 6. 8. to the vicar, who has a glebe of thirteen acres, valued at £15. The church, dedicated to St. Tyvriog, is an ancient edifice, not distinguished by any features of importance. A Sunday school in connexion with the Established Church was commenced in 1840." (LEWIS 1833)

"ATPAR, a borough and township in the parish of LLANDYVRIOG, upper division of the hundred of TROEDYRAUR, county of CARDIGAN, SOUTH WALES, adjoining the town of Newcastle-Emlyn. The population is returned with the parish. This place was formerly one of the contributory boroughs within the county, which were united in returning one member to parliament ; but, according to Dr. Meyrick, it forfeited its franchise by misconduct, and was deprived of the privilege by a vote of the House of Commons, in 1742 : it has, however, by the bill for amending the representation of the people in England and Wales, been restored to the enjoyment of the elective franchise, and, in conjunction with Aberystwith and Lampeter, shares with Cardigan in the return of one member : the right of election is vested in every male person of full age occupying, as owner, or as tenant under the same landlord, a house or other premises of the clear yearly value of not less than ten pounds, provided he be capable of registering as the act directs : the number of these tenements within the limits of the borough, which are minutely described in the Appendix to this work, is sixty-eight : the mayor of Cardigan is the returning officer. The borough, which is said to have been a borough by prescription, was anciently governed by a portreeve, recorder, and two bailiffs : the burgesses were made upon the presentment of a jury, which consisted apparently of the proprietors of burgages, and were accustomed to vote, whether resident or not, for the election of a member : at present there are no burgesses alive. A belief prevails amongst the inhabitants that the charter was destroyed by a fire which occurred within the memory of some now living, in which, there can be no doubt, many of the documents of the borough perished. Atpar is situated on the northern bank of the river Teivy, and is connected, by means of a stone bridge across that river, with Newcastle - Emlyn of which town it is

usually considered as forming part. It comprises within its limits an elegant villa, called Atpar Hill, the seat of John Beynon, Esq." (LEWIS 1833).

- 4.14 Regarding landowners within the borough of Adpar during the early and late post-medieval periods, the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth holds estate papers relating to the Cilgwyn estate in which the families of Lloyd, Hall and Fitz-william are cited from the years 1509-1936. Benjamin Edward Hall is known to have owned the mansion house and ornamental gardens known as Adpar Hill in the mid 19th century along with considerable tracts of land in Adpar. The core of the Adpar Hill estate was located only 100m north of Adpar Motte. Adpar Hill mansion was demolished in the early 20th century.

Cartographic Sources

- 4.15 All maps investigated spanned the years 1839 – 1953

Tithe map and Apportionment Record for Llandyfriog parish 1839

- 4.16 The development area falls within the Llandyfriog parish. The tithe map of 1839 clearly depicts the circular mound along with a series of roofed buildings encircling its base, five in total, along with a series of boundaries running north and east. The main part of the development area is shown as being clear of structures, however to the north this map shows a series of roofed buildings running parallel to the east to west track that leads toward the former Emlyn Cottage estate. These buildings were probably farm buildings associated with the estate.
- 4.17 The apportionment record details that most of the property in the central core of Adpar was owned by Benjamin Edward Hall esq. and his wife Jane Maria.

OS 1st edition map of 1891 (1:2500)

- 4.18 This first edition OS map of 1891 shows the development area much the same as that shown on the Tithe map of 1839, but with several of the smaller buildings that were formerly butting up against the motte, now absent. Also still present in the central core of the proposed development area are the lines of two boundaries; whether these boundaries are walls, banks, ditches or hedge-banks is unknown however.
- 4.19 The estate of Adpar Hill is now fully laid out with an ornamental garden and a network of paths and tracks.

OS 2nd edition map of 1907 (1:10560)

- 4.19 Very little change from the OS 1st edition map of 1891 apart from the apparent demolition of a series of buildings at the far north of the development area along the edge of the east to west track leading to Emlyn Cottage estate, which has also now acquired the West Lodge house.

OS 1953 edition map (1:10560)

- 4.20 In terms of the proposed development area there has been little change from the OS 2nd edition map of 1907.

Graphic Sources

Sketch of Newcastle Emlyn and motte (1684) by Thomas Dingley (c.1640-1695) (see Figure 7)

- 4.21 Thomas Dingley was an antiquary, the son and heir of Thomas Dingley, controller of customs at Southampton and the representative of a family of some position in the place. He was born about the

middle of the seventeenth century, and, as he himself tells as, educated by James Shirley, the dramatist, who for some years attended a school in Whitefriars, London. In 1670 he was admitted as a student of Gray's Inn, but does not appear to have pursued his studies very regularly, as in the following year he became one of the suite of Sir George Downing, then returning as ambassador to the States General of the United Provinces. He has left in manuscript a journal of his '*Travals through the Countrys*' (1674), illustrated by some spirited sketches in pen and ink of the places he visited. Subsequently he made a tour in France, and wrote a similar record of his journey.

- 4.22 In 1680 Dingley visited Ireland, perhaps in a military capacity, and the account of what he there saw, and his observations on the history of the country, were published in 1870, as a reprint from the pages of the journal of the Kilkenny and South-east of Ireland Archaeological Society. In 1684 Henry Somerset, first duke of Beaufort, the lord president of the Principality, took Dingley with him on an official progress through Wales. While thus engaged, Dingley was made an honorary freeman of the boroughs of Brecknock and Monmouth, and employed his pen and pencil with great industry and good effect. The manuscript of his journal is in the possession of the present duke. Part of it, under the title of '*Notitia Cambro-Britannica*', was edited by Mr. Charles Baker in 1864, and printed for private circulation by the Duke of Beaufort.
- 4.23 One particular entry and sketch in this journal, dated Saturday, August 9th 1684, records his visit with the Duke of Beaufort to Newcastle Emlyn. The sketch he made of this visit is particularly interesting as it is the earliest and perhaps only sketch of the motte at Adpar. The view looks toward the mound from the northwest with Emlyn stone bridge and castle in the background. Accepting that the sketch obviously exaggerates the view and size of the castle, the depiction of the earlier motte in the foreground, surmounted by troops, appears to be somewhat truthful in scale, but what is significant in this respect, is that it appears to depict a linear bank, partly tree covered, running northward from the edge of the motte, with a further fairly high bank running westward. It is entirely possible that these two banks, if realistically represented and accepted as hearsay, are remnants of a former enclosure contemporary with the motte itself.

5 Results of Evaluation (see Figures 8 - 13)

- 5.1 All numbers contained in brackets represent Context Numbers. Each trench starts, respectively, with context numbers 100, 200 or 300.

The proposed development area was clear of substantial vegetation, prior to the start of groundworks; all pre-existing trees had been cut down leaving only a few pollarded tree stumps in the central area.

Trench 1 (see Figures 8 & 9)

- 5.2 Trench 1 measured 15m x 2m and was sunk east to west across the southern end of the proposed development area, approximately 20m north of the scheduled area of the motte.
- 5.3 Once the top soil was removed to a depth of approximately 0.25m (100), a mid brown stony sub soil became exposed (101). This deposit had the appearance of a well dug garden soil fairly dense with tree roots. All dateable material from this deposit was in the form of pottery fragments, being a mixture of both 18th and 19th century, from local coarse earthen ware to fine domestic ware. This deposit averaged a depth across the entire trench of approximately 0.30m. At the far western end of the trench, cutting through both of these upper deposits was a cut (103) for a modern ceramic drain (104), mid-late 20th century in date and since obsolete. The appearance of this drain implied that it once served as a soakaway pipe taking water toward the motte.
- 5.4 Removal of this sub soil (101) exposed a yellow/orange sandy grit natural deposit (107) in which four significant archaeological features became exposed: a cut for a post-hole (109 / 110) which appeared to have punctured through an earlier pebble covered path (105), a shallow cut slot (111 / 112) at the

far east end of the trench and lastly, the fill of a cut ditch (106 / 108), appearing to continue toward the motte to the south. Each of these features will be discussed in order.

Post-hole (109 / 110)

- 5.5 This small post-hole appeared to be cutting into an earlier feature (105), possibly a path. The central part of the post-hole still had remnants of a fairly fresh timber post in situ, implying that the post-hole was fairly modern, perhaps late 19th century in date and no earlier. Excavation of the fill of the post-hole revealed that the hole, measuring approximately 0.20m round, had been partly packed with fragments of post-medieval grey roofing slate and only reached a depth of approximately 0.08m.

Path (105)

- 5.6 This feature was positioned toward the east of the trench and was characterized by a thin sparse layer of irregular and regular river pebbles set within a loose grey/light brown soil. The width of this feature measured approximately 1.50m and appeared to continue into both the north and south sides of the trench. No datable material was recovered from within the surface deposit of this feature.
- 5.7 Because of its character and form, this feature was interpreted as a path, possibly late post medieval in date, due to the fact that the feature appeared to follow the same line as the remains of a series of pollarded tree stumps which were still exposed and visible in the northern area of the site, which appeared to have been planted as if on both sides of a pathway since disappeared. If this is indeed the case, then this path may have once been a decorative and functional path that once led to the Adpar mound possibly for viewing purposes in the 18th -19th centuries. However this interpretation is by no means certain and it may be that this feature is much earlier in date, but without further investigation and secure dateable evidence its interpretation must remain as speculation.

Slot (111 / 112)

- 5.8 This shallow cut feature was exposed at the far east end of the trench and measured approximately 0.20m in width with its length continuing into the south facing section of the trench. The southern end of this cut feature appeared to be tapered and rounded at its end. A slot was put through the fill of this feature and the fill removed at its southern end in order to ascertain the features character and form. The depth of the feature was only 0.06m in depth and no dateable material was recovered from the removed fill.
- 5.9 Without further investigation of this feature it is impossible to interpret this features purpose or date, however from what can be seen of its form and character, it gives the impression that it is a cut slot for a horizontally laid timber, as such possibly medieval in date.

Ditch cut (106 / 108)

- 5.10 This significant feature became exposed toward the west end of the trench and measured approximately 4m in width. Its character and form was delineated by a mid brown/grey fill with straight edges either side leading directly toward the Adpar motte. From the uppermost level of the fill of this cut several fragments of 12th – 16th century Dyfed gravel-tempered ware (DGTU) were recovered along with a fairly complete fragment of a 13th – 14th century jug handle with evidence of a pale yellow/green glaze on its outer face. The presence of this fragment may suggest that the DGTU is also of the same date range.
- 5.11 This feature was interpreted as the fill of a cut ditch running north to south toward the Adpar motte. As such it was interpreted as being possibly contemporary with the motte itself and thus may well be the remains of a former bailey. However, in order to confirm that this feature extended to the north, a further trench (Trench 2) was sunk running parallel to Trench 1. Once confirmed it was decided that either a slot would have to be cut through the fill of the ditch, or else the fill removed completely in order to get a good profile of the ditch, as well as to hopefully recover some datable material from

which to build up some history of the ditches development and decline. As this work progressed, it became apparent that the ditch did continue into Trench 2 as expected and the fill of the ditch section was removed only from Trench 2 and not this trench.

Trench 2 (see Figures 10, 12 & 13)

- 5.12 Trench 2 measured 17m x 2m and was sunk east to west running parallel with Trench 1, but approximately 4m to the north, thus allowing good manoeuvrability for the machine.
- 5.13 Once the top soil was removed to a depth of approximately 0.25m (200), a mid brown stony sub soil became exposed (201), the same sub soil as already removed from Trench 1. All dateable material recovered from this deposit was in the form of pottery fragments that were as with Trench 1, a mixture of both 18th and 19th century, from local coarse earthen ware to fine domestic ware. This deposit averaged a depth across the entire trench of approximately 0.30m. Toward the western end of the trench, cutting through both of these upper deposits was a continuation of the ceramic drain cut already exposed in Trench 1 (203).
- 5.14 Removal of this sub soil (201) exposed the same yellow/orange sandy grit natural deposit (209) as exposed in Trench 1 (107). Cut into this natural deposit were three significant features: a cut for a further post-hole toward the east end of the trench (214 / 215), an oval shaped cut at the western end of the trench (211 / 212) and lastly, a continuation of the fill of the cut ditch (210) already exposed in Trench 1 (106 / 108). Each of these features will be discussed in order.

Post-hole (214 / 215) (see Figure 10)

- 5.15 This small post-hole was positioned toward the eastern end of Trench 2. Excavation of the fill of the post-hole revealed that the hole measured approximately 0.20m round and reached a depth of approximately 0.20m. Removal of the fill showed that the base of the cut had been packed with one large rounded oval river pebble (0.10m x 0.05m). No datable material was recovered from the fill of this cut. However, the depth of the cut through the natural deposit (209) may imply that this feature is medieval in date and may well be contemporary with the exposed ditch cut (210).

Shallow cut (211 / 212) (see Figure 10)

- 5.16 The cut feature was located at the far western end of the trench and measured approximately 1m in length x 0.30m in width with an average depth of approximately 0.15m. However the original cut was more than likely much deeper than this, as it had inevitably been also put through the upper sub soil deposit (201). Removal of the fill of this shallow cut exposed the skeletal remains of a domestic dog of medium size, possibly a hunting hound. Although no conclusive datable material was recovered from the fill of the cut, the state and condition of the bones, along with the fact that the original cut had been made through 19th century deposits, implied a 20th century date for interment.

Ditch cut (210)(see Figures 10, 12 & 13)

- 5.17 This feature is a continuation of the cut ditch already exposed in Trench 1. Once the edges of the ditch fill were clearly defined, it was decided to put a slot through the fill of the ditch running east to west at the southern end, however after a time it became apparent that the fill was fairly loose in places and was causing problems due to the northern exposed face continually collapsing in on itself. So it was decided to remove all of the fill, firstly by machine under careful supervision and then manually once sensitive features became exposed, whereupon excavation continued with shovel and trowel.
- 5.18 Once all of the fill deposits, four in total, had been removed to the base of the cut of this section of the ditch, its full form and character became apparent. This exposed section of the ditch measured approximately 4m in width with a depth of only approximately 0.75m, giving a fairly shallow 'V' shaped ditch profile. At the base of the ditch however there appeared to have been dug a shallow 0.50m wide slot lined with a pale pink or possibly heated clay with tooling or puddling marks (213).

Once cleaned back it became apparent that there was also a very fine and thin deposit of soot overlying the clay, which further implied evidence of burning.

- 5.19 During removal of a stony deposit within the lower levels of the fill (205) several fragments of a large bowl of 17th – 18th century yellow/green glaze North Devon gravel-tempered ware (NDGTG) were recovered. Other than these pottery fragments, no further datable material was recovered from the removed fill.
- 5.20 Once both the exposed north and south facing sections of the cut ditch had been recorded and interpreted, it became evident from the position and formation of the back-filled deposits in the north facing section of the ditch cut, that the back-filling of the ditch had likely been undertaken from the western end, thus implying that the bank or at least a primary bank for the original ditch had been on the western bank of the ditch. If this is indeed the case, then this would mean, if the ditch is contemporary with the Adpar motte, that a possible bailey ringwork guarded a potential medieval settlement to the west and not the east. This interpretation would seem the most likely, as both the topography and a sketch of the 17th century by Dingley would also seem to confirm.
- 5.21 In order to attempt to confirm this interpretation a small investigative slot was put through the upper lip of the western end of the ditch cut, which appeared to have a pronounced curve, but which was very likely caused by over enthusiastic machining. Investigation of this slot did not reveal any evidence of any former bank or potential counter scarp.

Trench 3 (see Figure 9 & 11)

- 5.22 Trench 3 measured 10m x 2m and was positioned at the far western end of the development area in the position where a proposed dwelling is to be constructed.
- 5.23 Once the top soil was removed to a depth of approximately 0.25m (300), a mid brown stony sub soil became exposed (301), the same sub soil as already removed from Trenches 1 & 2. All dateable material recovered from this upper deposit was in the form of pottery fragments; as with both of the other trenches already excavated, these fragments consisted of a mixture of both 18th and 19th century, from local coarse earthenware to fine domestic ware. This deposit averaged a depth across the entire trench of approximately 0.30m. Once this deposit was removed the same yellow/orange sandy natural grit deposit became exposed (302). No significant features, finds or deposits were identified within this trench.

Summary of results

- 5.24 The most significant features exposed from the evaluation trenching at the rear of Ivory House, Adpar, was a section of an approximately 4m wide ditch exposed in Trenches 1 and 2. From the upper fill of Trench 1 several fragments of medieval pottery were recovered with a likely date range of between the 12th – 14th centuries. The fill of the ditch section in Trench 2 was removed completely in order to get a good profile of the ditch and a good section of the ditch fill, and in so doing, hopefully recover any datable material to build up a history of the ditch's development and decline. Several fragments of early post medieval pottery, with a date range of between the 17th – 18th centuries, were recovered from the middle levels of the ditch fill within a stony deposit. These fragments may imply a likely date at which the ditch was back-filled using material from the former bank. The profile of the ditch section in Trench 2 showed a fairly shallow 'V' shaped ditch approximately 4 metres in width and 0.75 metres in depth with a shallow 0.50m wide cut channel at its base lined partly with a pink clay.
- 5.25 Other exposed features in the evaluation trenches included two post-holes: one in Trench 1 and one in Trench 2. Both of these post-holes were approximately 0.20m wide, but only one in Trench 2, was deep enough to suggest that it may be medieval in date. No datable material was recovered from either of these post-holes. Two further significant features exposed in Trench 1 were a shallow cut running north to south which has been interpreted as a possible former timber slot and could well be

medieval in date, and the remains of what has been interpreted as a former path or floor surface. The post-holes, the timber slot and the path/floor surface were located to the east of the cut ditch sections. One last feature exposed in Trench 2 was a shallow cut with a dog inhumation of fairly modern date. This grave was positioned to the west of the ditch section.

- 5.26 Interpretation of the exposed ditch sections in Trench 2 may suggest that this section of cut ditch was predominantly back-filled from a bank positioned to the west, which implies that the bailey inner enclosure was also very likely to the west.

Summary of finds

- 5.27 Finds recovered from the evaluation trenches on land at the rear of Ivory House, Adpar, included a fairly significant number of pottery fragments with a date range from the 12th – 19th centuries and several fairly recent animal bones from skeletal remains of a dog inhumation.
- 5.28 Pottery fragments of 12th – 16th century domestic Dyfed gravel-tempered ware (12 in total, with one identifiable rim sherd) and one fragment of yellow/green lead glazed 12th – 14th century pottery from a jug handle of strap type, were recovered from the upper levels of the ditch fill in Trench 1.
- 5.29 From the lower levels of the ditch fill in Trench 2, several fragments (12 in total, with 3 identifiable rim sherds) of 17th – 18th century North Devon gravel-tempered ware were recovered.
- 5.30 All of the post medieval pottery was either 18th or 19th century in date and all was recovered from both the top soil and sub soil deposits in all trenches. No environmental deposits suitable for sampling were exposed.

Interpretation of Results

- 5.31 The most significant feature exposed during the evaluation were the two sections of cut ditch exposed in Trenches 1 and 2. With the fill removed from the cut for this ditch in Trench 2, both a good stratigraphic sequence of the ditch fill and a good profile of the ditch was recorded. The profile of the ditch revealed a shallow 4.0m wide 'V' shaped ditch with a depth of only 0.75m. At the base of the ditch a shallow cut channel had been made which appeared to have been partly clay lined. The presence of clay at the base of the ditch implies it was a wet ditch that took water toward the motte. Just north of the development area, on the postulated line of the ditch, local residents have confirmed the presence of a natural spring or well which has since been buried (*pers comm*).
- 5.32 Interpretation of the exposed sections of the ditch in Trench 2, particularly the north facing section, would suggest that the ditch was back-filled from a bank of earth on the west side of the ditch. As 18th century pottery was recovered from the middle levels of this fill, back-filling probably occurred at about this time. Both these interpretations may be supported by the 17th century sketch of Adpar motte made by Thomas Dingley in 1684, which seems to depict a linear bank running from the motte in a northerly direction. This sketch also appears to depict a linear bank running westward toward the artist's view. If the suggestions made by this sketch and the archaeological interpretations are to be trusted, then this would suggest that the bailey enclosure for the Adpar motte was positioned west of the exposed ditch sections, thus incorporating all of the present 18th and 19th century buildings that now occupy this space.
- 5.33 The earliest pottery recovered from the fill of the ditch were several fragments of 12th – 14th century Dyfed gravel-tempered ware (DGTU) and one more diagnostic fragment of 13th – 14th century yellow/green glaze pottery whose type is yet to be properly identified. All of these fragments were recovered from the upper levels of the fill from Trench 1. The presence of these fragments in this area would suggest that there has been a fair amount of landscaping in the area of the ditch, which most likely occurred in the 18th century in association with the Adpar Hill estate.

- 5.34 Several small features were located to the east of the ditch, such as the post-hole in Trench 2 and the timber slot and surface in Trench 1. Although no secure dating was recovered for these features, they are most likely medieval and may represent the remains of domestic settlement.

6 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 6.1 The evaluation work on land at the rear of Ivory House, Adpar, exposed two sections of a cut ditch running north to south toward the Adpar motte. As such this feature is very likely contemporary with the mound, although no secure dateable material pertaining to the 11th -12th century was recovered from the evaluation work to support a Norman foundation. However, if one accepts that the Adpar motte is Norman in date, as it is generally believed to be, it is very likely that this ditch is as well. This being the case, elements of the desk based assessment in the form of a late 17th century sketch of the Adpar mound and archaeological interpretation, imply that the exposed ditch sections likely to form part of the eastern section of a larger bailey ringwork positioned to the northwest. Nearly all of this northwestern area, except for the site of the proposed development, is now occupied by 18th – 19th century buildings. Eighteenth century pottery fragments, recovered from the middle levels of the ditch fill of Trench 2, suggest that this section of exposed ditch was back-filled in the 18th century, a time when landscaping for large gentrified houses and associated farm complexes, such as Adpar Hill, were common practice.
- 6.2 Because of the very significant and well preserved features and deposits exposed within the evaluation trenches associated with the scheduled monument of Adpar Motte, it is almost certain that further medieval features will also become exposed, and potentially damaged, by the proposed development. The already exposed ditch sections imply that the line of the ditch continues in a northerly direction possibly as far as the existing entrance track that leads to West Lodge House, part of the former Emlyn Cottage estate. Although no features pertaining to any medieval settlement were identified in Trench 3, west of the exposed ditch section, this does not mean that there are no further surviving buried medieval features in this area. In the eastern part of the proposed development site several likely settlement features, possibly medieval in origin, were partly exposed, which means that there are further features still surviving.
- 6.3 The proposed development of the site will entail the stripping back of top soils and sub soils across the entire site, which will potentially expose and damage very sensitive and potentially very significant archaeological features, finds and deposits associated with the medieval settlement of Adpar from the Norman period onwards. As such it is recommended that a programme of archaeological work is undertaken in the form of a strict watching brief during the initial soil stripping followed by full archaeological excavation and recording of all identified sensitive areas which will be potentially threatened by the proposed development, prior to any proposed development work being undertaken. The requirements and methodology used for this work will need to be agreed following consultation with the development control section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT) and Cadw.

7 Acknowledgements

Thanks to: Zoe Bevan-Rice from DAT and Kate Roberts of Cadw, for both their help and advice, both during and following the groundworks. Also thanks to Edward Fitz-Williams and Glyn Hazelby Architect for allowing access to the site for the evaluation work.

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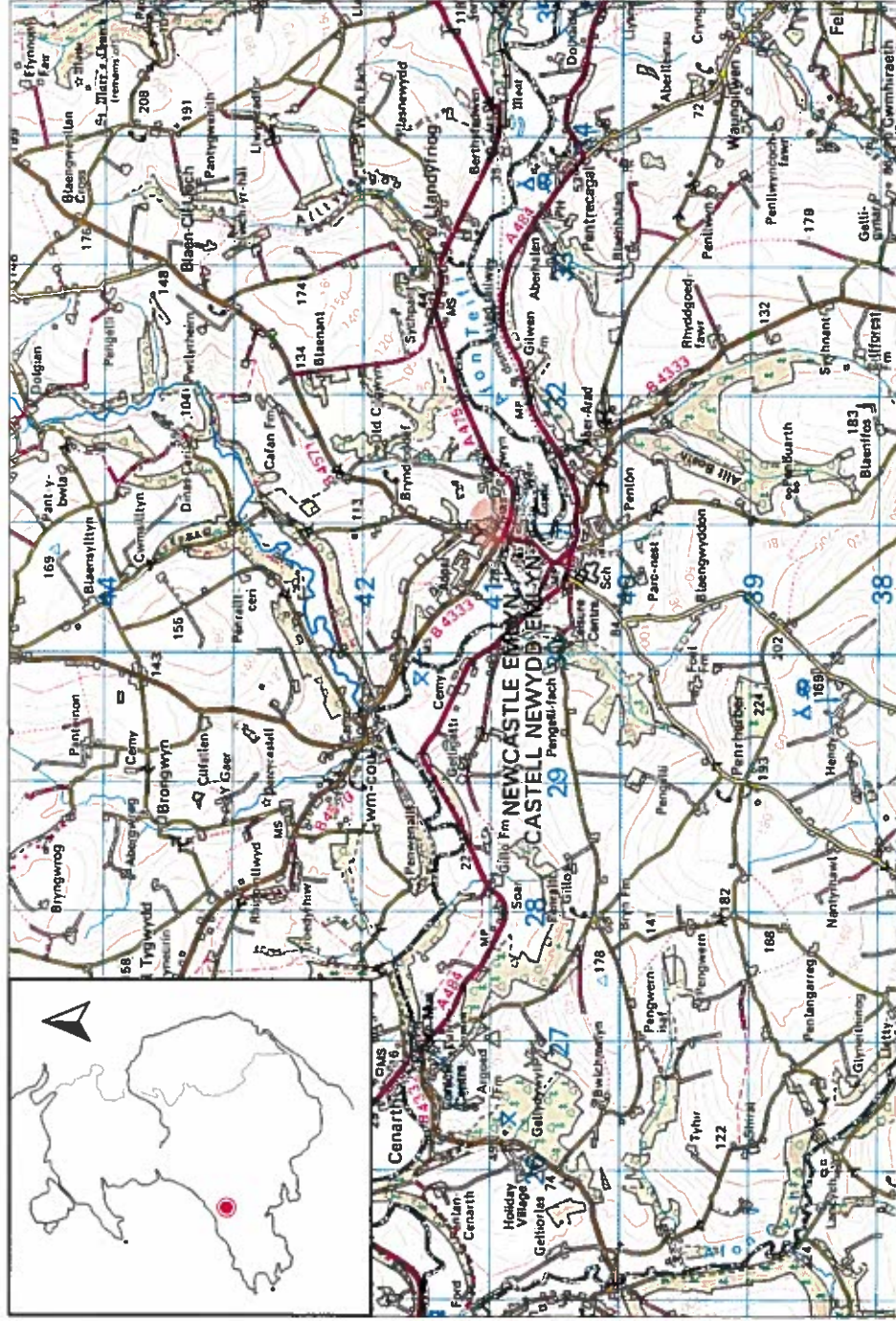
Cartographic Sources

- Tithe map and Apportionment Records of Llandyfriog parish 1839
- OS 1st edition map 1891 (1:2500)
- OS 2nd edition map 1907 (1:10560)
- OS 1953 edition map (1:10560)

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APPENDIX I: **Figs & Illustrations**



Job Title: Ivory House, Aopar.
Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

Taken By: R Scott Jones

Figure 01: Location map



Google Earth 2009

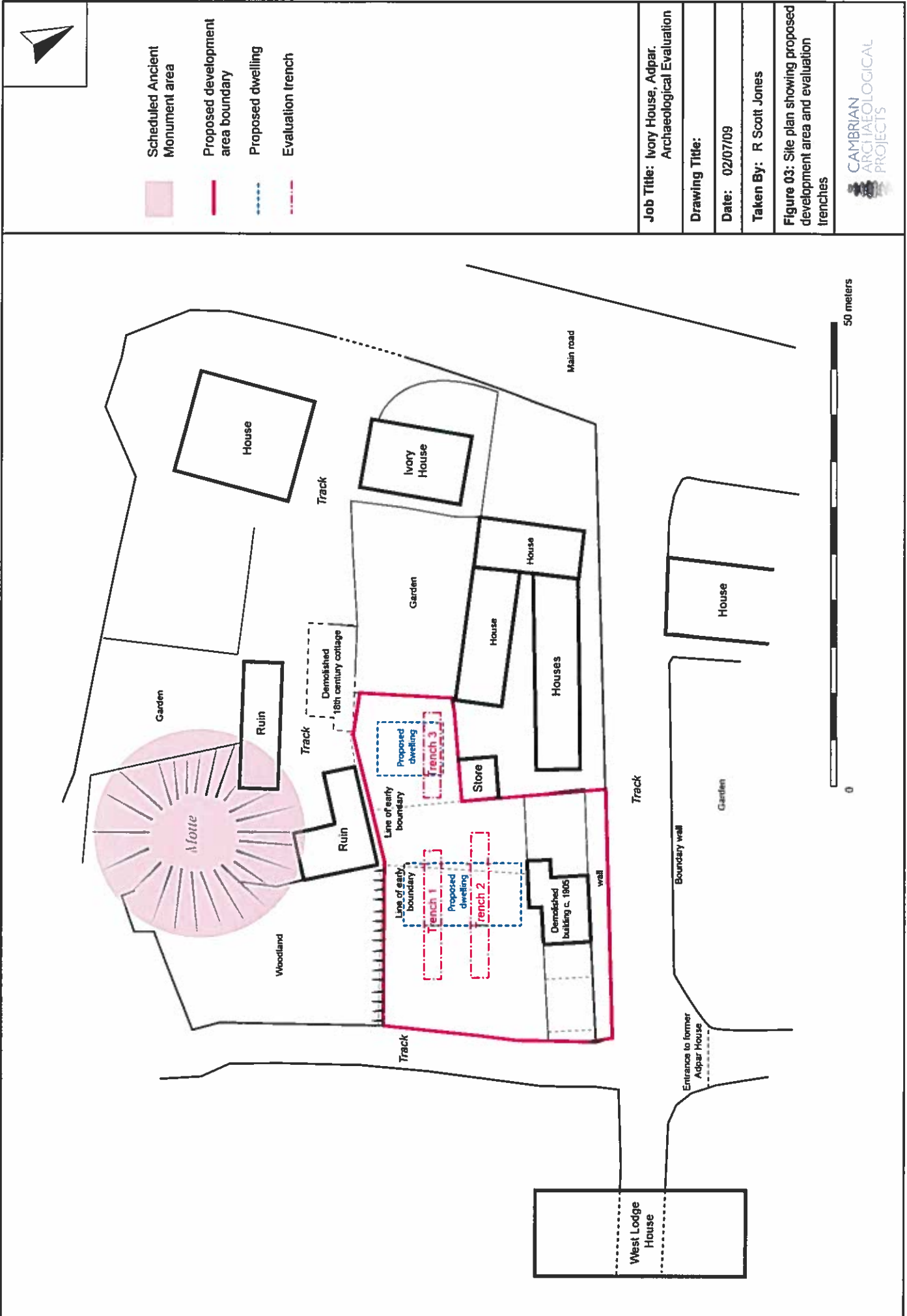
Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

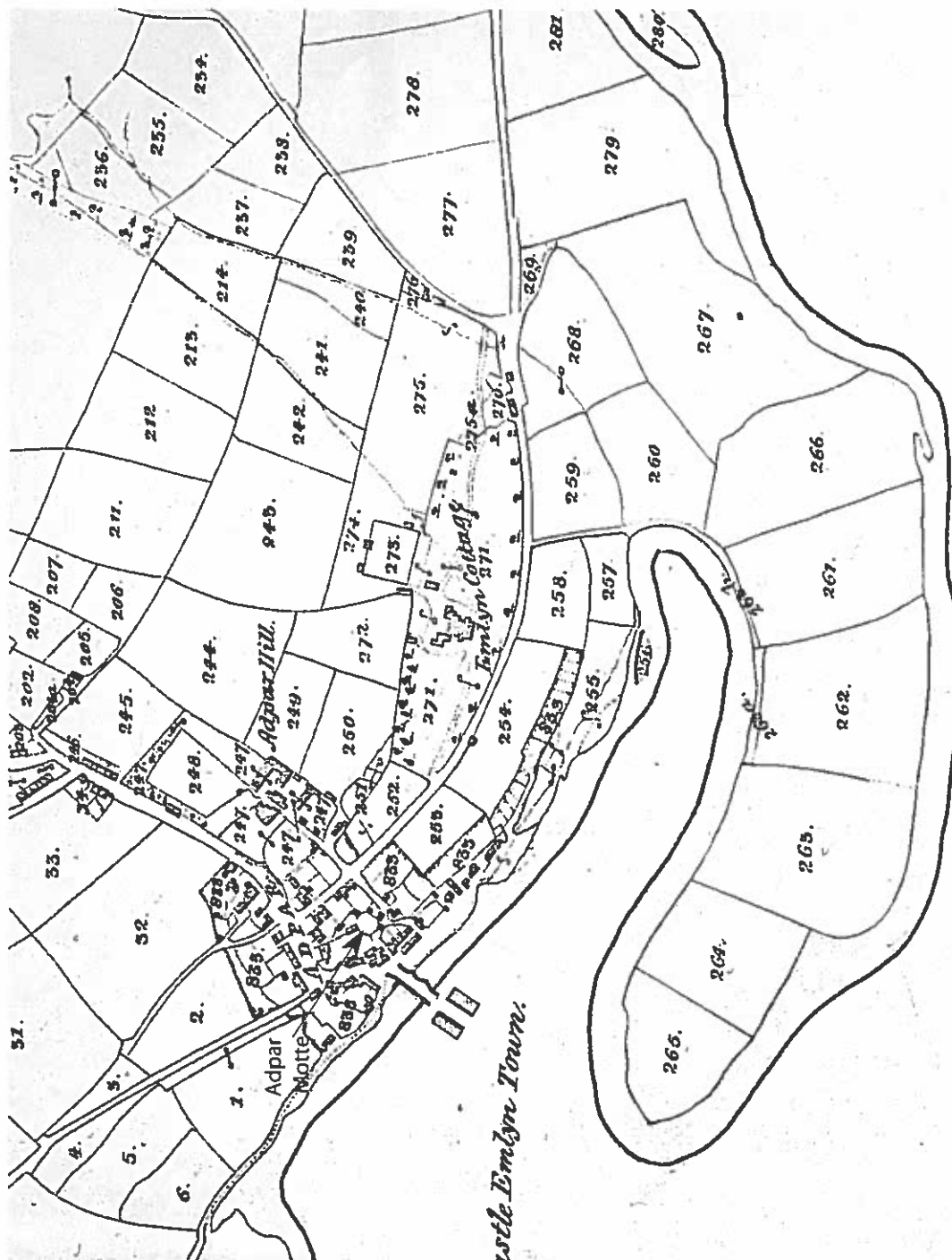
Date: 02/07/09

Taken By: R Scott Jones

Figure 02: Aerial photo of proposed
development site



Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar. Archaeological Evaluation
Drawing Title:
Date: 02/07/09
Taken By: R Scott Jones
Figure 03: Site plan showing proposed development area and evaluation trenches
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vstle Emlyn Town:

Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

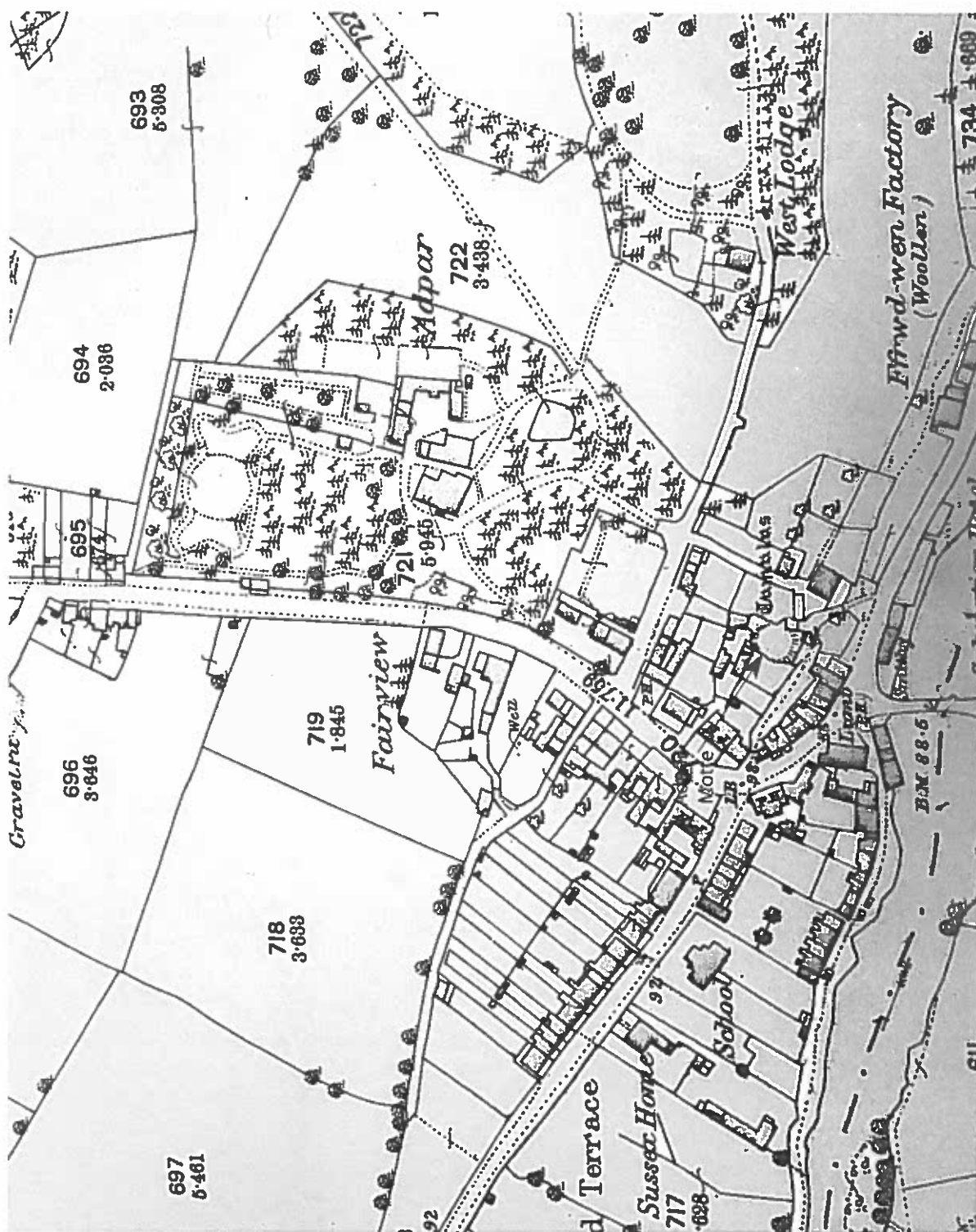
Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

Taken By: R Scott Jones

Figure 04: Llandyfing parish Tithe
map of 1839





Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

Taken By: R Scott Jones

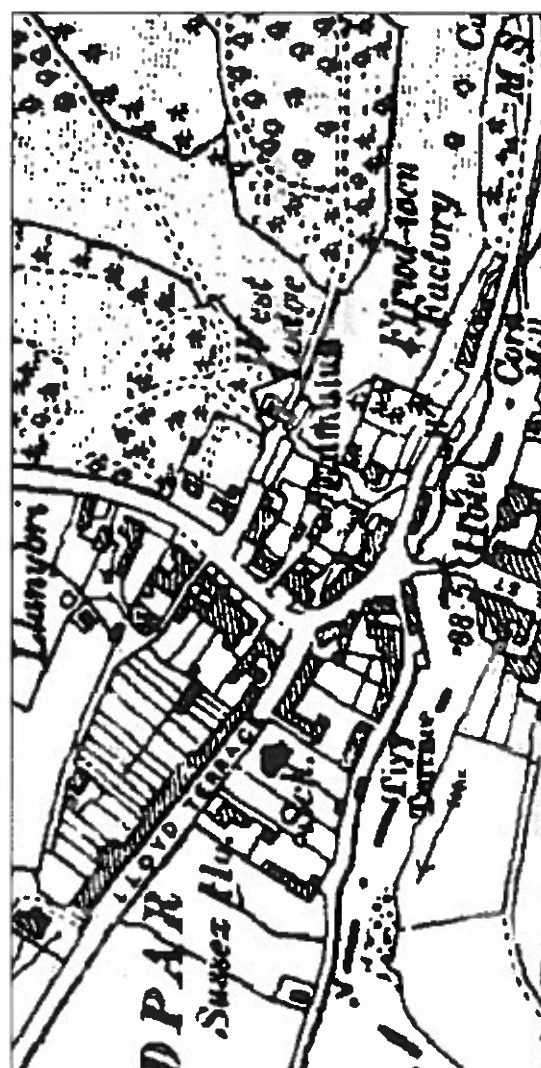
Figure 05: OS 1st edition map 1891 (1:2500)



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OS 1st edition map of 1891



OS 2nd edition map of 1907

Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

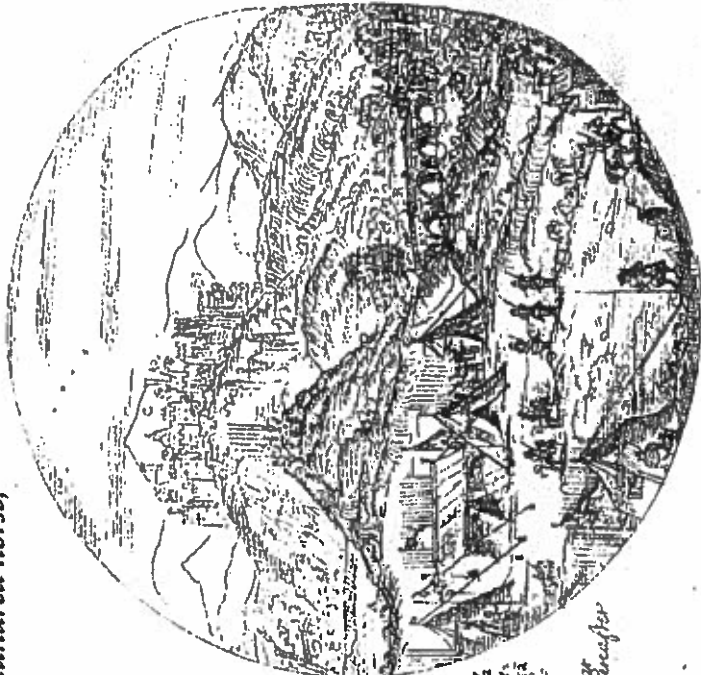
Taken By: R Scott Jones

Figure 06: OS 1st and 2nd edition maps (1:10560)

Saturday Aug. 9, 84. This morning the Duke of Beaufort went hence to the other side the River which washeth the founts of Castle Emlyn or new Castle in Emlyn and parts the two Counties of Carmarthen and Cardigan, to view the Militia of the latter 13 English miles from hence. Where his Grace Williams and the rest of the company were sumptuously entertained in fair blue and white Tents pitched on purpose.

Where also stands were made for an hundred horse, fenced with boughs of trees, & where provendure and hay was layd in for them.

After which refreshment his Grace and company returned that night to Caernarden the troop of which country waited in the village below on ye other side the river to relieve the Cardiganshire horse and conduct his Grace and company again hither.

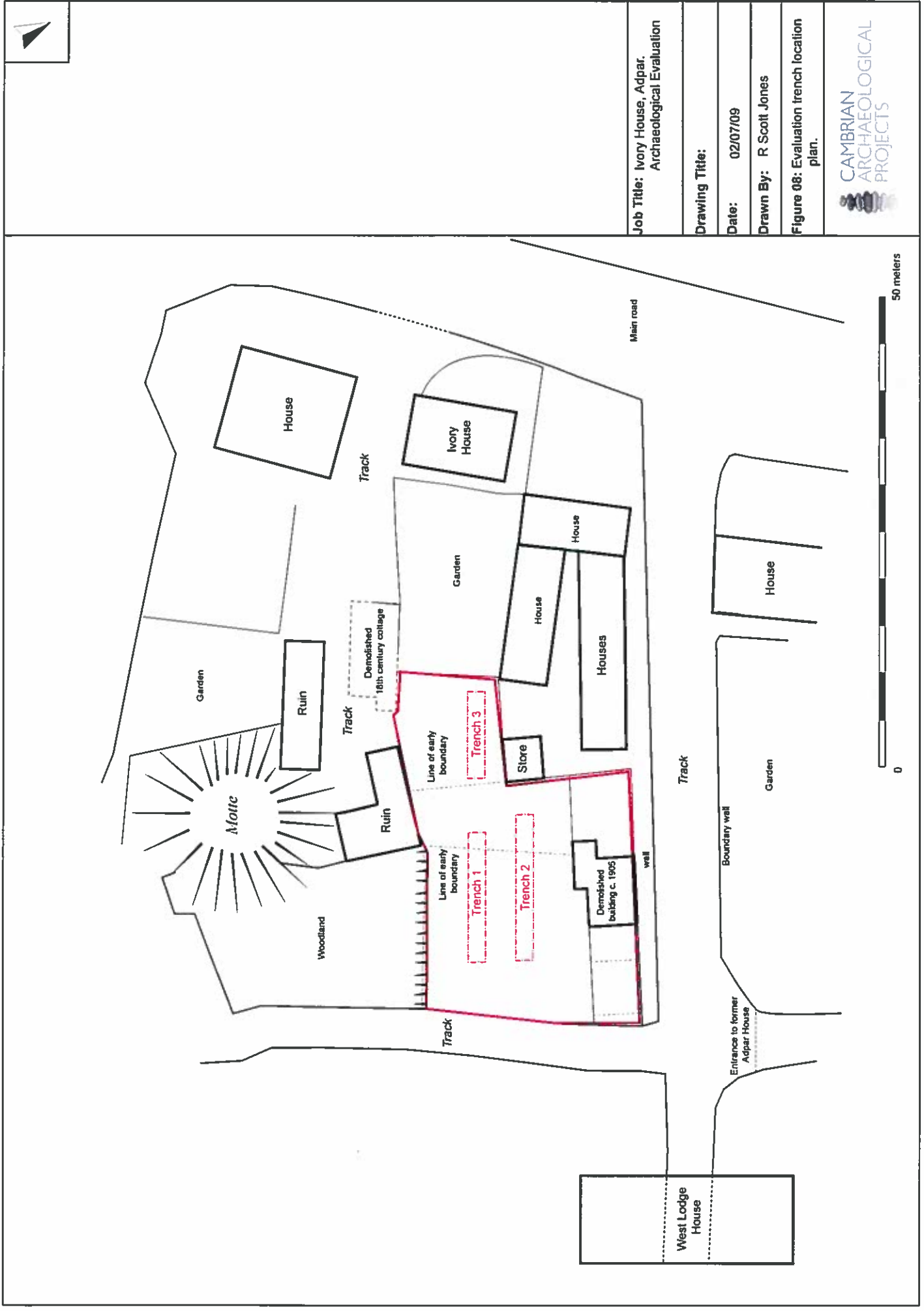


The Ruines of new castle Emlyn being by 10. S. E. of Carbery. A River Tivy R. Dingle at ye foot of a ascent, & the end where of new air falls Cardigan shire, & the River Cardigan shire. *GIRALDUS IN ITINER.*

- C. The ruines of Newcastle Emlyn belonging to ye Earl of Carbery.
- A. R iver Tivy.
- R. A Bridge at ye foot of 2 ascents, ye one end whereof mounts into Cardiganshire, ye other into Carmarthenshire.



Job Title:	Ivory House, Adpar. Archaeological Evaluation
Drawing Title:	
Date:	02/07/09
Taken By:	R Scott Jones
Figure 07: Extract from Thomas Dingley's Journal dated 1684.	
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Drawing Title:
Date: 02/07/09
Drawn By: R Scott Jones
Figure 08: Evaluation trench location plan.
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100 - Top soil
101 - Sub soil (19th century material)
102 - Fill of cut 203
103 - Cut for mid 20th century drain
104 - Drain pipe
105 - Pebbled surface (post med?)
106 - Cut of 12th century ditch
107- Limit of excavation (orange sandy
shale deposit)
108 - Fill of ditch cut 106
109 - Cut for post-hole
110 - Fill of post-hole 109
111 - Cut
112 - Fill of cut 111

Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

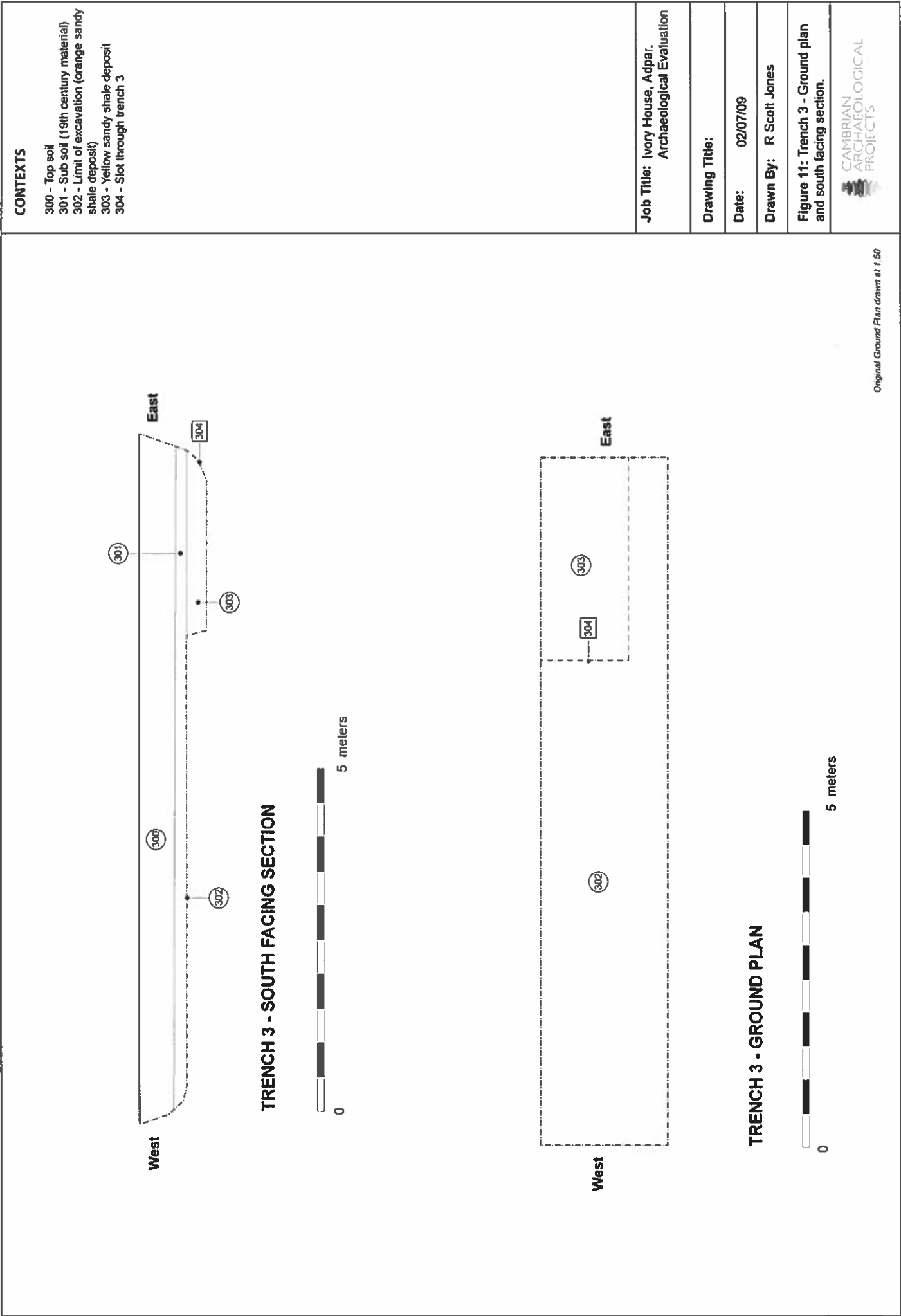
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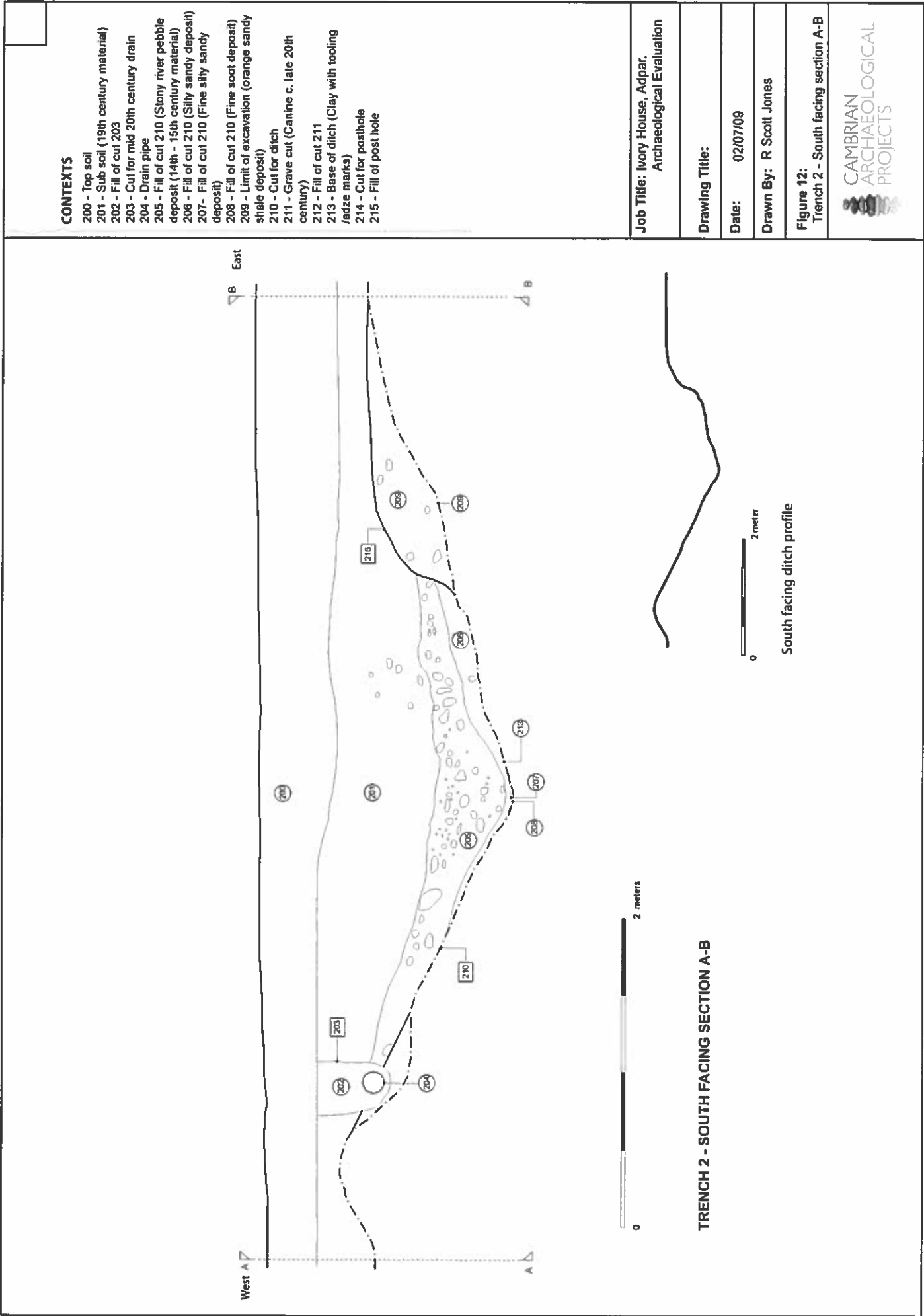
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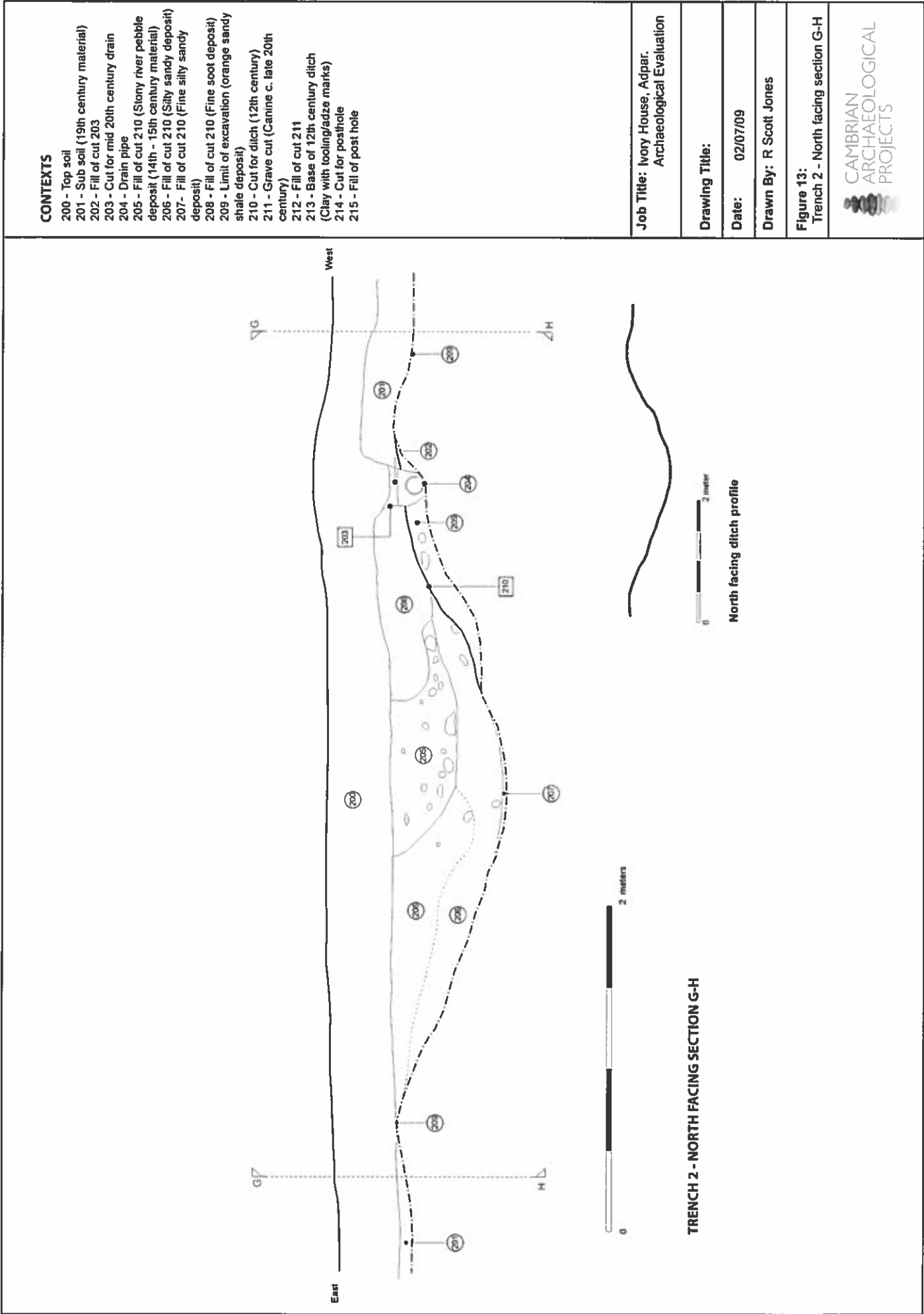
Drawn By: R Scott Jones

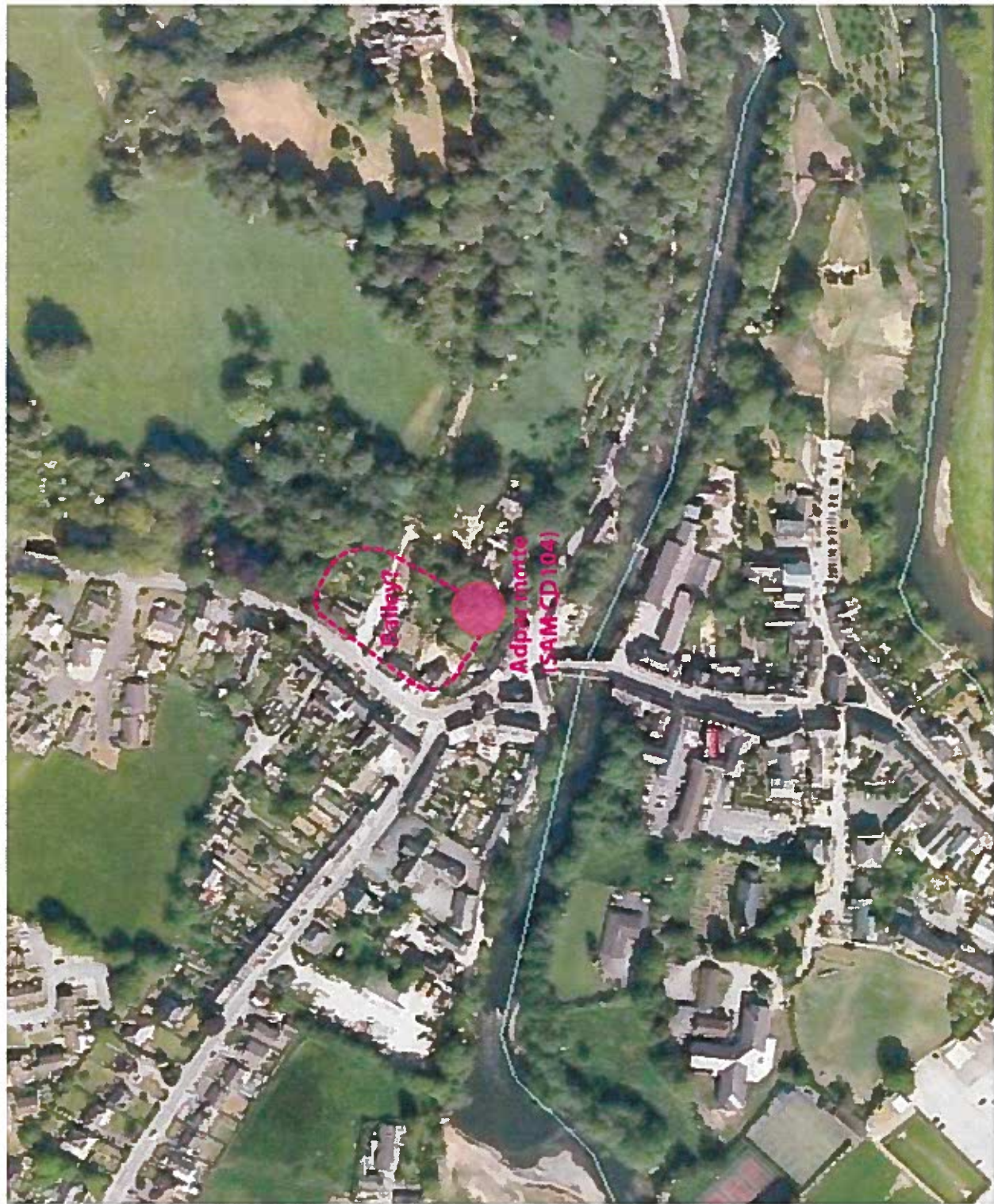
Figure 09: Trench 1 - Ground plan and south facing section.











Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

Taken By: R Scott Jones

Figure 14: Aerial photo showing position
of conjectured bailey at Adpar

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APPENDIX II: **Photo plates**



*Plate 1. Proposed development area prior to trenching.
Looking west.*



*Plate 2. Proposed development area prior to trenching.
Looking east.*



Plate 3. Working shot. Trench 3. Looking east.



Plate 4. Trench 1. Looking east.

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Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

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Plates No's. 1-4





Plate 5. Trench 1. Looking west.



Plate 6. Trench 1. Detail showing fill of 11th century? ditch.
Looking south



Plate 7. Trench 1. Detail of early path? leading to motte. Looking west.



Plate 8. Trench 1. Detail of post-hole through path. Looking northward.

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Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

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Plates No's. 5-8





Plate 9. Trench 2. Looking east.



Plate 10. Trench 2. Looking west.



Plate 11. Trench 2. Edge of cut ditch looking east.



Plate 12. Trench 2. Ditch looking west.

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Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

Taken By: R Scott Jones

Plates No's. 9-12



Plate 13. Trench 2. Ditch looking west.



Plate 14. Trench 2. Ditch looking northwest.



Plate 15. Trench 2. South facing section of ditch. Looking northwest.



Plate 16. Trench 2. North facing section of ditch. Looking southwest.

Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

Taken By: R Scott Jones

Plates No's. 13-16



Plate 18. Trench 2. North facing section of ditch. Looking south.

Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

Taken By: R Scott Jones

Plates No. 18



Plate 19. Trench 2. Ditch edge with small investigative slot. Looking east

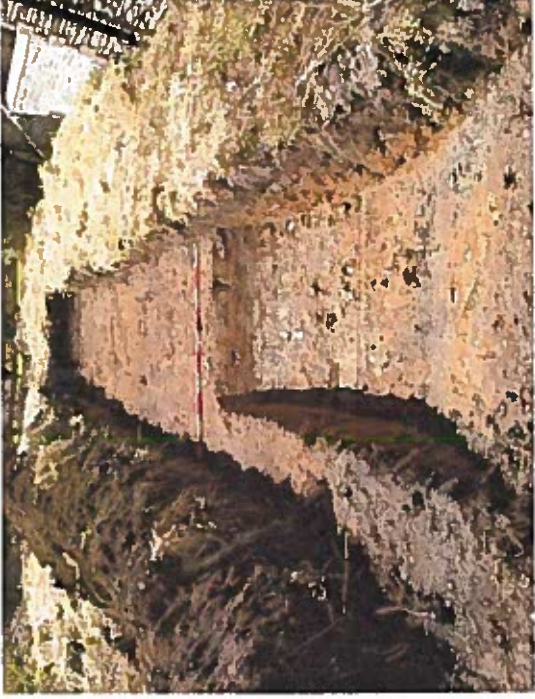


Plate 20. Trench 3. Looking west. Investigative slot in foreground.

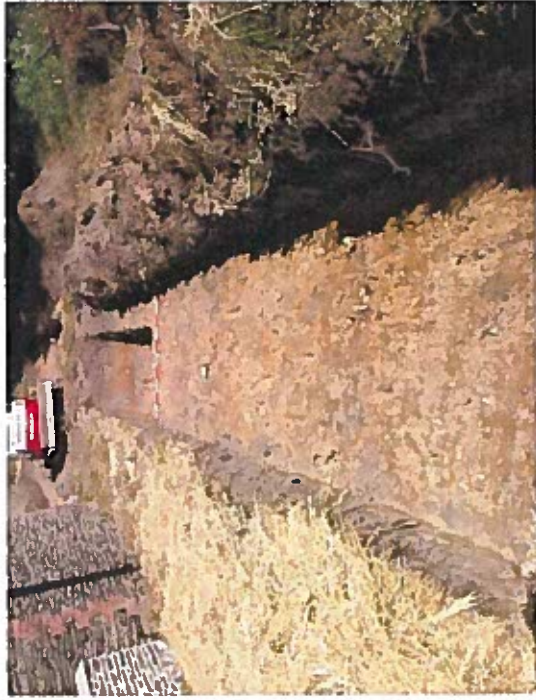


Plate 21. Trench 3. Looking east.



Plate 22. Trenches 1 and 2. Looking south toward motte.

Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar.
Archaeological Evaluation

Drawing Title:

Date: 02/07/09

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Plates No's. 19-22

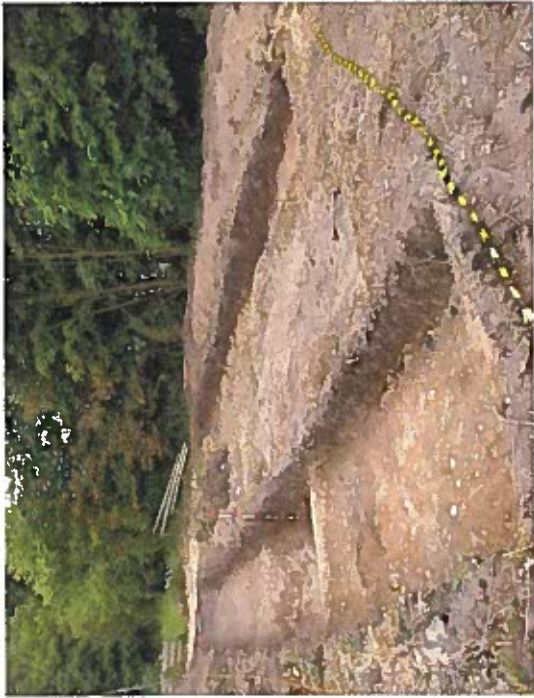


Plate 23. Trenches 1 and 2. Looking southeast.



Plate 24. Trenches 1 and 2. Looking northeast.

Job Title: Ivory House, Adpar. Archaeological Evaluation
Drawing Title:
Date: 02/07/09
Taken By: R Scott Jones
Plates No's. 23 - 24
 CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL PROJECTS

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APPENDIX III: **Contexts Register**

CONTEXTS

Trench 1

- 100 - Top soil.
- 101 - Sub soil (19th century material).
- 102 - Fill of cut 203.
- 103 - Cut for mid 20th century drain.
- 104 - Ceramic drain (20th century).
- 105 - Pebbled surface (post med?).
- 106 - Cut of 11th / 12th century ditch.
- 107- Limit of excavation (orange sandy shale deposit).
- 108 - Fill of ditch cut 106.
- 109 - Cut for post-hole.
- 110 - Fill of post-hole 109.
- 111 - Cut .
- 112 - Fill of cut 111.

Trench 2

- 200 - Top soil.
- 201 - Sub soil (19th century material).
- 202 - Fill of cut 203.
- 203 - Cut for mid 20th century drain.
- 204 - Drain pipe.
- 205 - Fill of cut 210 (Stony river pebble deposit (17th - 18th century material)).
- 206 - Fill of cut 210 (Silty sandy deposit).
- 207- Fill of cut 210 (Fine silty sandy deposit).
- 208 - Fill of cut 210 (Fine soot deposit).
- 209 - Limit of excavation (orange sandy shale deposit).
- 210 - Cut for ditch (11th / 12th century).
- 211 - Grave cut (Canine c. late 20th century).
- 212 - Fill of cut 211.
- 213 - Base of 11th / 12th century ditch (heated clay with tooling marks).
- 214 - Cut for posthole.
- 215 - Fill of post hole.

Trench 3

- 300 - Top soil
- 301 - Sub soil (19th century material)
- 302 - Limit of excavation (orange sandy shale deposit)
- 303 - Yellow sandy shale deposit
- 304 - Slot through trench 3

*Pathway
to the past*



APPENDIX IV: **Finds Register**

FINDS REGISTER

Trench 1

Context 100 & 101

- 2 x clay pipe stem (18th – 19th century)
- 11 x pottery fragments. Various sherds of glazed china and stoneware (19th century)

Context 108

- 12 x pottery fragments. Sherds of Dyfed gravel-tempered ware (DGTU) with one identifiable rim (12th – 16th century)
- 1 x pottery fragment. Earthenware. Part of a strap handle for a jug with evidence of a yellow/green lead glaze (12th -14th century). Type still to be identified.

Trench 2

Context 200 & 201

- 8 x pottery fragments. Various sherds of glazed china and stoneware (19th century)
- 1 x animal toe bone (canine)

Context 205

- 12 x pottery fragments. Sherds of North Devon gravel-tempered ware (NDGTG) with three pieces of identifiable rim pieces from the same large bowl (17th – 18th century).

Context 212

- Skeletal remains of a dog (medium size) from an inhumation. Includes skull.

Trench 3

Context 300

- No dateable material recovered

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to the past*



APPENDIX V: **Levels Register**

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APPENDIX VI: **Archive Cover Sheet**

ARCHIVE COVER SHEET

Ivory House, Adpar, Newcastle Emlyn, Cerdigion.

ARCHIVE DESTINATION – CADW Archives.

Site Name:	Ivory House, Adpar, Newcastle Emlyn
Site Code:	IHA/09/EV
PRN:	
NPRN :	N/A
SAM:	CD104
Other Ref No:	CAP Report No. 573
NGR:	SN 30934 40958
Site Type:	Medieval Motte & Bailey
Project Type:	Field Evaluation
Project Officer:	Richard Scott Jones
Project Dates:	June 22nd 2009
Categories Present:	N/A
Location of Original Archive:	Cambrian Archaeological Projects Ltd.
Location of duplicate Archives:	DAT
Number of Finds Boxes:	1
Location of Finds:	
Museum Reference:	Not assigned
Copyright:	CAP Ltd
Restrictions to access:	None

