

# FORMER YSGOL YR HENDRE, FFORDD ERYRI, CAERNARFON

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL TRENCHING AND LIMITED DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT REPORT



# Former Ysgol Yr Hendre, Ffordd Eryri, Caernarfon

## Archaeological Trial Trenching and Limited Desk-Based Assessment Report

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## Table of Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Site Location.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Previous Work.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Aims and Objectives.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Methodology.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Archaeological Results .....</b>	<b>6</b>
6.1	Limited Desk-Based Assessment.....	6
6.2	Trial Trenching and Test Pits .....	7
6.2.1	Trench 1 .....	7
6.2.2	Trench 2 .....	8
6.2.3	Trench 3 .....	8
6.2.4	Trench 4 .....	8
6.2.5	Trench 5 .....	9
6.2.6	Trench 6 .....	9
6.2.7	Trench 7 .....	9
6.2.8	Trench 8 .....	10
6.2.9	Trench 9 .....	10
6.2.10	Trench 10 .....	10
6.2.11	Trench 11 .....	10
6.2.12	Trench 12 .....	11
6.2.13	Trench 13 .....	11
6.2.14	Trench 14 .....	12
6.2.15	Test Pit 1 .....	12
6.2.16	Test Pit 2 .....	12
<b>7</b>	<b>Discussion.....</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Conclusions and Recommendations .....</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>9 Acknowledgements .....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>10 Bibliography .....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Appendix I: Project Design.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Appendix II: Context Register .....</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Appendix III: Feature Register from Previous Trial Trenching.....</b>	<b>36</b>

## **LIST OF FIGURES:**

FIGURE 01: SITE LOCATION

FIGURE 02: TEST PIT AND TRIAL TRENCH LOCATIONS, SHOWING GEOPHYSICAL ANOMALIES, GEOTECHNICAL TEST PITS, AND PREVIOUS TRIAL TRENCHES

FIGURE 03: PLAN OF FEATURES WITHIN TRENCHES 01-07, SOUTHERN AREA. SHOWING FEATURES FROM PREVIOUS TRIAL TRENCHING

FIGURE 04: PLAN OF FEATURES WITHIN TRENCHES 12 AND 13, WESTERN AREA

FIGURE 05: SECTION THROUGH DITCHES [309] AND [311]

FIGURE 06: SECTION THROUGH DITCH [1303]

FIGURE 07: SECTION THROUGH DITCH [1307]

## **LIST OF PLATES:**

PLATE 01: PLOUGH SCAR [103]. VIEW FROM THE NNE

PLATE 02: LINEAR DITCHES [309] AND [311]. VIEW FROM THE WEST

PLATE 03: LINEAR DITCH [1303]. VIEW FROM THE NORTHEAST

PLATE 04: LINEAR DITCH [1305]. VIEW FROM THE EAST

PLATE 05: SECTION THROUGH PIT [503]. VIEW FROM THE SOUTHWEST

PLATE 06: SECTION THROUGH LINEAR DITCH [1307]. VIEW FROM THE NORTHWEST

## SUMMARY

*This report sets out the results of a programme of archaeological trial trenching and limited desk-based assessment undertaken by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) at the site of the former Ysgol Yr Hendre, Ffordd Eryri, Caernarfon (NGR 248630 362080) (Figure 1). The work was carried out on behalf of Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd in April 2016.*

*Fourteen trial trenches and two test pits were excavated down to the natural geology. Archaeological features were encountered within four of the trenches, with a further four trenches and one of the test pits revealing field drains and/ or plough marks. The archaeological features uncovered consisted of a total of eight linear features, and one possible pit. No dating was uncovered within any of the features, and the function of these features is uncertain, although it is likely that the majority of the linear features relate to either drainage or boundary features. No evidence of any cremations, such as those uncovered within the cemetery directly to the northeast of the site between 1850 and 1947 was uncovered.*

## 1 INTRODUCTION

This report was commissioned by *Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd* and forms the report for the archaeological trial trenching and limited desk-based assessment carried out on the site of the former Ysgol Yr Hendre, Ffordd Eryri, Caernarfon (NGR 248630 362080) (Figure 1).

A Project Design was prepared (Appendix I) in response to a Project Brief produced by the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) which sets out the legislation framework in detail.

This report has been prepared in accordance with

- English Heritage, 1991. Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)
- English Heritage, 2006. Management Of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE)
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation, and research of archaeological materials
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer, and deposition of archaeological archives

## **2 SITE LOCATION**

The site is located within the former Ysgol Yr Hendre, Ffordd Eryri, Caernarfon at approximately 33m AOD and centred on NGR 248630 362080 (Figure 1). The site consists of two overgrown grassy areas abutting the footprint of the former school and hardstanding area. The underlying geology of the area is Llanvirn Rocks with overlying Diamicton Till (British Geological Survey).

## **3 PREVIOUS WORK**

A geophysical survey was carried out by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd. within the grassy area of the site in February 2015 (Brooks 2015a). The survey revealed two highly magnetic linear anomalies, which correspond to modern services running through the site, as well as a limited number of other highly magnetic anomalies which were also defined as relating to modern activity. Four, very faint, linear anomalies were also revealed from the survey which may relate to archaeological activity (Figure 2).

A two trench evaluation was carried out in April 2015 by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd. (Brooks 2015b). The trenches were located so as to test the results of, and target two of the faint linear anomalies revealed by the geophysical survey (Figure 2). A total of four shallow gullies and three small postholes were uncovered within the two trenches (Figure 4). However, no dating was recovered from any of the features and therefore the date of this activity is unknown.

A series of geotechnical test pits were excavated across the site in February 2016 (DATRYS 2016) (Figure 2). These were excavated without archaeological supervision, and it is unknown if any archaeological features were encountered within any of the test pits.

## **4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

As specified in the Project Brief the objective of the archaeological evaluation was

- Establish the extent to which archaeological remains survive at the site
- Establish the date and nature of archaeological remains at the site and assess their implications for understanding the historical development of the area
- Establish the depth of archaeological remains and the quality, value and level of preservation of any deposits

## 5 METHODOLOGY

All works were carried out in accordance with the Project Design for the works (Appendix I) and the GAT standard operating procedures as set out in the GAT fieldwork Manual (*in prep*).

- The site was fenced off with metal Heras fencing prior to the commencement of the trial trenching.
- The trenches and test pits were located with a Trimble R8 GNSS/R6/5800 GPS receiver (<10cm accuracy) and subsequently CAT scanned prior to their opening.
- The trenches and test pits were excavated by a 13 tonne tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, and under the direct supervision of an archaeologist.
- All identified features/ contexts were manually cleaned and examined to determine extent, function, date and relationship to adjacent features/ contexts. Limited excavation was undertaken to characterise the features/ contexts: this strategy was based on feature type and included an initial 50% sample of every sub-circular feature and a 10% sample of each linear feature, as well as targeted investigation of encountered deposits.
- Representative sections of the trenches, as well as sections of the archaeological features were drawn at an appropriate scale and a written record of the excavations was completed via GAT pro-formas.
- The trench locations and all archaeological features were surveyed in with the use of a Trimble R8 GNSS/R6/5800 GPS receiver (<10cm accuracy) with the results tied into the National Grid.
- A running photographic record was maintained, using a digital SLR camera set to maximum resolution (RAW format).
- A complete table of metadata with details of each image, including descriptions and directions of shot was produced using Microsoft Access.
- The trenches and test pits were reinstated to as best as possible standard, with due regard to the seasonal weather and ground conditions.

## 6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

### 6.1 LIMITED DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

The site lies just under 1km southeast of the walled town of Caernarfon but only 300m south of the Roman fort of Segontium. Although now within the urban development of Caernarfon it was in a rural setting for most of its history; with the exception of the Roman period when it was on the outer limits of the immediate hinterland of the fort.

Prehistoric sites are scarce in this area. Several prehistoric finds have been recovered during excavations in the Roman fort of Segontium including three polished stone axes (PRN 3110) and two bronze axes (PRN 3117 and 3118). There is a standing stone (PRN 3620) in the field 400m to the northeast of the site, although it seems to be rather small and may be a post-medieval cattle rubbing stone rather than a prehistoric standing stone.

The fort of Segontium (PRN 3089) was occupied from about AD 77 through to almost the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> century. In the early period it was the largest fort in North Wales. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD there was a reduction of troops and the demolition of some barracks, but by the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD the garrison seems to have been brought up to full strength again until its final abandonment probably in 393 AD (Casey and Davies 1993). There was a substantial *vicus* (civilian settlement) to the northwest, west, and south of the fort, but there is little evidence of it continuing beyond the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD (Hopewell 2003). Roman cremation burials (PRN 3092) were discovered while digging graves in the New Cemetery, directly to the northeast of the site, from about 1850 through to 1947. This appears to have been a major Roman cemetery located, as was usual, next to a main road; the modern Ffordd Llanbeblig being on the line of part of the Roman road leading east from the fort to Tomen y Mŵr (PRN 17533) (Hopewell 2007, 12). A Roman temple to the god Mithras (PRN 3098) was also found to the east of the fort. Excavations by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) at the site of the new school, 400m to the northeast of the site uncovered a series of ovens and a corn drier which were dated to between c. AD 65-80. The purpose of these ovens is uncertain, although it is possible that they relate to a temporary construction camp for Segontium (Kenney and Parry, 2013).

An early medieval cemetery with associated mortuary enclosures was uncovered 400m to the northeast of the site during excavations prior to the construction of the new school (Kenney and Parry, 2013). Previously the only possible early medieval site known in the area was the church dedicated to Saint Peblig (PRN 6942), 200m north of the site. Although this is first mentioned in the 13<sup>th</sup> century (RCAHMW 1960, 119), and most of the present structure dates from the 14<sup>th</sup> century or later (Davidson 1997, 171-3), it is suggested that this church has an early foundation. This claim

rests largely on the dedication to Saint Peblig, traditionally thought to have lived in the late Roman period (RCAHMW 1960, 119), and its siting alongside the Roman road close to the earlier cemetery (Davidson 2009).

Caernarfon was already occupied by a Welsh town with a court and a port before the conquest of Edward I in 1283. Edward replaced the town with an English garrison borough and a castle. Construction on the walled town and castle started by 1287 and work went on until c.1330. The borough was established by charter in 1284 and the town was the capital of the principality of Wales until 1536, and later became the county town (RCAHMW 1960, 115-118).

In 1918 the eastern spread of the town of Caernarfon had only just reached the Roman fort. By 1953 housing along Cefn Hendre to the north of the site had started to be built and by 1979 Ysgol Yr Hendre and housing to the north, west, and east of the site had been constructed.

## **6.2 TRIAL TRENCHING AND TEST PITS**

Unless otherwise stated, all features were visible cutting the natural geology and sealed by the topsoil or subsoil, if present. Full descriptions are included in Appendix II.

### **6.2.1 Trench 1**

Trench 1 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately northeast-southwest (Figure 2). It measured 26.2m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.48m. A 0.35m thick layer of topsoil (**100**) was visible sealing the subsoil (**101**), which consisted of a brown clayey loam, 0.13m thick. This in turn sealed the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**102**). This was uncovered at on average 32.89m AOD.

Towards the southwestern end of the trench a shallow linear feature (**103**), measuring 0.15m in width, with a depth of 0.04m was uncovered running ENE-WSW for 3.9m before continuing out with the trench to the WSW (Figure 3) (Plate 1). It was filled with a brown sandy silt (**104**), and represents plough scarring.

At the northeastern end of the trench a 0.25m thick concentration of stones (**105**), measuring 3.9m in width by at least 2m in length, was uncovered sealed by the topsoil (**100**). Post-medieval pottery was recovered from within this concentration, and the stones were loosely packed and therefore not structural in nature. It is likely that this represents a modern dump of stones, possible from field clearance. A 0.12m thick spread of grey sandy clay (**106**) was revealed beneath the stone concentration (**105**) (Figure 3), and is most likely associated with the deliberate dumping of these stones. A stone filled field drain, aligned roughly east-west was uncovered to the southwest of these features (Figure 3). This field drain was also uncovered within Test Pit 1.

### 6.2.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately WNW-ESE (Figure 2). It measured 28m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.3m. A 0.3m thick layer of topsoil (**200**) was visible sealing the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**201**). This was uncovered at on average 32.85m AOD.

Three parallel plough scars (**203**, **205**, and **207**), each measuring approximately 0.13m wide and aligned roughly northeast-southwest were uncovered within the trench (Figure 3). No other features were encountered within the trench.

### 6.2.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately northeast-southwest (Figure 2). It measured 26.9m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.41m. A 0.41m thick layer of topsoil (**300**) was visible sealing the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**301**). This was uncovered at on average 32.80m AOD.

Eight features were uncovered within this trench, however, upon excavation three of them were seen to be the result of either animal burrowing or bioturbation (**303**, **305**, and **307**), with a further one representing a stone filled field drain (**315**) (Figure 3).

Towards the northeastern end of the trench two parallel linear gullies (**309** and **311**) were uncovered running ENE-WSW (Figures 3 and 5) (Plate 2). These measured 0.48m and 0.54m in width and 0.05m and 0.09m in depth respectively. They were located approximately 0.25m apart and had slight concave bases with gently sloping sides. Both were filled with a single silted up deposit consisting of a greyish brown sandy silt (**310** and **312** respectively). An ESE-WNW aligned linear feature (**313**) appeared to truncate both of these gullies (Figure 3), however their respective fills were very similar and it is impossible to be certain which truncated which. This feature measured 0.94m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.09m, with a slightly uneven base. It was filled with a single silted up deposit consisting of a greyish brown sandy silt (**314**).

A fourth linear feature (**317**) was uncovered running approximately northeast-southwest near the middle of trench (Figure 3). It had an uneven base and sides, and measured on average 0.6m in width with a maximum depth of 0.09m. It was filled with a brownish grey slightly clayey loam (**318**), and most likely represents bioturbation or animal burrowing, although it may be the ploughed out remains of a small gully.

### 6.2.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately NNW-SSE (Figure 2). It measured 26.8m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.3m. A 0.3m thick layer of topsoil (**400**) was visible sealing the

natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**401**). This was uncovered at approximately 32.73m AOD towards the NNW end of the trench and 32.39m AOD to the SSE.

A single linear field drain (**403**), aligned ESE-WNW, was uncovered towards the NNW end of the trench (Figure 3). This field drain was also visible within Trench 3 (**315**). No other features were uncovered within this trench, however the edges of the previous trial trench excavated in April 2015 (Brooks 2015b) was seen. None of the linear features recorded in this trench were visible within Trench 4.

#### 6.2.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately NNW-SSE (Figure 2). It measured 26.1m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.3m. A 0.3m thick layer of topsoil (**500**) was visible sealing the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**501**). This was uncovered at approximately 32.91m AOD towards the NNW end of the trench and 32.20m AOD to the SSE.

Towards the middle of the trench a sub-rectangular pit (**503**) was partially uncovered measuring >1.1m by 1.5m, and with a depth of 0.3m (Figure 3) (Plate 5). It was filled with a loose greyish brown clayey silt containing a large concentration of sub-rounded stones (**504**). A fragment of post-medieval pottery was recovered from this fill and it is likely that this feature represents a modern waste pit for the stones.

#### 6.2.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately WNW-ESE (Figure 2). It measured 16.5m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.25m. A 0.25m thick layer of topsoil (**600**) was visible sealing the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**601**). This was uncovered at approximately 32.05m AOD towards the WNW end of the trench and 31.87m AOD to the ESE. Two features were encountered (**603** and **605**) within this trench, however upon excavation these were seen to be stone holes.

#### 6.2.7 Trench 7

Trench 7 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately WNW-ESE (Figure 2). It measured 16.5m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.5m. A 0.4m thick layer of topsoil (**700**) was visible sealing the subsoil (**701**), which consisted of a greyish brown silt and gravel, 0.1m thick. This in turn sealed the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**702**). This was uncovered at approximately 32.39m AOD towards the WNW end of the trench and 31.65m AOD to the ESE.

A small linear feature (**704**) was partially uncovered terminating within the WNW end of the trench (Figure 3). It was aligned roughly NNE-SSW and measured 0.38m in width, with a length of >1.25m. It had fairly steep sides with a concave base, and

was filled with a single silted up deposit consisting of a blackish grey clayey silt (**705**). No artefacts were recovered from this fill and the function of this feature is uncertain.

#### **6.2.8 Trench 8**

Trench 8 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately east-west (Figure 2). A modern field drain, used for channelling water away from the rear gardens of the adjacent houses was encountered within this trench running ENE-WSW, and therefore the trench could not be fully excavated. The trench measured 9.3m in length by 2m wide, although only 3.5m of the trench was excavated down to the natural geology at a depth of 31.63m AOD. A 0.65m thick layer of topsoil (**800**) was visible sealing the subsoil (**801**), which consisted of a reddish brown silt and gravel, 0.1m thick. This in turn sealed the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**802**). No archaeological features were encountered within this trench.

#### **6.2.9 Trench 9**

Trench 9 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately WNW-ESE (Figure 2). It measured 25.3m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.35m. A 0.35m thick layer of topsoil (**900**) was visible sealing the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**901**). This was uncovered at approximately 32.94m AOD towards the WNW end of the trench and 32.68m AOD to the ESE. No archaeological features were encountered within this trench.

#### **6.2.10 Trench 10**

Trench 10 was located within the southern grassy area, aligned approximately WNW-ESE (Figure 2). It measured 27.2m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.35m. A 0.35m thick layer of topsoil (**1000**) was visible sealing the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**1001**). This was uncovered at on average 32.90m AOD. No archaeological features were encountered within this trench.

#### **6.2.11 Trench 11**

Trench 11 was located within the western grassy area, aligned approximately northwest-southeast (Figure 2). It measured 26.1m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.75m. A 0.2m thick layer of topsoil (**1100**) was visible sealing a light grey clayey sand and rubble (**1101**), 0.55m thick, representing a modern make-up layer. This sealed the natural geology, a light brown sandy clay with moderate stone inclusions (**1102**). This was uncovered at on average 32.4m AOD.

### 6.2.12 Trench 12

Trench 12 was located within the western grassy area, aligned approximately NNW-SSE (Figure 2). It measured 22.5m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.45m. A 0.3m thick layer of topsoil (**1200**) was visible sealing the subsoil (**1201**), which consisted of a reddish brown clayey silt and gravel, 0.15m thick. This in turn sealed the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**1202**). This was uncovered at approximately 32.54m AOD towards the NNW end of the trench and 32.71m AOD to the SSE.

A sub-rectangular feature (**1203**) was partially exposed towards the middle of the trench (Figure 4). It measured approximately 2.2m in length with a width of at least 0.4m, and a maximum depth of 0.08m. It had an uneven base and sides and was aligned roughly NNW-SSE. A single silted up deposit consisting of a greyish brown clayey silt and gravel (**1204**) was contained within. The full dimensions of this feature is unknown, and it is possible that it represents bioturbation rather than an archaeological feature.

### 6.2.13 Trench 13

Trench 13 was located within the western grassy area, aligned approximately north-south (Figure 2). It measured 27.5m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.49m. A 0.3m thick layer of topsoil (**1300**) was visible sealing the subsoil (**1301**), which consisted of a reddish brown clayey silt and gravel, 0.1m thick. This in turn sealed the natural geology, a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel (**1302**). This was uncovered at approximately 32.77m AOD towards the northern end of the trench and 33.06m AOD to the southern.

At the southern end of this trench a 0.62m wide linear gully (**1303**) was uncovered running approximately northeast-southwest and terminating within the trench (Figures 4 and 6) (Plate 3). It had gradually sloping sides with a concave base and a maximum depth of 0.18m. It was filled with a dark brown sandy loam (**1304**) with a concentration of stones along its northwestern edge. A single piece of burnt bone was recovered from within this fill, however the fragment was too small to identify species.

To the north of this gully a 0.72m wide ditch (**1305**) with a depth of 0.19m was uncovered, running approximately ENE-WSW (Figure 4) (Plate 4). It had a concave base and was filled with a single silted up deposit consisting of a dark brown sandy loam (**1306**). A large linear ditch (**1307**), 1.14m wide and with a depth of 0.51m was uncovered directly to the north of ditch (**1305**) (Figures 4 and 7). It had steeply sloping sides with a concave base and was filled with a single silted up deposit consisting of a reddish brown clayey silt and gravel (**1308**) (Plate 6).

At the northern end of the trench a fourth linear feature was uncovered (Figure 4). Ditch **1309** measured 0.63m in width and had a maximum depth of 0.05m. It had gently sloping sides with a concave base and was aligned roughly NNW-SSE. It was

filled with a single silted up deposit of brown clayey silt (**1310**). Ditches **1305** and **1309** may be part of the same ditch system, as they are of similar size and the continuation of their alignments would form a right angled corner to the east.

#### **6.2.14 Trench 14**

Trench 14 was located within the western grassy area, aligned approximately NNE-SSW (Figure 2). It measured 11.5m in length by 2m wide, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.45m. A 0.2m thick layer of topsoil (**1400**) was visible sealing the subsoil (**1401**), which consisted of a reddish brown clayey silt and gravel, 0.25m thick. This in turn sealed the natural geology (**1402**), a light reddish brown slightly clayey sand and gravel towards the SSW end of the trench, changing to a light grey silt and gravel to the NNE. This was uncovered at approximately 32.39m AOD towards the NNE end of the trench and 32.49m AOD to the SSW. No archaeological features were encountered within this trench.

#### **6.2.15 Test Pit 1**

Test Pit 1 was located in the hardstanding area directly to the west of the demolished school footprint (Figure 2). It measured 2m by 2m, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.76m. a 0.06m thick layer of tarmac (**001**) sealed a 0.1m thick levelling layer of hardcore (**002**). This in turn sealed a greyish black clay and hardcore build up layer (**003**), 0.2m thick. A 0.4m thick layer of greyish black sandy clay (**004**) was sealed by this, which in turn sealed the natural geology, a light brown sandy clay with moderate stone inclusions (**005**). No archaeological features were encountered within this test pit, although the continuation of the field drain seen in Trench 1 was recorded.

#### **6.2.16 Test Pit 2**

Test Pit 2 was located in the hardstanding area directly to the north of the demolished school footprint (Figure 2). It measured 2m by 2m, and had a maximum excavated depth of 0.91m. a 0.04m thick layer of tarmac (**001**) sealed a 0.2m thick levelling layer of hardcore (**002**). This in turn sealed a greyish black clay and hardcore build up layer (**003**), 0.24m thick. A 0.18m thick layer of greyish black sandy clay (**004**) was sealed by this, which in turn sealed a grey sandy clay and gravel layer (**006**), 0.25m thick. This sealed the natural geology, a light brown sandy clay with moderate stone inclusions (**005**). No archaeological features were encountered within this test pit.

## 7 DISCUSSION

The natural topography of the site sloped generally downhill north to south, from approximately 32.89m AOD in the north to 31.63m AOD in the south. The natural geology was fairly consistent across the site, consisting of a reddish brown clayey silt and gravel, and encountered at on average 0.35m below ground level to the south and 0.45m to the west. The only exception to this was within Trench 11 and Test Pits 1 and 2, where the natural geology was a brown sandy clay with moderate stone inclusions, and Trench 14, where the geology changed to a light greyish silt and gravel halfway through the trench. The geotechnical ground investigations carried out in February 2016 (DATRYYS 2016) across the site showed a similar stratigraphy. The presence of the sandy clay natural geology was seen below the silt and gravel natural within the majority of the geotechnical test pits. This would suggest that the area consisting of the former school building and hardstanding, as well as a small area of the grassy land to the west of the hardstanding, was levelled prior to the construction of the school, and that the overlying silt and gravel natural geology was removed at this time. It is therefore, highly unlikely that any archaeological features survive within this area.

With the exception of Trenches 1 and 8 no subsoil was encountered within any of the trenches to the south of the former school. This would suggest that this area was previously levelled, although not as extensively as within the footprint of the school itself. This area was also the location of a playing pitch which would support this. The Subsoil was encountered within the trenches to the west of the former school, which would suggest that this area was mostly left untouched by the construction of the school.

A total of nine archaeological features were uncovered during the archaeological evaluation, none of which were identified by the previous geophysical survey (Brooks 2015a). However, plough marks (**103** and **203**) and a field drain (**315/ 403**) most likely account for three of the four linear anomalies noted on the geophysical survey (Figure 2). It is worth noting that due to the lack of accurate co-ordinates for the geophysical survey the precise location of the anomalies is unknown, and therefore what is shown in Figure 2 is only an estimated location.

Seven of the archaeological features uncovered represent linear ditches or gullies (**309, 311, 313, 317, 1303, 1305, 1307, and 1309**), the majority of which have mostly been ploughed out. The exception to this was ditch **1307** which survived to a depth of 0.51m. The function and date of these features is unknown, although they may relate to boundary or drainage features. The two parallel ditches (**309** and **311**) (Appendix III) uncovered within Trench 3 are very similar to the parallel ditches (Features **11** and **13**) uncovered in the previous trail trenching (Brooks 2015b). Both sets are running on the same alignment and are located approximately 20m apart

which would suggest that they are contemporary. However, it is worth noting that due to the lack of accurate co-ordinates for the previous trial trenching then the precise location of the trenches is unknown, and therefore the location of the features shown in Figure 3 are only an estimation.

Linear ditch **313** was not uncovered within Trench 1 to the northwest or Trench 4 to the southeast. It was also not uncovered within the previous trial trenching, directly to the northwest. This would suggest that it has either been heavily truncated outwith Trench 3, or that it is not an archaeological feature, but rather represents uneven ground.

The lack of any postholes within the trenches, along with presence of the stony natural geology, suggests that the possible postholes (Features **4**, **7**, and **15**) (Appendix III) uncovered within the previous trial trenching, were in fact stone holes. The linear gully (Feature **2**) (Appendix III) uncovered in the previous trial trenching appears to be a continuation of plough scar **203**, and given that Feature **9**, also uncovered in the previous trial trenching, is on the same alignment and of a similar size, then it is likely that this also represents a plough scar.

The linear feature (**704**) partially uncovered within Trench 7 may represent the terminus of a linear ditch or gully, or a pit. However, it is also possible that it was created by animal disturbance.

The only non-linear archaeological feature uncovered on the site was a possible sub-rectangular pit (**1204**). However, as this feature was only partially exposed, it is possible that it merely represents bioturbation or an area of uneven ground.

All the other features encountered on site were seen to be of a post-medieval date or the result of bioturbation or animal burrowing.

## 8 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The archaeological work on site revealed two concentrations of archaeological features to the south and west of the former school. The date and function of these features is unknown, although it is likely that they mostly relate to boundary or drainage features. No evidence of any cremations, such as those uncovered between 1850 and 1947 in the cemetery across the road to the east of the site, was uncovered on the site. Due to the level of truncation in this area, it is possible that any cremations have been destroyed. However, it is also possible, that due to the limited nature of the trial trenching that cremations exist within this area.

The area consisting of the former school, hardstanding, and grassy area directly adjacent to the hardstanding on the west, was seen to have been previously levelled, and it is unlikely that any archaeological features survive within this area. No further archaeological work is recommended within this area.

The area to the south of the former school was shown to have been partially levelled during the construction of the school. Therefore any archaeological features within this area are likely to have been heavily truncated. This was evidenced by the shallow nature of the linear features within this area. The presence of the two sets of parallel ditches in this area, uncovered in the previous trial trenching as well as this phase of trial trenching, has shown that was archaeological activity in this area in the past. A limited strip, map, and record of this area is recommended prior to any development so as to record the extent of this activity prior to its destruction.

The area to the west of the former school appears to have escaped the levelling activity seen elsewhere on the site, and the presence of four linear features, including two which may form the corner of a boundary ditch, within this area suggests a concentration of archaeological activity. A limited strip, map, and record of this area is recommended prior to any development so as to record the extent of this activity prior to its destruction.

The final decision as to the requirement for further work on the site rests with the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service.

## 9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The author would like to thank *Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd* for commissioning the work. The work on site was carried out by the author Dave McNicol with assistance from Neil McGuinness.

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©GAT 2016

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**APPENDIX I: PROJECT DESIGN**

**FORMER YSGOL YR HENDRE, FFORDD ERYRI,  
CAERNARFON**

**PROJECT DESIGN FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRIAL  
TRENCHING AND LIMITED DESK-BASED  
ASSESSMENT**

**Prepared for**

*Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd*

**April 2016**

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd  
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

**FORMER YSGOL YR HENDRE, FFORDD ERYRI, CAERNARFON**  
**PROJECT DESIGN FOR TRIAL TRENCHING AND LIMITED DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

Prepared for *Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd*, April 2016

1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	20
2.0 BACKGROUND.....	21
<b>2.1 Previous Work</b> .....	22
3.0 METHOD STATEMENT .....	23
<b>3.1 Trial Trenching</b> .....	23
3.1.1 Specific Methodology	23
<b>3.2 Monitoring Arrangements</b> .....	24
<b>3.3 Limited Desk-Based Assessment</b> .....	24
4.0 FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS .....	26
5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES.....	27
6.0 HUMAN REMAINS.....	28
7.0 SMALL FINDS.....	29
<b>7.1 Unexpected Discoveries: Treasure Trove</b> .....	29
8.0 REPORT AND DISSEMINATION.....	30
<b>8.1 Historic Environment Record</b> .....	30
9.0 STAFF AND TIMETABLE .....	31
<b>9.1 Staff</b> .....	31
<b>9.2 Timetable</b> .....	31
10.0 HEALTH & SAFETY.....	32
11.0 INSURANCE .....	33
12.0 SOURCES CONSULTED .....	34

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Trench Locations, showing geophysical results and previous trial trenches

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) has been asked by *Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd* to undertake a programme of trial trenching and limited desk-based assessment at the former Ysgol Yr Hendre, Ffordd Eryri, Caernarfon (NGR 248630 362080). The site is currently occupied by the site of a demolished primary school, parking area, playground, and playing field. The entire site covers an area of approximately 1.4 hectares. The field evaluation will be concentrated on the grass play area, measuring approximately 5000 square meters (Figure 1).

This project design is produced in response to the *Design Brief for Archaeological Field Evaluation* issued by Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services (GAPS). The requirements of the brief were for a two phase field evaluation to allow for future decision making and manage risk. The phases were:

- Phase 1: A limited desk-based review and geophysical survey
- Phase 2: Trial trenching

A geophysical survey and two trench evaluation was undertaken in 2015 by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd. (Brooks 2015a and 2015b) and the results of these have been used to locate the trenches for this phase of archaeological work (Figure 2). A total of 14 trenches will be excavated within the grassy area of the site, with a further two test pits excavated within the area of the demolished primary school. A limited desk-based assessment will also be carried out.

All work will be planned, managed and undertaken by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust in accordance with the following standards and guidance:

- English Heritage, 1991. Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)
- English Heritage, 2006. Management Of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE)
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation, and research of archaeological materials
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014. Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer, and deposition of archaeological archives

## 2.0 BACKGROUND

A limited desk-based assessment will be produced as part of this programme of archaeology mitigation. Therefore, what follows is the limited background taken from the design brief (GAPS 2016).

Many archaeological discoveries relating to the Roman period (AD 47 – c.450 AD) have been made to the south east of the modern town of Caernarfon.

The Roman Fort of Segontium (Scheduled Ancient Monument Cn006) is located approximately 150m north-west of the Ysgol Yr Hendre site.

Segontium acted as a regional hub of activity during the first to fourth centuries AD. The settlement included many extramural features and would have been connected to other forts in the area through a network of Roman Roads.

A Roman Temple of Mithras (Primary Record Number, PRN 3098) was discovered c.200m from the site in 1958. Roman cremation burials (PRN 3092) have been discovered in the cemetery to the south of Llanbeblig Road (and adjacent to the Ysgol Yr Hendre site) throughout the first half of the 20th century. These are thought to flank the route of the Segontium– Penllystyn – Tomen y Mur Roman Road which must have passed on or close to the route of the modern Llanbeblig Road.

There is potential for further such burials within the Ysgol Yr Hendre Site, particularly as field boundary/ historic map evidence suggests that the site has been little altered during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, apart from the construction of the school. The field boundary at the south edge of the site follows the same line as that depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map (1889).

Recent archaeological excavation in advance of the construction of the new Ysgol Yr Hendre site at Cae Ty Gwyn (Kenney & Parry 2012) has revealed an early medieval, Christian cemetery that appears to be focused on the area between the medieval Church of St Peblig and the site of the Mithraic temple to the north. There is clearly a continuity of ritual practice within the locality that has carried on to the present day.

The fields at Tyddyn Pandy, Llanbeblig have recently revealed evidence of a domestic site, thought to be Roman in date due to the large amount of Roman pottery discovered during the evaluation trenching.

The wider landscape contains evidence of later prehistoric funerary/ ritual activity. A possible standing stone (PRN 3620) is situated c.350m to the North West of the school site whilst an urn cremation dating to the Middle Bronze Age (PRN 3101) was discovered in 1946 during the construction of a housing estate further north.

## *2.1 PREVIOUS WORK*

A geophysical survey was carried out by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd. within the grassy area of the site in February 2015 (Brooks 2015a). The survey revealed two highly magnetic linear anomalies, which correspond to modern services running through the site, as well as a limited number of other highly magnetic anomalies which were also defined as relating to modern activity. Four, very faint, linear anomalies were also revealed from the survey which may relate to archaeological activity (Figure 2).

A two trench evaluation was carried out in April 2015 by Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd. (Brooks 2015b). The trenches were located so as to test the results of, and target two of the faint linear anomalies revealed by, the geophysical survey (Figure 2). A total of four shallow gullies and three small postholes were uncovered within the two trenches. However, no dating was recovered from any of the features and therefore the date of this activity is unknown.

## 3.0 METHOD STATEMENT

### 3.1 TRIAL TRENCHING

The trial trenching will aim to address the following:

- Establish the extent to which archaeological remains survive at the site
- Establish the date and nature of archaeological remains at the site and assess their implications for understanding the historical development of the area
- Establish the depth of archaeological remains and the quality, value and level of preservation of any deposits

All trench locations are based on information received from the geophysical survey results and will target specific anomalies as well as blank areas. See Figure 2 for the location of individual trenches. A total of 14 trenches are proposed, with twelve of the trenches measuring 25m by 2m, and two 10m by 2m. The location of the test pits within the area of the demolished primary school, will be decided upon once on site.

#### 3.1.1 Specific Methodology

The evaluation trenching will be completed by 2No GAT personnel. The team will comprise a project officer and a project archaeologist and will be monitored by the GAT project manager. The project manager will be responsible for reviewing the fieldwork report originated by the fieldwork team. All plant, security and welfare will be provided by GAT, using a nominated sub-contractor.

The work is currently scheduled for late April 2016, with a minimum estimate of five days on site to excavate and record the trenches. *Additional time and costs may be required if complex activity and stratigraphy is encountered.*

- The location of any services will be confirmed using information sourced from the relevant utility companies.
- The site will be fenced off with metal Heras fencing before the commencement of the trial trenching.
- The trenches will be located using a using a Trimble R8 GNSS/R6/5800 GPS receiver (<10cm accuracy), and CAT scanned prior to opening to determine the presence or absence of any services.
- The trenches will be opened using a 13 tonne excavator fitted with a toothless bucket and excavated down to the first significant archaeological horizon, or the glacial horizon, whichever is encountered first. The trench will be excavated in controlled layers. Topsoil, subsoil and subsequent layers/ deposits will be stored in separate bunds.

- Trench content, including the depths of all overburdens, will be recorded on GAT pro-formas and with digital SLR cameras set to maximum resolution in RAW format (to be converted to TIFF format for subsequent archiving).
- A complete table of metadata with details of each image, including descriptions and directions of shot will be produced using Microsoft Access.
- If encountered, all identified features/ contexts (including deposits and surfaces) will be manually cleaned and examined to determine extent, function, date and relationship to adjacent features/ contexts. Limited excavation will be undertaken to characterise any features/ contexts: this strategy will be based on feature type and include an initial 50% sample of every sub-circular feature and a 10% sample of each linear feature, as well as targeted investigation of encountered deposits and surfaces.
- All sections to be drawn at a minimum 1:10 scale.
- All plans to be at a minimum 1:20 scale.
- Any deposits deemed suitable for dating will be taken from sealed contexts, with bulk samples from ditches and pit fills proposed as not less than 10 litres from each context. The sampling strategy will be undertaken in accordance with the principles set out in *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods*, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation (English Heritage, 2011).
- The trenches will be reinstated to as best as possible standard, with due regard to the seasonal weather and ground conditions.

**If significant archaeological activity is identified within any trench (e.g. extensive and/ or complex features/ artefacts/ deposits), cf. para. 4.0., further evaluation may be required to understand the provenance of recorded features. This may include extending existing trenches and/ or trenching surrounding areas**

### *3.2 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS*

The GAPS Archaeologist will need to be informed of the start date and of the subsequent progress and findings. This will allow the GAPS Archaeologist time to arrange monitoring visits and attend site meetings (if required) and enable discussion about the need or otherwise for any additional phases of work if features of potential archaeological significance are encountered.

### *3.3 LIMITED DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT*

A desk-based assessment is defined as “a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including

appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage....Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate” (ClfA 2014, 4).

The limited desk-based assessment will involve the study of the following records:

- The regional Historic Environment Register (HER) at Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) Craig Beuno, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2RT) will be examined for information concerning the study area. This will include an examination of the core HER, and secondary information held within the record which includes unpublished reports, the 1:2500 County Series Ordnance Survey maps, and the National Archaeological Record index cards.
- The National Monuments Record (NMR RCAHMW, National Monuments Record of Wales, Plas Crug, Aberystwyth SY23 1NJ) will be checked for sites additional to the HER, and if required additional supporting information will be examined at the NMR.
- The results of the previous geophysical survey and trial trenching will be studied, along with the results of recent nearby archaeological work.

#### 4.0 FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORKS

- The identification of significant archaeological features during the trial trenching may necessitate further archaeological works. This will require the submission of new cost estimates to the contractor and may be subject to a separate project design, to be agreed by the GAPS prior to implementation.
- This design does not include a methodology or cost for examination of, conservation of, or archiving of finds discovered during the evaluation, nor of any radiocarbon dates required, nor of examination of palaeoenvironmental samples associated with any peat deposits. The need for these will be identified in the post-fieldwork programme (if required), and a new design will be issued for approval by GAPS.

## *5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES*

If necessary, relevant archaeological deposits will be sampled by taking bulk samples (a minimum of 10 litres and maximum of 30 litres) for flotation of charred plant remains. Bulk samples will be taken from waterlogged deposits for macroscopic plant remains. Other bulk samples, for example from middens, may be taken for small animal bones and small artefacts.

## 6.0 HUMAN REMAINS

Any finds of human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected, and both the coroner and the GAPS Archaeologist informed. If removal is necessary it will take place under appropriate regulations and with due regard for health and safety issues. In order to excavate human remains, a licence is required under Section 25 of the Burials Act 1857 for the removal of any body or remains of any body from any place of burial. This will be applied for should human remains need to be investigated or moved.

## 7.0 SMALL FINDS

The vast majority of finds recovered from archaeological excavations comprise pottery fragments, bone, environmental and charcoal samples, and non-valuable metal items such as nails. Often many of these finds become unstable (i.e. they begin to disintegrate) when removed from the ground. All finds are the property of the landowner, however, it is Trust policy to recommend that all finds are donated to an appropriate museum where they can receive specialist treatment and study. Access to finds must be granted to the Trust for a reasonable period to allow for analysis and for study and publication as necessary. All finds would be treated according to advice provided within *First Aid for Finds* (Rescue 1999). Trust staff will undertake initial identification, but any additional advice would be sought from a wide range of consultants used by the Trust, including National Museums and Galleries of Wales at Cardiff, ARCUS at Sheffield and BAE at Birmingham.

### 7.1 UNEXPECTED DISCOVERIES: TREASURE TROVE

Treasure Trove law has been amended by the Treasure Act 1996. The following are Treasure under the Act:

- *Objects other than coins* any object other than a coin provided that it contains at least 10% gold or silver and is at least 300 years old when found.
- *Coins* all coins from the same find provided they are at least 300 years old when found (if the coins contain less than 10% gold or silver there must be at least 10. Any object or coin is part of the same find as another object or coin, if it is found in the same place as, or had previously been left together with, the other object. Finds may have become scattered since they were originally deposited in the ground. Single coin finds of gold or silver are not classed as treasure under the 1996 Treasure Act.
- *Associated objects* any object whatever it is made of, that is found in the same place as, or that had previously been together with, another object that is treasure.
- *Objects that would have been treasure trove* any object that would previously have been treasure trove, but does not fall within the specific categories given above. These objects have to be made substantially of gold or silver, they have to be buried with the intention of recovery and their owner or his heirs cannot be traced.

The following types of finds are not treasure:

- Objects whose owners can be traced.
- Unworked natural objects, including human and animal remains, even if they are found in association with treasure.
- Objects from the foreshore which are not wreck.

All finds of treasure must be reported to the coroner for the district within fourteen days of discovery or identification of the items. Items declared Treasure Trove become the property of the Crown, on whose behalf the National Museums and Galleries of Wales acts as advisor on technical matters, and may be the recipient body for the objects.

The National Museums and Galleries of Wales will decide whether they or any other museum may wish to acquire the object. If no museum wishes to acquire the object, then the Secretary of State will be able to disclaim it. When this happens, the coroner will notify the occupier and landowner that he intends to return the object to the finder after 28 days unless he receives no objection. If the coroner receives an objection, the find will be retained until the dispute has been settled.

## ***8.0 REPORT AND DISSEMINATION***

Following completion of the record as outlined above, a report will be produced incorporating the following:

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction
- Project Design
- Methods and Techniques
- Limited Desk-Based Assessment Results
- Trial Trenching Results
- Summary and Conclusions
- Bibliography of sources consulted

### **The report will be submitted to GAPS by the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**

Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report at an appropriate scale.

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared in accordance with English Heritage's MoRPHE 2006 document. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled and cross-referenced, and lodged in an appropriate place (to be decided in consultation with the regional Historic Environment Record) within six months of the completion of the project. All digital data will be written to CD-ROM and stored with the paper archive.

- one or more copies (as required) will be sent to the client
- one or more copies (as required) will be sent to the GAPS
- one or more copies (as required) sent to the regional Historic Environment Record Archaeologist for the area (HER, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Craig Beuno, Garth Road, Bangor, LL57 2RT);
- A digital report and archive (including photographic and drawn) data will be provided to Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments, Wales.

## ***8.1 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD***

In line with the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) requirements, the HER must be contacted at the onset of the project to ensure that any data arising is formatted in a manner suitable for accession to the HER. At the onset, the HER Enquiry Form provided by the HER, will be completed and submitted.

## *9.0 STAFF AND TIMETABLE*

### *9.1 STAFF*

The project will be supervised by John Roberts, Principal Archaeologist at GAT: Contracts. The work will be carried out by fully trained Project Archaeologists who are experienced in conducting project work and working with contractors and earth moving machinery. (Full CV's are available upon request).

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust's Equal Opportunity Policy aims to treat everyone equally and to ensure that no job applicant, employee, worker or clients are discriminated against on the grounds of a protected characteristic as defined by the Equality Act 2010.

### *9.2 TIMETABLE*

The fieldwork is scheduled to take place in April 2016, with the final report to be submitted to GAPS by the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

## *10.0 HEALTH & SAFETY*

The Trust subscribes to the SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers) Health and Safety Policy as defined in **Health and Safety in Field Archaeology** (1999).

All GAT staff will conform fully with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act (1974). All GAT staff will be CSCS certified. Copies of the site specific risk assessment will be supplied to the client prior to the start of fieldwork. Any risks and hazards will be indicated prior to the start of work via a submitted risk assessment. All staff will be issued with required personal safety equipment.

## 11.0 INSURANCE

### Public Liability

Limit of Indemnity- £5,000,000 any one event in respect of Public Liability

INSURER Aviva Insurance Ltd

POLICY TYPE Public Liability

POLICY NUMBER 24765101CHC/000405

EXPIRY DATE 22/06/2016

### Employers Liability

Limit of Indemnity- £10,000,000 any one occurrence.

INSURER Aviva Insurance Ltd

POLICY TYPE Employers Liability

POLICY NUMBER 24765101CHC/000405

EXPIRY DATE 22/06/2016

### Professional Indemnity

Limit of Indemnity- £2,000,000 in respect of each and every claim

INSURER Hiscox Insurance Company Limited

POLICY TYPE Professional Indemnity

POLICY NUMBER HU PI 9129989/1208

EXPIRY DATE 23/07/2016

## 12.0 SOURCES CONSULTED

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## APPENDIX II: CONTEXT REGISTER

Context No	Area	Type	Description
001	TP 1&2	Surface	Tarmac
002	TP 1&2	Layer	Hardcore
003	TP 1&2	Layer	Greyish brown clay and hardcore mix
004	TP 1&2	Layer	Greyish black sandy clay
005	TP 1&2	Natural	Brown sandy clay and stone
006	TP 2	Layer	Grey sandy clay and gravel
100	TR 1	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.35m thick
101	TR 1	Subsoil	Brown, slightly clayey sandy silt, 0.12m thick
102	TR 1	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
103	TR 1	Cut	Plough scar, 0.15m wide, 0.04m deep
104	TR 1	Fill	Brown sandy silt, fill of [103]
105	TR 1	Layer	Concentration of stones, 3.9m wide, 0.25m thick
106	TR 1	Layer	Irregular spread of grey sandy clay, 3.9m wide, 0.12m thick
200	TR 2	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick
202	TR 2	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
203	TR 2	Cut	Plough scar, 0.13m wide
204	TR 2	Fill	Dark grey clayey silt, fill of [203]
205	TR 2	Cut	Plough scar, 0.13m wide
206	TR 2	Fill	Dark grey clayey silt, fill of [205]
207	TR 2	Cut	Plough scar, 0.13m wide
208	TR 2	Fill	Dark grey clayey silt, fill of [207]
300	TR 3	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.41m thick
301	TR 3	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
303	TR 3	Cut	Animal burrow/ bioturbation, 0.64m wide, 0.09m deep
304	TR 3	Fill	Greyish brown sandy silt, fill of [303]
305	TR 3	Cut	Animal burrow/ bioturbation, 0.22m wide, 0.11m deep
306	TR 3	Fill	Light brownish grey sandy silt, fill of [305]
307	TR 3	Cut	Animal burrow/ bioturbation, 0.3m wide, 0.05m deep
308	TR 3	Fill	Greyish brown sandy silt, fill of [307]
309	TR 3	Cut	Linear ditch, 0.48m wide, 0.05m deep
310	TR 3	Fill	Greyish brown sandy silt, fill of [309]
311	TR 3	Cut	Linear ditch, 0.54m wide, 0.09m deep
312	TR 3	Fill	Greyish brown sandy silt, fill of [311]
313	TR 3	Cut	Possible linear ditch, 0.94m wide, 0.09m deep
314	TR 3	Fill	Greyish brown sandy silt, fill of [313]
315	TR 3	Cut	Land drain
316	TR 3	Fill	Stony fill of [315]
317	TR 3	Cut	Possible linear ditch, 0.6m wide, 0.09m deep
318	TR 3	Fill	Brownish grey sandy silt, fill of [317]
400	TR 4	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick
401	TR 4	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
403	TR 4	Cut	Land drain
404	TR 4	Fill	Stony fill of [403]
500	TR 5	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick
502	TR 5	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
503	TR 5	Cut	Sub-rectangular pit, >1.1 x 1.5m, 0.3m deep
504	TR 5	Fill	Greyish brown clayey silt and stone, fill of [503]
600	TR 6	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.25m thick
601	TR 6	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel

603	TR 6	Cut	Stone hole
604	TR 6	Fill	Dark grey clayey silt, fill of [603]
605	TR 6	Cut	Stone hole
606	TR 6	Fill	Dark grey clayey silt, fill of [605]
700	TR 7	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.4m thick
701	TR 7	Subsoil	Greyish brown silt and gravel, 0.1m thick
703	TR 7	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
704	TR 7	Cut	Linear feature, >1.25 x 0.38m, 0.24m deep
705	TR 7	Fill	Blackish grey clayey silt, fill of [704]
800	TR 8	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.65m thick
801	TR 8	Subsoil	Reddish brown silt and gravel, 0.1m thick
802	TR 8	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
900	TR 9	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.35m thick
901	TR 9	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
1000	TR 10	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.35m thick
1001	TR 10	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
1100	TR 11	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick
1101	TR 11	Layer	Light grey clayey sand and rubble, 0.5m thick
1102	TR 11	Natural	Brown sandy clay and stone
1200	TR 12	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick
1201	TR 12	Subsoil	Reddish brown clayey silt and gravel, 0.15m thick
1202	TR 12	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
1203	TR 12	Cut	Possible sub-rectangular pit, 2.2 x >0.4m, 0.08m deep
1204	TR 12	Fill	Greyish brown clayey silt and gravel, fill of [1203]
1300	TR 13	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.3m thick
1301	TR 13	Subsoil	Brown, slightly clayey loam, 0.1m thick
1302	TR 13	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel
1303	TR 13	Cut	Linear ditch, 0.62m wide, 0.18m deep
1304	TR 13	Fill	Dark brown sandy loam, fill of [1303]
1305	TR 13	Cut	Linear ditch, 0.72m wide, 0.19m deep
1306	TR 13	Fill	Dark brown sandy loam, fill of [1305]
1307	TR 13	Cut	Linear ditch, 1.14m wide, 0.51m deep
1308	TR 13	Fill	Reddish brown clayey silt and gravel, fill of [1307]
1309	TR 13	Cut	Linear ditch, 0.63m wide, 0.05m deep
1310	TR 13	Fill	Brown clayey silt, fill of [1309]
1400	TR 14	Topsoil	Blackish brown sandy silt, 0.2m thick
1401	TR 14	Subsoil	Brown, slightly clayey sandy silt, 0.25m thick
1402	TR 14	Natural	Reddish brown silt and gravel

### APPENDIX III: FEATURE REGISTER FROM PREVIOUS TRIAL TRENCHING

Feature No	Description
2	Shallow gully aligned ESE-WNW, 0.17m wide, 0.04m deep
4	Small possible posthole, 0.24m in diameter, 0.07m deep
7	Small possible posthole, 0.25m in diameter, 0.1m deep
9	Gully aligned ENE-WSW, 0.3m wide, 0.1m deep
11	Gully aligned ENE-WSW, 0.5m wide, 0.07m deep
13	Gully aligned ENE-WSW, 0.32m wide, 0.09m deep
15	Small possible posthole, 0.34m x 0.27m, 0.08m deep

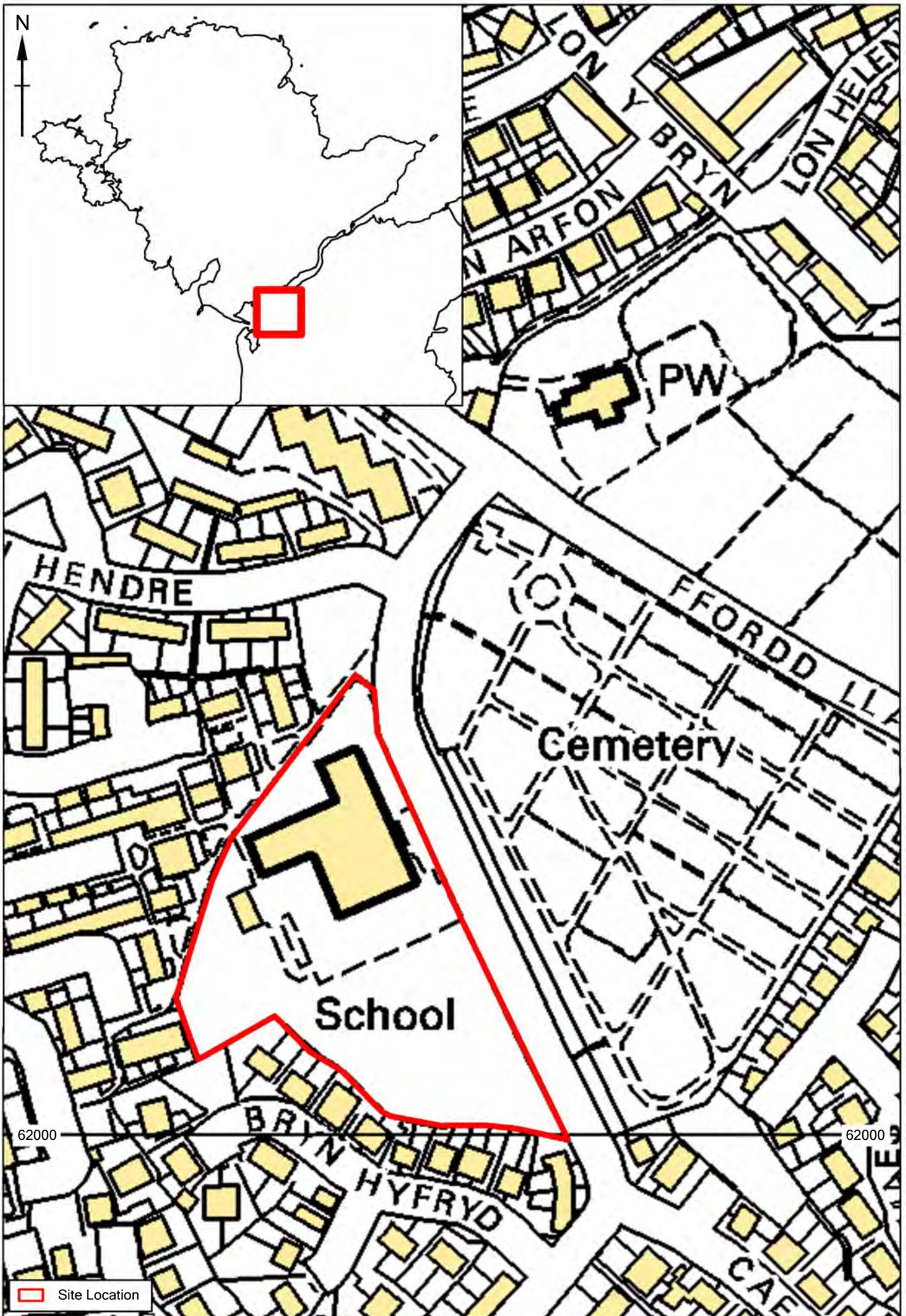
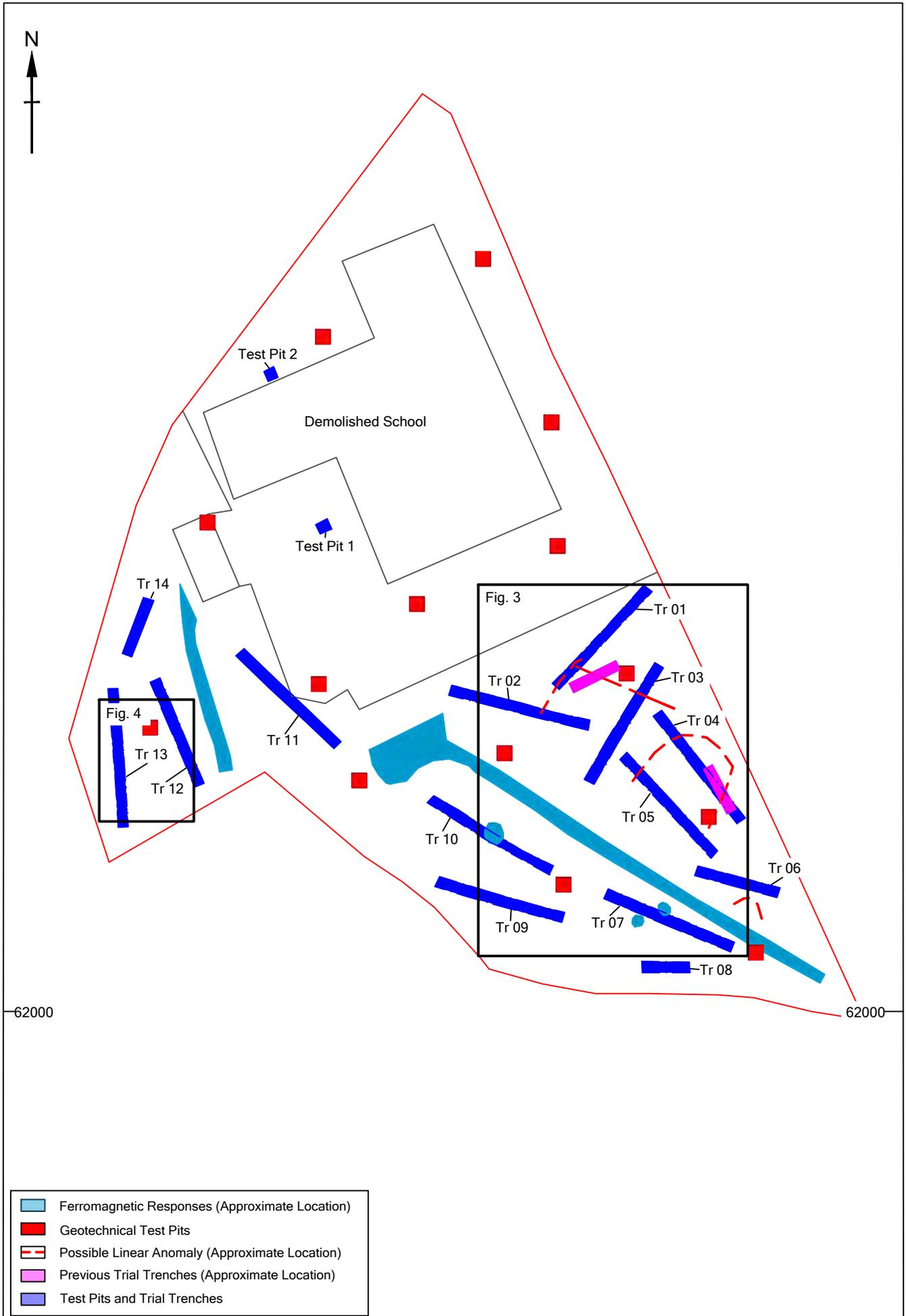
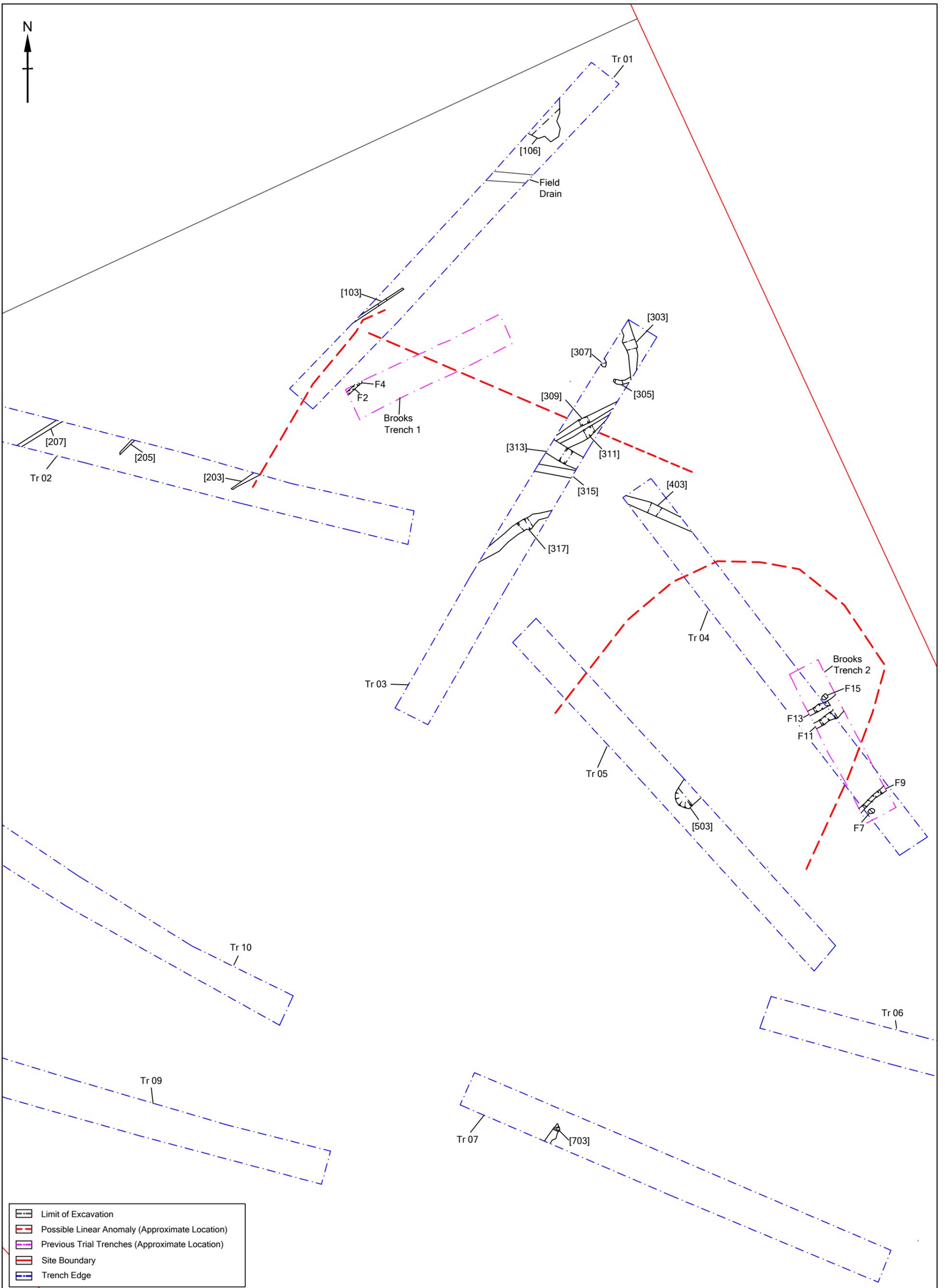


Fig. 1: Site Location

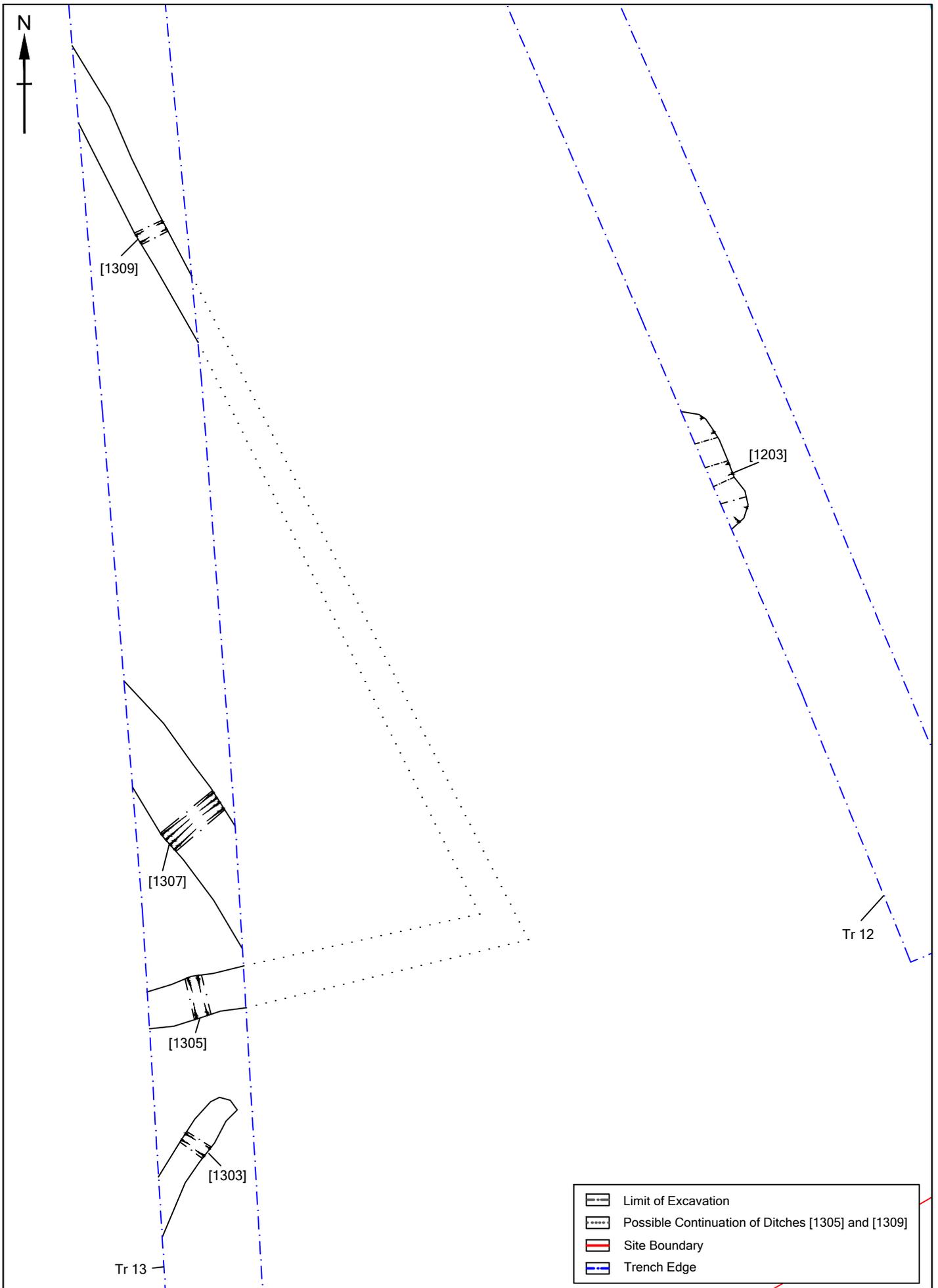
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**Fig. 2:** Test Pit and Trial Trench Locations, showing geophysical anomalies, geotechnical test pits, and previous trial trenches



**Fig. 3:** Plan of Features Within Trenches 01-07, Southern Area. Showing features from previous trial trenching



**Fig. 4:** Plan of Features Within Trenches 12 and 13, Western Area

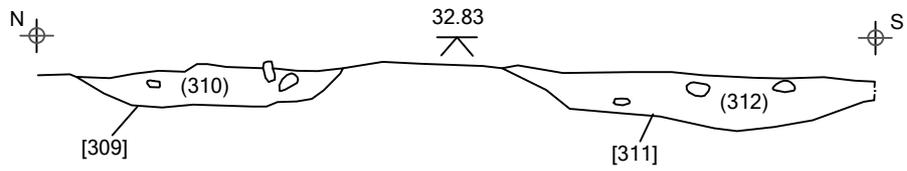


Fig. 5: Section Through Ditches [309] and [311]

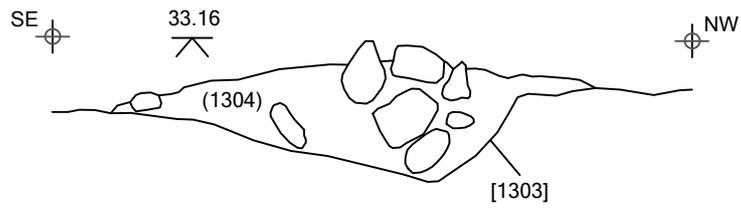


Fig. 6: Section Through Ditch [1303]

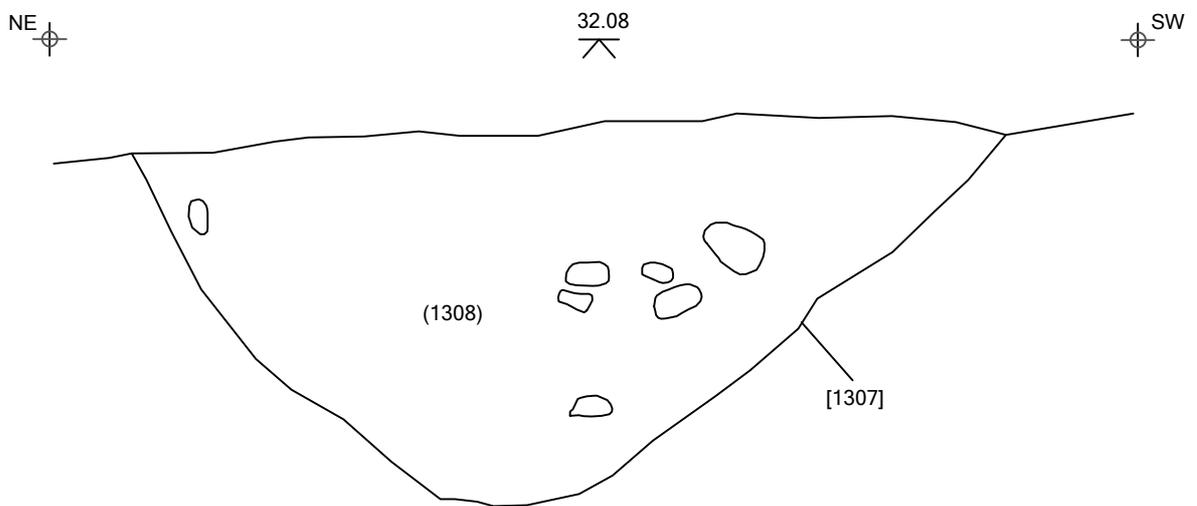


Fig. 7: Section Through Ditch [1309]

0 5 m



Scale @ A4: 1:100



PLATE 01: PLOUGH SCAR [103]. VIEW FROM THE NNE



PLATE 02: LINEAR DITCHES [309] AND [311]. VIEW FROM THE WEST



PLATE 03: LINEAR DITCH [1303]. VIEW FROM THE NORTHEAST



PLATE 04: LINEAR DITCH [1305]. VIEW FROM THE EAST



PLATE 05: SECTION THROUGH PIT [503]. VIEW FROM THE SOUTHWEST



PLATE 06: SECTION THROUGH LINEAR DITCH [1307]. VIEW FROM THE NORTHWEST



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