1458

Archaeological Watching Briefs on Ynys Enlli /Bardsey Island Summer 2018

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd
Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

Archaeological Watching Briefs on Ynys Enlli /Bardsey Island Summer 2018

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Cover photograph: Cattle enjoying their new pond

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WATCHING BRIEFS ON YNYS ENLLI, SUMMER 2018

GAT REPORT NO. 1458

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WATCHING BRIEFS ON YNYS ENLLI, SUMMER 2018

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SUMMARY / CRYNODEB

Archaeological watching briefs were carried out on Ynys Enlli/Bardsey Island in July and August 2018 on a variety of groundworks. This resulted in the identification of possible in situ archaeological deposits to the west of Nant Yard and the recovery of a flint scraper west of Cristin, which may indicate the presence of prehistoric settlement nearby. A boundary ditch was also found west of Cristin. The continuation of this could be seen on the lidar data, which indicated that it was earlier than the existing field system. Traces of a rough trackway were found next to the former stream down the middle of the island and a bridge and culvert relating to this stream were exposed and photographed. Another trackway was found in the northern part of the island to the east of Nant, which had formed part of a track around the island in the late 19th century. A feature with a charcoal-rich fill was also found in Cae Uchaf Nant. Immediately east of Nant Barn remains of two possible walls were recorded and the channel for the drive shaft of the pony gin that ran a mill in Nant Barn was also located and recorded.

The watching briefs were carried out for the Bardsey Island Trust by Jane Kenney of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust in a voluntary capacity.

Yn ystod Gorffennaf ac Awst 2018, cynhaliwyd briffiau gwylio archaeolegol o sylfeini amrywiol ar Ynys Enlli. O ganlyniad, adnabyddwyd dyddodion archaeolegol posib yn eu lle i'r gorllewin o Nant, ac adferwyd ysgrafell fflint i'r gorllewin o Cristin, sydd efallai'n awgrymu bodolaeth aneddiad cynhanesyddol gerllaw. Cafwyd ffos derfyn i'r gorllewin o Cristin hefyd. Roedd modd gweld parhad hon gyda data lidar, oedd yn arwydd ei bod yn gynharach na'r system caeau presennol. Cafwyd olion llwybr garw nesaf at y cyn ffrwd i lawr canol yr ynys, a datguddiwyd a ffotograffwyd pont a cheuffos yn gysylltiedig â'r ffrwd hon. Daethpwyd o hyd i lwybr arall yn rhan ogleddol yr ynys i'r dwyrain o Nant - yn ystod y 19eg ganrif hwyr, roedd hwn yn rhan o lwybr o amgylch yr ynys. Yn Cae Uchaf Nant, cafwyd hyd i nodwedd â llenwad yn gyfoethog o siarcol. Yn union i'r dwyrain o Ysgubor Nant, cofnodwyd olion dau fur posib, ac hefyd lleolwyd a chofnodwyd sianel ar gyfer siafft y trap merlyn oedd yn gyrru'r felin yn Ysgubor Nant.

Cynhaliwyd y briffiau gwylio ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Ynys Enlli gan Jane Kenney o Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Gwynedd.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report presents the results of a watching brief carried out as part of the conditions of a planning consent (Planning Application Reference Number: C17/0943/30/LL) in relation to the construction of a domestic wind turbine on Ynys Enlli/ Bardsey Island. Other work was also undertaken on the island during the summer and watching briefs were carried out on this in accordance with the Heritage Management Plan for the island. The results of these are also included in this report.

A planning application was submitted to Gwynedd Council (Planning Application Reference Number: C17/0943/30/LL) for the construction of a domestic wind turbine on Ynys Enlli/ Bardsey Island. The Decision Notice gives consent with conditions, one of which was a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI). A WSI was submitted to the Local Planning Authority Archaeologist and approved (see appendix II). The wind turbine was to be constructed immediately to the west of Nant Yard towards the northern end of the island at about SH 1195 2217 (figures 1 and 2). The turbine itself did not require ground disturbance for its construction but a cable trench was to be dug from the turbine to batteries in the neighbouring barn and a watching brief was required on this. The work was carried out on 20th to 22nd July 2018.

A proposal by Gareth Roberts, who farms the island, to dig a small number of new ponds was agreed by the Bardsey Island Trust and Natural Resources Wales in 2017. The ponds are to provide adequate water for livestock and should also be of benefit to wildlife. The intention was to dig the ponds in the summer of 2017 but this proved to be too wet and windy for the work to be carried out. In contrast the summer of 2018 was unusually dry, demonstrating the need for the ponds, but allowing them to be dug. The digging of the ponds was archaeologically monitored to identify any archaeological features revealed. Three new ponds were dug, two of them close together, all to the west of Cristin (figure 1). One pond was dug and recorded on 20th to 22nd July 2018 and the other two on 17th to 19th August 2018.

A telephone cable was to be laid down the island and in places trenches were needed to bury the cable in the ground. During the period 17th to 19th August 2018 the trenches were dug so that they could also be recorded by the archaeologist. There was also a drainage ditch to be dug in advance of the orchard to be planted in Cae Uchaf Nant, and this was also watched. The opportunity was also taken to make a record of the horse gin mechanism that survives outside Nant Yard, which has not previously been recorded in detail.

The watching briefs were undertaken by Jane Kenney, a senior archaeologist employed by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT), but working in this case in a voluntary capacity.

2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This project has been carried out on an entirely voluntary basis, but with the support and assistance of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. Thanks are due to the Bardsey Island Trust for providing accommodation and to Siân Stacey for assistance in organising the work and for a very enjoyable meal. The cable trench for the wind turbine was dug by Llio, Ffion and Kate, who put in some hard labour assisted and supervised by the author, who would like to thank them for their work and company. Gareth Roberts is thanked for working closely to the author's instructions to enable effective watching briefs and Steve Porter is thanked for emergency repairs required during the digging works. Thanks to Caroline Jones for assistance during the second visit and for sorting out the accommodation. Thank you to Toby Driver and Daniel Hunt of RCAHMW for providing lidar data of Ynys Enlli.

As well as getting some archaeology done a good time was had watching manxies at midnight, being entertained by music and stories and feasting on wild mushrooms.

3. SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Ynys Enlli lies about 3km off the western end of the Llŷn Peninsula in Gwynedd. The island is about 2.7km long and about 1km wide at its widest point (figure 1). Most of the island is fairly flat but the eastern half is dominated by the whale-back of Mynydd Enlli, which reaches 167m OD. Ynys Enlli's geology is complex as most of the rocks belong to the Gwna Mélange, a jumbled formation of rocks formed by a huge underwater landslide caused by tectonic activity. The geology is further complicated by igneous intrusions of dolerite, one of which has eroded to form the harbour of Cafn Enlli. The drift geology consists of glacial till across the lowland areas (Howells 2007, 17-19).

The island has several walled farmyards built in the 1870s and still used for accommodation and storage. The wind turbine was to be constructed immediately west of Nant Yard, a farmyard towards the northern end of the island. This is on a fairly level shelf at the foot of Mynydd Enlli but overlooking the low coastal plain on the western side of the island. The new ponds were dug on the lower coastal plain to the west of the house and farmyard of Cristin, and the telephone cable trenching was done at the north end of the island around and within the collection of houses and farmyards near the remains of the abbey (figure 1).

Ynys Enlli has been occupied from the Mesolithic period as large quantities of flints from that period have been excavated on the northern end of the island. The presence of burnt mounds also suggests occupation in the Bronze Age and what appear to be roundhouses on Mynydd Enlli are assumed to be Iron Age or Romano-British in date, although none have been excavated and there has been a suggestion that these were cells of medieval monks (Kenney and Hopewell 2016a). Tradition records that a monastery was established on the island by St Cadfan in the 5th or 6th century AD. The sources for this are not very reliable but there were monks here by the 12th century and probably earlier. The location of the first monastery is not known but geophysical survey has located anomalies that might possibly be related to its remains to the west of Tŷ Capel (figure 2). In

the 13th century the monastery was reformed as the Augustinian priory of St Mary, and the surviving tower (PRN 781) at the north end of the island is the only upstanding remains of this (Kenney and Hopewell 2016a).

Ynys Enlli was a pilgrimage destination, and the island is known as the "Island of Twenty Thousand Saints" due to the number of pilgrims who are supposed to be buried there. There is a tradition that burials have been found all over the island but the only recorded examples have been found around the abbey and it is clearly here that the medieval cemetery (PRN[1] 16793) was located. Disarticulated human remains are found in the gardens of Tŷ Bach and Tŷ Nesaf (PRN 59959 and 59960) and have been found elsewhere in Nant Yard. A long cist is visible in the track adjacent to Nant Yard (PRN 62364). The best evidence came from an excavation in the floor of a now abandoned house called Tŷ Newydd (PRN 59949). The excavation took place in in 1993-8 (Arnold 1998) and a total of 25 graves were identified; one a communal grave containing five children. The other graves contained males, females and children. One body was buried with a 10th century Saxon silver penny in its mouth. The style of burial suggests a medieval date for these graves and the coin demonstrates a 10th century date for at least one grave. However several of the graves were intercutting so the burials were interred over a period of time. As no radiocarbon dates have been carried out on the bones their date the full duration over which burials took place here is not yet known.

The limits of the cemetery are uncertain but most of the remains have been recovered to the west and south of the abbey tower (figure 2). The cemetery extended under Nant Yard. Much of the yard has been built-up so the original topography is hard to see but to the west of the yard is a fairly steep slope which could have defined the western limit of the cemetery. The wind turbine was to be built on the top of that slope and the cable trench ran along the flat area to the west of the yard, which may have been within the cemetery.

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. Aims and objectives

The definition of an archaeological watching brief is "a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive" (CIfA, 2014, p1)).

The purpose of these watching briefs was to ensure that any archaeological remains found were recorded. In the case of the wind turbine cable trench there was also a requirement that damage to any burials that might be found should be avoided.

4.2. The wind turbine cable trench

The cable trench for the wind turbine ran from the corner of Tŷ Bach barn along a fairly flat area to the west of Nant Yard. This area is known as Nant Rickyard. At the northern end of Nant Rickyard the cable is to run above ground along the existing wall so no trench was necessary. It would then be joined to the turbine once that had been erected.

The trench was dug and monitored in accordance with the agreed WSI (appendix II). The trench was dug by hand with mattocks to a depth of 200mm. The archaeologist assisted in the trench digging and continuously monitored the work. Any significant archaeological deposits or features were to be cleaned and recorded, but the trench did not extend deeper than a surface layer of rubble so this proved unnecessary. A Ministry of Justice license was obtained in case any human remains were encountered (see appendix III), but none were found.

The trench was left open until the cable could be laid and then backfilled.

4.3. New ponds

The ponds were dug by Gareth Roberts using a mini-digger with a toothless bucket to his specifications (plate 1). The ponds were dug to be broad and shallow with extended very shallow margins to allow access for livestock and increase wildlife value. Digging was undertaken in thin spits and continually monitored by the archaeologist until the surface of the natural or archaeological layers were exposed. Once recording had taken place further digging into the natural was not monitored.

[1] Primary Record Number, Gwynedd Historic Environment Record

Unfortunately “cleaning” around Ffynnon Werglodd was not monitored as the archaeologist did not appreciate how extensive and vigorous this was to be.

Some existing ponds were also being dredged. The dredging of one was monitored for a while but only recent silt and organic matter was removed. As these ponds have been dredged previously the work was highly unlikely to disturb or reveal archaeology and most of this work was not monitored.

4.4. Drainage ditch

The field known as Cae Uchaf Nant, to the east of Nant and Hendy is to be converted into an orchard. This required a new ditch to be dug along the side of the field to improve drainage. The ditch was dug by mini-digger with a narrow, toothed bucket under constant archaeological monitoring (plate 2). When potentially significant deposits were encountered excavation was halted and the deposits cleaned up and recorded and assessed for significance before excavation continued.

4.5. Telephone cable trench

The telephone cable was to run from where the signal is received at the north end of the island down to Tŷ Pellaf but would be tied to fences above ground for much of the route. The cable was to go below ground in places north of Nant and under the track past the abbey. Where a trench was dug this did not need to be more than 0.1m deep, though in places some of the trenches reached 0.6m deep. The trenches were dug by mini-digger with a narrow, toothed bucket. To the north of Nant the trench was dug without archaeological monitoring but was recorded after being dug. Where the trench ran past the abbey it was continually monitored. It was considered taking the trench around the western side of Nant Yard but as the limits of the medieval cemetery are not known it was considered that this risked disturbing unknown graves or archaeology. A trench had previously been dug alongside Nant Yard and across the track for an electricity cable (see Kenney and Hopewell 2016b) so it was decided to reopen this trench and avoid new disturbance. This worked where the trench ran next to the buildings (plate 3) but the trench was less easy to find where it cross the track and some new ground was disturbed but as the trench was only 0.1m deep the disturbance was minimal.

The surface of features revealed was cleaned and in some cases a little extra excavation was undertaken by hand to fully expose one feature (the channel for the shaft from the horse gin) to allow it to be understood. Features revealed were recorded and after the cable had been laid the trench was backfilled.

4.6. General recording

In all cases significant features were planned by hand and sections drawn at appropriate scales. Features were recorded by notes and photography, using a digital SLR camera set to RAW format. The images will be converted to TIFF for archiving and to JPEG format for use in the report.

Trenches and ponds have been located using scaled plots of the OS digital data for the area and the position of any features has been marked on the plan. All artefacts pre-dating the 20th century were retained. One bulk soil sample of a charcoal-rich deposit was taken.

Georeferenced lidar data was kindly supplied by the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW). This is a 25cm resolution lidar survey of Ynys Enlli carried out for the CHERISH (Climate Change and Coastal Heritage) EU Funded Project. This data was opened in the MapInfo Geographical Information System software to compare with excavated evidence, field observations and aerial photographic evidence to aid interpretation of the features investigated.

5. RESULTS

5.1. The wind turbine cable trench

Figure 3

The trench was 40.7m long in total, 100mm wide and 200mm deep and ran along the fairly flat area immediately west of Nant and Tŷ Bach Yards, known as Nant Rickyard (plate 4). There was a maximum of 0.1m of turf and topsoil (201) and under this, along the whole trench, was a layer of stone rubble at least 0.1m thick. This rubble (202) contained stones up to 0.3m in length with occasional slates and lumps or fragments of mortar. The rubble is most likely to have originated from the building of Nant Yard and the finds within it supported a late 19th century date.

In most places the full depth of the rubble layer was not reach but at one point nearly half way along the trench (see figure 3) the surface of a layer below the rubble was just exposed. The narrowness of the trench made this difficult to see but it appeared to be an *in situ* deposit of gritty clay (203). The rubble over this contained more mortar than elsewhere and also contained occasional winkle shells and a single piece of pottery probably dating to the 16th century (see appendix I and figure 12).

It was noted that although much of the surface of the Rickyard was level there were two parallel linear undulations, no more than 0.2m high, running nearly east-west across the area (plate 5). The trench was not deep enough to show whether these were composed entirely of rubble or that the rubble overlay features causing the undulations. As far as could be seen in the trench the mounds were made of rubble but the rubble as just as deep in the hollow between the mounds, so further work would be necessary to confirm the composition and cause of these undulations.

The finds from this trench included 19th century pot sherds and fragments of animal bone. No disarticulated human bone was identified. As described above there was a hint that the rubble overlay earlier archaeological deposits, possibly of 16th century date judging from the pot sherd that was found near where these deposits were encountered. The presence of winkle shells in this area also suggests domestic rubbish incorporated into the deposits here. Any future work in this area should try to establish the nature and extent of the deposits underlying the rubble. It is likely that they relate to the previous farm on the site of Nant Yard. This area of potential archaeological deposits has been allocated PRN[2] 74802 and will be included in the Historic Environment Record (HER) with grid reference SH 11974 22156

5.2. New ponds

Ffynnon Werglodd Pond

Figure 4

One pond was dug c. 220m to the west of Cristin (plate 6). It was located centred on SH 1175 2164 and was positioned to fill from a well known as Ffynnon Werglodd (PRN 74803, SH 11765 21653). The well had been used into the 1970s (Colin and Ernest Evans pers. comm.) but had become infilled and largely over grow. Once the pond was dug the well was cleaned using the mini-digger. Unfortunately the archaeologist did not realise how vigorous the cleaning would be and allowed this to take place once she had left and it was not monitored. Inspection after cleaning when turf and soil had been removed for a considerable distance around the well showed that there had probably been some sort of hard standing around the well as there were numerous rounded cobbles. However these were too disturbed to determine whether this had been just stone dumped round the well or a laid surface. The well itself had a metal lining, which must have been inserted in the 20th century (plate 7), so any earlier structure to the well is likely to have been removed.

The pond itself, when completed covered an area of about 410m^2 and was up to 1m deep (plate 8). A bund was created to the north and spoil was dumped on the clawdd[3] to the south. The western side of the pond sloped very gradually up to give a very gradual entry to the water on that side. The topsoil (101) was generally about 0.15m deep and was a dark grey sandy loam with few stones. Under this the natural sub-soil (102) was a yellow-brown clayey sand mottled with occasional lumps of yellow clay. In much of the deposit there were occasional medium sized stones but in places there were bands of fractured stone presumably where the bedrock was close to the surface. The deposit varied, being sandier in the higher parts and more clayey in the lower parts and sometimes pale grey due to gleying. This deposit is the altered upper part of the glacial boulder clay.

Overlying the boulder clay in the lowest lying part of the trench was an amorphous patch of dark grey silty clay (106), containing a high proportion of organic matter but few stones. This was the natural peaty deposit that had developed in the waterlogged area and was up to about 0.5m deep.

Cutting through the peaty deposit as well as the natural subsoil were numerous land drains, some stone-filled and some with stone capping and lining.

The only significant archaeological feature was in the south-east corner of the trench. Here a straight ditch running north-east to south-west ran across the corner of the trench where the sub-soil rose up to form a slight natural hummock. A sondage was dug across this ditch using the mini-digger and the section was drawn, then a length of the ditch about 1m long was dug out by hand. The ditch [105] was about 0.84m wide and up to 0.45m deep. Its north-western side was very steep but the upper part of the south-eastern side sloped quite gradually

[2] Primary Record Number by which the site is identified in the HER

[3] Stone faced earthen bank, the most common type of field boundary on the island.

while, after a horizontal step the bottom part of this side was steeply sloping. The bottom of the ditch was fairly flat but had a narrow channel about 0.15m wide running along the north-western side (figures 5and 6, plates 9 and 10)).

The ditch had a pale grey slightly clayey sand with no stones (104) in its base and the rest of the fill was a grey sandy clay with iron oxide mottling and occasional stones (103). At the interface between fills 103 and 104 were lenses of darker more organic material (figure 6).

The only artefacts found in the trench were recovered from the spoil heap. These were a sherd of 19th century Buckley ware (part of the base of a vessel) and a flint flake. The flint flake had an area of steep retouch making it into a concave scraper (figure 12).

Ditch 105 will be recorded in the HER as PRN 74804, SH 11760 21637
The flint scraper will be recorded in the HER as PRN 74805, approx. SH 1175 2164.

Discussion
The pond was dug in a low-lying area sheltered to some extent by slightly higher ground to the west and close to a water supply. This is the sort of location that might be expected to have been used for occupation during prehistoric periods and a slight natural mound just west of the pond could have made a good drier location for a settlement. However no evidence of prehistoric activity was recovered except the flint flake. As this was modified into a scraper, a tool type usually found on settlement sites, this could hint at a settlement in the vicinity but on its own cannot be taken to demonstrate this. The pot sherd found may have come from a midden which had been spread on the fields as fertiliser.

The fills of ditch [105] appeared to have been the result of slow silting up of the ditch but they were fairly inorganic as if of considerable antiquity, allowing the organic elements to decay over time. The ditch was on a different alignment to existing field boundaries, which also suggested considerable age. In the trench it was not possible to understand this feature but the lidar for this area shows a very slight ditch continuing the line of the excavated ditch across the field to the north-east (figure 4). At the north-eastern end this seems to curve east and the boundary is probably represented by a slight curving bank. The bank has been breached by a later very straight linear feature but continues to join a straight north-south scarp (PRN 16832) which represents a former field boundary, possibly originally of medieval origin. It seems probable that the excavated ditch and the associated features shown on the lidar formed the boundary to a field much older than the present layout, possibly even earlier than the medieval field boundary. The fields to the east and south seem to have been too intensively ploughed for the lidar to reveal the continuation of the boundary in these directions.

Bryn Bach Ponds
Two ponds were dug in the field know as Bryn Bach, on the line of a stream that had run through this area. One, covering about 140m^2, was dug in the southern part of the field (centred on SH 1167 2159) and a smaller one, held behind a bund built of spoil, was dug to the north (centred on 1168 2161) (figure 8, plates 11 and 12). A shallow channel (plate 13) was dug from a cleared culvert (figure 14) at the northern end of the field into the pond. Again the western margins of the ponds were very shallow.

In both ponds immediately beneath the turf was a dark brown highly organic silty peat deposit (301). This was up to 0.6m deep and became paler brown and more silty with depth. Towards the western margins of the ponds this peat directly over laid the boulder clay (303), which was a yellow or grey clay, in places with gravel and stones. In the eastern parts of the pond there was a layer of stone-free grey clay (302) about 0.1m deep between the peat and boulder clay. A stream used to flow down the eastern part of the field and the grey clay must have been clay deposited by the stream. The route of the stream was not well-defined. It was open into the later 20th century having only quite recently infilled with peat and vegetation. It is shown on the maps as being straight and probably ran in a ditch cut through the peat in its latest phase with a more meandering course earlier in its history.

In the southern pond trench a layer of stones was seen forming quite a straight line along the western trench edge. This layer of stone (305) was only a stone thick and at its southern end spread out and curved to the south-east. The stone spread was formed of both rounded beach pebbles and angular field stone and was immediately under the peat, which here was no more than 0.3m deep. A sherd of 19th century Buckley ware pottery was found embedded in the stone layer (plate 15). For the most part the stone spread overlay the boulder clay but at its eastern limit it over lay the grey clay (302).

Between the two ponds and exposed in the northern side of the southern pond was a small stone bridge. This had stone supports on either side and the bridge itself was formed of large slabs up to 0.9m long (plate 16). One of these slabs had been displaced and was put back into place once sufficient of the end of the bridge had been exposed. The bridge was 2.4m wide and the channel under it was 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep. The bridge carried a track from the gate to the east, which ran straight south-east to north-west across the field. The track can been seen on the lidar image of this area (figure 8) and also on aerial photographs, but its north-western end is not clear and although it is likely that it turned west and the north west end and ran along the side of the field that cannot be clearly seen. It is probable that the track ran through adjacent fields to the coast and that it was built up into a low causeway to cross the marshy land in Bryn Bach. However the causeway was not obvious on the ground, only from the air.

The stone surface is to be recorded in the HER as PRN 74806 (SH 11673 21590)
The bridge and trackway are to be recorded in the HER as PRN 74807 (SH 11684 21601)
The northern culvert is to be recorded in the HER as PRN 74808 (SH 11687 21628)

Discussion
The main stream on the island ran along the eastern side of Bryn Bach, making this an ideal place to make the ponds. This stream could no longer been seen on the surface and even when digging through the deposits its route was not obvious but the culvert carrying the stream into the northern end of the field was exposed and the bridge that a track used to cross the stream was also seen. Peat has probably built up quickly in this wet area blocking and obscuring the stream. Access across this wet field had been on a low causeway that crossed the bridge.

The stone spread in the southern part of the field seemed to be leading to the edge of the stream when it was open. It was odd that the stone overlay the clay and not an earlier phase of peat but perhaps livestock accessing the stream had worn through the peat and the stone had been laid down to consolidate the route. The discovery of Buckley ware in this stone layer shows that it was a fairly recent deposit and used and probably laid down in the 19th century. The peat has since grown over it to a considerable depth.

5.3. Drainage ditch

Figure 9
The drainage ditch was dug along the southern side of Cae Uchaf Nant, then along the western side of the field, just outside the gardens of Nant and Hendy and through an entrance gap in the cloddiau[4] to run north-west into the now dry hollow that indicates the original extent of the Nant Pond (figure 9, plate 17). The trench was 0.4m wide and up to 0.5m deep.

The topsoil (501) was generally quite thin, not over 0.1m deep, and under this the natural sub-soil was a firm orange-brown silty clay (505) with iron oxide mottling and a leached sandier band on top in places. This is the altered surface of the glacial boulder clay. However along much of the trench a layer of stone was visible immediately under the topsoil, which was rarely over 0.05m deep where it overlay the stones. A compact layer of small and medium stones (502) was seen in the trench along most of the southern side of the field. The stones were generally no longer than 0.2m, though there were a few larger ones and were sub-rounded, though occasionally angular. They formed a deposit up to about 0.20m deep with grey-brown silty sand between the stones (plate 18). This directly overlay the natural sub-soil with no soil layer between, possibly because the stones were deposited on wet topsoil and became embedded in it, with the topsoil actually forming part of the stone layer. A piece of iron was found embedded in the surface of the stone layer at one point. Along the southern side of the field a slight earthwork could be seen, about 2m wide, defined by a low scarp on the north side but with a very level surface. This seemed to have been formed by the stone deposit.

At the northern end of the trench mainly rounded stones up to 0.3m long formed a thick deposit (506) 0.35m deep with grey sandy silt between the stones. Some of these stones were from the collapse of the adjacent clawdd but much of the deposit must have been a continuation of the stone layer but thicker where a hollow needed filling in. There were also stones along the field edge behind the gardens. These stones (507) were again just below the topsoil and lying on the natural subsoil and were up to 0.2m in length. Many of the stones in this area had a white surface, possibly due to exposure to heat, perhaps partially burnt limestone.

Where the ditch continued to the edge of the pond the stone layer (508) continued. Here the deposit of stone was about 0.1m deep and overlay about 0.1m of ploughsoil, rather than lying directly on the subsoil.

[4] Stone faced earthen banks; plural of clawdd.

The only other feature seen was a shallow hollow (504) on the southern side of the field. This was about 1m across and was seen in both sides of the trench. Its sides sloped gradually and the base was rounded (figure 7, plate 19). Its fill (503) was a grey clayey silt with yellow clay mottles and small stones. There were lenses of charcoal running through the fill and specks of reddened earth. The hollow was sealed by the stone layer (502), so obviously pre-dated that but there was no indication of its date. The form and function of the feature could not be determined in the narrow trench, as it could have been a shallow ditch or a pit.

The trackway is to be recorded in the HER as PRN 74928 (centred on SH 12069 22195)
Feature 504 is to be recorded in the HER as PRN 74929 (SH 12060 22194)

Discussion
The stone deposits around the edge of Cae Uchaf Nant can be easily explained as a track appears in this location on the 25 inch County Series maps from 1889 (figure 10). This is the continuation of the track that ran along the west coast of the island (PRN 38270). It turned inland and crossed the fields before turning south-east to run passed Nant Pond. A gap in the field boundary created where one clawdd turns to run north-west indicates the original entrance for this track into Cae Uchaf Nant. The track ran round the field and joined the path along the base of the mountain behind Tŷ Capel and its garden, which ultimately led to the summit of the mountain. On the 1901 and 1918 maps a path is shown running off from this to the spring known as Ffynnon Corn.

Until fairly recently the track in Cae Uchaf Nant was fenced off and the fence is still shown on the modern digital mapping, although this no longer exists.

While a layer of dumped stones forming a rather casually constructed track is fairly unimpressive archaeology this was one of the important routes around the island in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and was at least maintained to a certain extent to prevent it becoming too muddy.

Feature 504 was earlier than the track but there was no dating evidence to indicate how much earlier.

5.4. Telephone cable trench and pony gin

A trench was dug for a new telephone cable along the north-eastern edge of the field to the north of the New Plantation (figure 9, plate 20). This trench was 0.4m wide and up to 0.6m deep. The topsoil was 0.2m deep and under this was the yellow silty clay of the boulder clay or bedrock. No archaeological features could be seen here.

The cable was to run along field boundaries above ground and next to the wall of Nant, so a trench was not needed until it reached the track running past the Abbey. Here a trench was dug alongside the Tŷ Bach and Nant barns and across the track. The trench was up to 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep. For most of the route next to the barns an earlier trench was reopened so no archaeology was seen. Towards the northern end the route of this earlier trench was lost and the tops of some features were seen (figure 11). Where the trench turned across the track a rough line stones was seen crossing the trench at an angle so they ran approximately north-west to south-east. The stones (605) were up to 0.4m long and laid flat to form a single course of what appeared to be the foundation of a wall (plate 21). The north-eastern face was fairly well-defined but the south-western face was less clear. The stones lay on a yellow brown clayey silt (606). It is possible that feature 605 was the continuation of a rough line of stones (607) to the west, although the line would have had to curve round or turn a corner as 607 ran closer to east-west. Feature 607 is formed of stones up to 0.4m in length that project from the grass (plate 22) and seem to form a revetment to the edge of the slope leading down to the adjacent gate. However it is likely that these formed part of an earlier structure, possibly a wall related to the farmyard that pre-dated Nant Yard. Only area excavation here would sort out what archaeology remains here. The previous electricity cable trench showed that there was a depth of at least 0.4m of rubble and other layers here and just removing the turf and cleaning the area might give a good indication of whether there are the remains of a building here.

Close to Nant Barn the top surface of two stones was seen in the trench. These appeared to be deliberately placed and were cleaned up and the fill between them was excavated by hand to investigate what these were. This showed that these stones formed a narrow channel 0.16m wide and 0.23m deep. The stones were laid horizontally with their flat faces forming an internal face of the channel (plate 23). There were some small shale pieces on the base of the channel but it did not have a stone base. The side stones seem to have been laid on the natural clay, but did not appear to be set in a cut, instead a red-brown silty gravel (604) had been deposited against them. However full excavation would be necessary to prove this relationship. The channel was filled

with a grey silty loam with some small stones (602) and this and the channel stones were covered by 0.15m of turf and topsoil.

The channel was exactly perpendicular to the wall of the barn and to the east are the *in situ* remains of a pony gin (PRN 59948) (plates 24 and 25). Horse or pony gins (engines) or mills used horses or ponies to turn a mechanism to power a mill. In Wales a single pony was often used to power a gorse mill and the mechanism and the mills were small. Gorse was an important fodder crop, especially for horses, but needed to be crushed to make it palatable. As the horses walked round horse mills the drive shaft had to be taken either over their heads or under their feet and as pony gins were small the underground route was most efficient.

The stone-lined channel found in the trench would have housed the drive shaft, which would have run from the pony gin mechanism underground into Nant Barn to run a small mill (plate 26). The shaft must have passed through the barn wall underground and the gears to work the mill would have projected from the floor in what is now the accommodation of Llofft Nant. The channel would have been open when in use, except where the pony needed to cross it.

The previous trench dug across this area revealed no trace of this channel, despite running just next to the present trench. However the drive shaft was clearly not present in the channel and had been removed. Its removal may have caused disturbance to most of the channel with only the part near the barn surviving.

The mill in Llofft Nant used with the pony gin has clearly been removed and the floor re-laid so that its location is not clear. Machinery that presumably operated in Nant Barn has been preserved within the kitchen of Llofft Nant (plate 27). This machinery is a gorse mill and is similar to one preserved at the National Trust property of Llanerchaeron, Ceredigion[5]. However this was not the mill operated by the pony gin as it is free standing and not operated from gears from the floor. This is a later, lighter weight model possibly operated by hand or by an oil powered engine.

The drive shaft channel is to be added to PRN 59948 (SH 12001 22180)
Wall 605 is to be recorded in the HER as PRN 74930 (SH 12002 22182)
Wall 607 is to be recorded in the HER as PRN 74931 (SH 11959 22182)

5.5. Finds

Finds from the wind turbine cable trench included pot sherds from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, a marble, occasional broken animal bones, and a small number of marine shells, mainly winkles but also occasional limpets. These were all from the rubble layer (202), but most of the shells and some of the bone came from above or near deposit 203, which was not significantly penetrated by the trench. From the same part of the trench came a sherd of pottery noticeably different to the other sherds. This had a pinkish orange fabric and splashed of clear glaze. This sherd was sent to medieval pottery specialist Julie Edwards and her report on the sherd is included as appendix I. The sherd is part of the base of a cup of possible 16th century date (figure 12). This and the domestic food waste indicated by the shells and bones hints at 16th century deposits sealed under the rubble in the Nant Rickyard.

Very few artefacts were found during the other watching briefs. A chunky piece of rim of a large Buckley ware pot was found in the stone spread (305) at the new pond in Bryn Bach and part of the base of a smaller Buckley ware vessel was found on the spoil heap in the pond near Ffynnon Werglodd. Also found on the spoil heap in this area was a flint flake. This is a fairly large flake measuring 38mm by 31mm and 8mm thick (weight 9.5g) made on quite a fine honey-coloured flint. The flake has a pronounced bulb of percussion and remains of the striking platform with a trace of chalky cortex surviving next to the platform. Neat, steep retouch has produced a straight scraper edge on one side of the flake with rather cruder retouch forming a concave scraper edge on part of another side. Small flake scars near the point of the flake look fresh and are probably recent damage, possibly plough strike, rather than retouch.

The finds are currently held by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust with the intention to deposit them with Storiel (Gwynedd Museum).

[5] http://www.nationaltrustcollections.org.uk/object/552581

5.6. Bracken-free square (PRN 74932)

Jo Porter showed Jane Kenney an area on Pen Cristin, above and to the north-west of Tŷ Pellaf and Rhedynog Goch, that has been bemusing residents for many years (plate 27). Centred on SH 12155 21355 it is an area which never grows bracken despite being surrounded by and defined by fairly dense bracken. The area is a neat square in shape measuring about 10m by 10m, covered in short grass. It shows clearly on aerial photographs (figure 13). Ernest Evans, a life-long resident of the island, remembers this square as always being bracken free.

Inspection on the ground did not reveal anything to explain the lack of bracken. The square is on a very level shelf in the hill slope, but this appears to be a natural feature (plate 29). There are no surface traces of a building on the shelf. A square pad of concrete under the turf might explain the lack of bracken but no evidence of such a pad could be seen. However the site is a good look-out point and could well have been chosen for a coast guard look-out or similar structure.

In this case the lidar data was of no assistance as it shows no remains in this area (figure 13) and nothing is marked on the County Series 25 inch maps. Excavation or geophysical survey might reveal whether there are any buried features that could cause this square to form, but currently this feature remains a mystery.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The archaeological features identified in these watching briefs are all quite minor. However the ditch and flint scraper from near Ffynnon Werglodd could indicate significant activity in the area. The wind turbine cable trench did not penetrate into significant archaeological but finds suggested that such deposits may lie below the Nant Rickyard. More hints were found about activity east of Nant Barn and better understanding was gained of the pony gin that remains next to the barn.

These small hints show that archaeological watching briefs on groundworks on Ynys Enlli can provide data to inform decisions when larger works are necessary and help to build up a picture of where archaeology might be encountered.

7. REFERENCES

Arnold, C. J., 1998. 'Excavation of "Tŷ Newydd", Ynys Enlli (Bardsey Island), Gwynedd', *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, 147 (2001), 96-132

CIfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2014, *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Howells, M.F., 2007. *Wales (British Regional Geology),* British Geological Survey

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Kenney, J. and Hopewell, D., 2016b. *Ynys Enlli Survey and Watching Brief 2015*, unpublished Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 1307

Maps and aerial photographs from Gwynedd HER
OS County Series map Caernarvonshire sheet XLVI.09 and 10 (first, second and third editions)
NextPerspective aerial photography

Lidar
Produced for the CHERISH PROJECT 2017. Produced with EU funds through the Ireland Wales Co-operation Programme 2014-2020. Supplied by Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

8. APPENDIX I: REPORT ON POT SHERD FROM NANT RICKYARD

By Julie Edwards

Description
The sherd (11 g) is part (35%) of a splayed base with a radius of 32 mm; the edge of the base has been trimmed to an acute angle. The underside is slightly concave and has radiating wire marks where the pot has been cut from the wheel. A clear slightly pitted glaze covers the exterior and interior surfaces with spots and dribbles extending under the base.

The shape of the vessel suggests that it is from the base of a cup similar in shape to a Cistercian-type ware (e.g. Edwards 2008, 197, fig 5.5.1.10-19) or perhaps a carinated cup (MPRG 1998, 6.2.1). Such forms appear in the 15th and 16th centuries.

Fabric description
A hard fabric with a pinkish orange colour, rough feel and hackly texture. Inclusions are sparse and ill-sorted consisting of: coarse, very coarse and fine dark red/brown fine-grained rock fragments that are either rounded or sub-angular; coarse sub-angular sandstone; coarse, angular white quartz.

Discussion
The fabric is comparable to a Dyfed gravel-tempered ware (O'Mahoney 1985). These wares are found along the west Wales coast including Criccieth and Beaumaris; they appear to have been produced at a number of locations in west Wales from the 12th century until the 16th or early 17th century (Papazian and Campbell 1992, 56). The form of the piece suggests a date in the latter half of this range.

References
Edwards Julie EC 2008 Post Roman Pottery. In: Garner & others 2008 *Excavations at Chester 25 Bridge Street 2001 Two thousand years of urban life in microcosm*. Archaeological Service Excavation and Survey Report 14. Chester City Council. 187-242.

MPRG 1998 *A guide to the Classification of Medieval Ceramic Forms*. Medieval Pottery Research Group Occasional Paper 1.

O'Mahoney, C 1985 West Wales fabrics – an interim note. *Medieval and later pottery in Wales*, 8. 20-24.

Papazian, C & Campbell, E 1992 Medieval Pottery and Roof Tiles in Wales AD 1100 - 1600. *Medieval and Later Pottery in Wales*. 13. 1 -107.

9. APPENDIX II: PROJECT DESIGN FOR WATCHING BRIEF ON CABLE TRENCH TO THE WEST OF NANT YARD

Prepared for Bardsey Island Trust, June 2018

LIST OF FIGURES

INTRODUCTION

A planning application has been submitted to Gwynedd Council (Planning Application Reference Number: C17/0943/30/LL) for the construction of a domestic wind turbine on Ynys Enlli/ Bardsey Island. The Decision Notice gives consent with conditions, one of which is that there will be a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI). This project design is to act as a WSI and will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority Archaeologist for approval before work starts.

The wind turbine is to be constructed immediately to the west of Nant Yard on Ynys Enlli/ Bardsey Island at about SH 1195 2217 (figure 1). The turbine itself does not require ground disturbance for its construction but a cable trench will be dug from the turbine to batteries in the neighbouring barn.

This project design describes a watching brief to be undertaken on the digging of the cable trench. The work will be undertaken by a senior archaeologist employed by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) but working in this case in a voluntary capacity. The work will therefore be carried out to the usual standards followed by GAT but will not officially be part of their work.

SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

Ynys Enlli lies about 3km off the western end of the Llŷn Peninsula in Gwynedd. The island is about 2.7km long and about 1km wide at its widest point. Most of the island is fairly flat but the eastern half is dominated by the whale-back of Mynydd Enlli, which reaches 167m OD. Ynys Enlli's geology is complex as most of the rocks belong to the Gwna Mélange, a jumbled formation of rocks formed by a huge underwater landslide caused by tectonic activity. The geology is further complicated by igneous intrusions of dolerite, one of which has eroded to form the harbour of Cafn Enlli. The drift geology consists of glacial till across the lowland areas (Howells 2007, 17-19).

The island has several walled farmyards built in the 1870s and still used for accommodation and storage. The wind turbine is to be constructed immediately west of Nant Yard, a farmyard towards the northern end of the island. This is on a fairly level shelf at the foot of Mynydd Enlli but overlooking the low coastal plain on the western side of the island.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Bardsey has been occupied from the Mesolithic period as large quantities of flints from that period have been excavated on the northern end of the island. The presence of burnt mounds also suggests occupation in the Bronze Age and what appear to be roundhouses on Mynydd Enlli are assumed to be Iron Age or Romano-British in date, although none have been excavated and there has been a suggestion that these were cells of medieval monks (Kenney and Hopewell 2016) (figure 1). Tradition records that a monastery was established on the island by St Cadfan in the 5th or 6th century AD. The sources for this are not very reliable but there were monks here by the 12th century and probably earlier. The location of the first monastery is not known but geophysical survey has located anomalies that might possibly be related to its remains to the west of Tŷ Capel (figure 2). In the 13th century the monastery was reformed as the Augustinian priory of St Mary, and the surviving tower (PRN 781) at

the north end of the island and c. 65m east of the wind turbine site, is the only upstanding remains of this (Kenney and Hopewell 2016).

Bardsey was a pilgrimage destination, and the island is known as the "Island of Twenty Thousand Saints" due to the number of pilgrims who are supposed to be buried there. There is a tradition that burials have been found all over the island but the only recorded examples have been found around the abbey and it is clearly here that the medieval cemetery (PRN 16793) was located. Disarticulated human remains are found in the gardens of Tŷ Bach and Tŷ Nesaf (PRN 59959 and 59960) and have been found elsewhere in Nant Yard. A long cist is visible in the track adjacent to Nant Yard (PRN 62364). The best evidence came from an excavation in the floor of a now abandoned house called Tŷ Newydd (PRN 59949). The excavation took place in in 1993-8 (Arnold 1998) and a total of 25 graves were identified; one a communal grave containing five children. The other graves contained males, females and children. One body was buried with a 10th century Saxon silver penny in its mouth. The style of burial suggests a medieval date for these graves and the coin demonstrates a 10th century date for at least one grave. However several of the graves were intercutting so the burials were interred over a period of time. As no radiocarbon dates have been carried out on the bones their date the full duration over which burials took place here is not yet known.

The limits of the cemetery are uncertain but most of the remains have been recovered to the west and south of the abbey tower (figure 2). The cemetery extended under Nant Yard. Much of the yard has been built-up so the original topography is hard to see but to the west of the yard is a fairly steep slope which could have defined the western limit of the cemetery. The wind turbine is to be built on the top of that slope and the cable trench runs along the flat area to the west of the yard, which may have been within the cemetery. However it is also possible that this area has been levelled when the yard was built and original deposits may have been lost.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AIMS

The definition of an archaeological watching brief is "a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive" (CIfA, 2014, p1)).

The purpose of this watching brief is to ensure that any archaeological remains found are recorded and specifically to avoid damage to any burials that might be found.

METHOD STATEMENT

The cable trench is to be dug by hand to a depth of 200-300mm. A continuous watching brief will be maintained during the digging of the trench, and the archaeologist will be assisting in the trench digging. Any significant archaeological deposits or features will be cleaned and recorded. It is not anticipated that any significant deposits will be found close enough to the surface to hinder the laying of the cable but if that proves to be the case the deposits will be excavated by the archaeologist down to the necessary depth, ensuring that all artefacts are recovered and the depth and nature of the deposit is recorded. If a structure is found then the cable trench will be diverted to avoid this.

If disarticulated human remains are found they will be photographed on the trench edge to record them and will be replaced in the base of the trench close to where they were recovered. Their location will be recorded. If an undisturbed burial is exposed in the trench the bones within the trench will be cleaned and recorded. The burial will then be reburied. The trench will then be diverted to avoid the burial, taking into account the alignment and estimated length of the burial in planning the new route of the trench.

If several burials are encountered or other unforeseen significant archaeology is found work will be suspended and discussions will be held with Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) to establish an appropriate approach.

A hand-drawn record will be completed for all relevant features. This will include sections and plans where required at either 1:10 or 1:20 scale. All identified features will be recorded using GAT pro-formas and photographed using a digital SLR camera set to RAW format. Images will be converted to TIFF and JPEG format for archiving.

The trench will be located on a 1:50 plot of the OS digital data for the area and the position of any features will be marked on the plan. Where necessary more detailed plans of all or part of the trench will be made.

All artefacts pre-dating the 20th century will be retained. It is not intended to take any environmental samples but the possibility of taking bulk soil samples for wet sieving will be considered if deposits worthy of that are found.

Human Remains

As there is a possibility of human remains being encountered because the limits of the medieval cemetery are currently unknown a licence is being obtained from the Ministry of Justice. The work will not commence until this licence has been received. The application specifies that any disarticulated remains will be recorded and reburied and that undisturbed burials will be cleaned and recorded but otherwise not disturbed and will be immediately buried after recording. No human bones will be taken away from the site.

Monitoring Arrangements

Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) will be informed of the date that the work is to be carried out and of the subsequent progress and findings. This will potentially allow the GAPS archaeologist to arrange a monitoring visit if required.

Report compilation

A short report will be produced on the watching brief and on any remains found. This will include illustrations and photographs as appropriate.

Any finds will be recorded and descriptions will be included in the report, with photographs or illustrations as necessary.

If significant finds are discovered, or deposits found that justify sampling, further work to adequately study and record these will be agreed with GAPS. The Acting Chair and Treasurer of the Bardsey Island Trust have confirmed that the Trust will provide funding for any necessary specialist work up to £1000.

A copy of the report will be provided to GAPS and the Historic Environment Record (HER) as well as to Bardsey Island Trust. The report will be submitted to GAPS within 6 months of the completion of the fieldwork and will be submitted to the HER as soon as it has been approved by GAPS.

STAFF AND TIMETABLE

The digging of the cable trench will be carried out by volunteers of Bardsey Island Trust under the supervision and with the assistance of Jane Kenney, a senior archaeologist for Gwynedd Archaeological Trust. Jane will carry out all the recording necessary and will write the report. She will be doing this on a voluntary basis but with the support and assistance of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

The work is due to be carried out in summer 2018. The actual dates will depend on the availability of volunteers and on the weather, as it is frequently not possible for the boat to cross safely to the island.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Health and safety will follow GAT's standard procedures and any procedures necessary to fulfil the Bardsey Island Trust's health and safety policy. The work will be carried out under the Bardsey Island Trust's insurance policy covering volunteers working on BIT projects.

REFERENCES

Arnold, C. J., 1998. 'Excavation of "Tŷ Newydd", Ynys Enlli (Bardsey Island), Gwynedd', *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, 147 (2001), 96-132

CIfA (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists) 2014, *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Howells, M.F., 2007. *Wales (British Regional Geology)*, British Geological Survey

Kenney, J. and Hopewell, D., 2016. *Ynys Enlli Heritage Management Plan*, unpublished Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 1304

10. APPENDIX III: LICENCE FOR THE REMOVAL OF HUMAN REMAINS

LICENCE FOR THE REMOVAL OF HUMAN REMAINS

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the power vested in him by section 25 of the Burial Act 1857 (20 & 21 Vic., cap.81), grants a licence for the removal of the remains of **persons unknown** from or within the place in which they are now interred at the **Nant Yard, Bardsey Island, Gwynedd, North Wales.**

2. It is a condition of this licence that the following precautions shall be observed:

   (a) Any removal or disturbance of the remains shall be affected with due care and attention to decency;

   (b) The ground in which the remains are interred shall be screened from the public gaze while the work is in progress;

   (c) The remains shall, no later than **17 June 2020** be left in situ. In the meantime, shall be kept safely, privately and decently by **Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.**

3. This licence merely exempts those from the penalties, which would be incurred if the removal took place without a licence. It does not in any way alter civil rights. It does not confer the right to bury the remains in any place where such right does not already exist.

4. This licence expires on **13 June 2020.**

Dipal Patel
On behalf of the Secretary of State for Justice

Ministry of Justice

Licence Number: **18-0133**
File Number: **OPR/072/153**
Date: **14 June 2018**

11. FIGURES AND PLATES

Figures

Plates

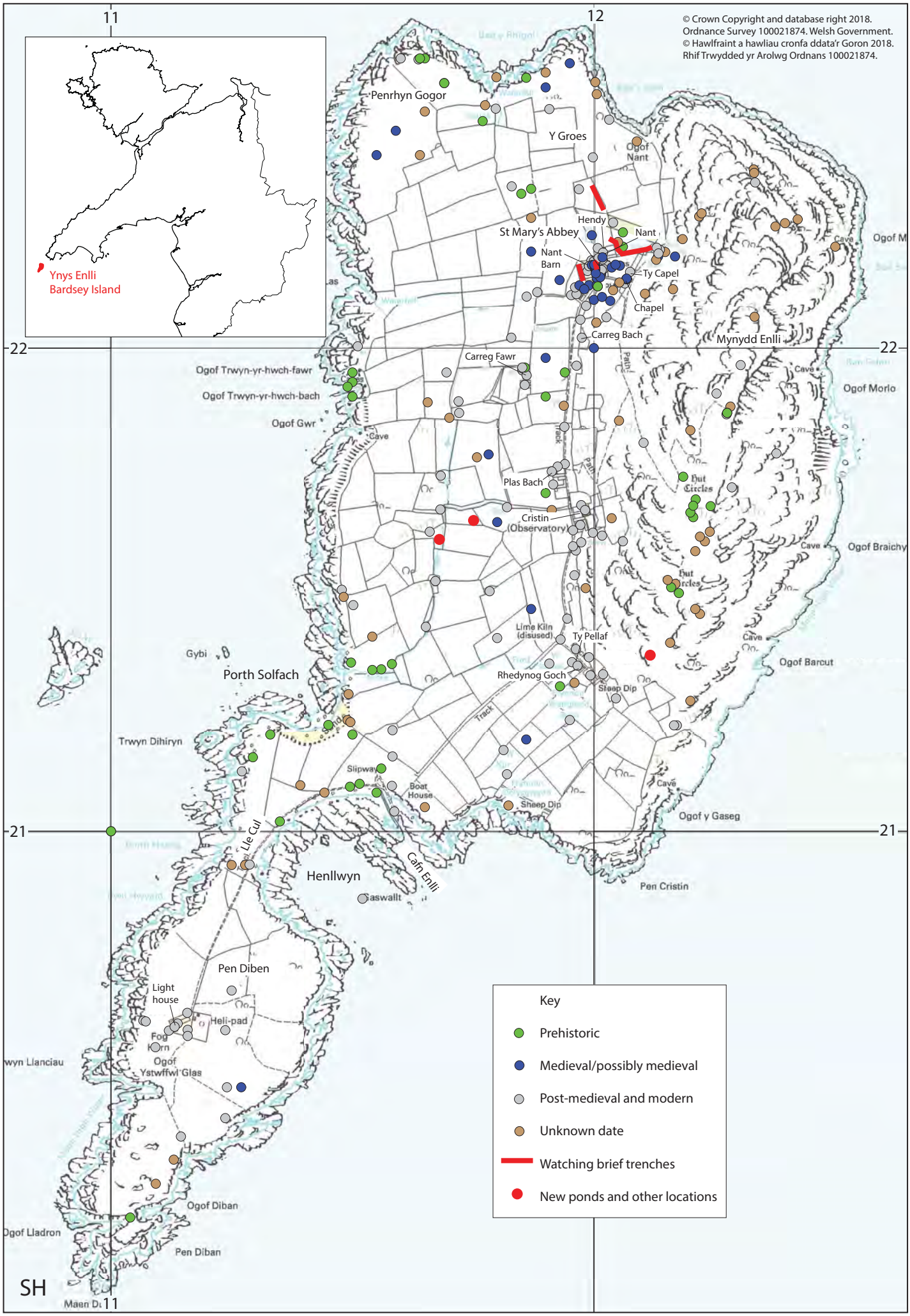


Figure 1. Ynys Enlli, its location and archaeology with watching brief locations in red

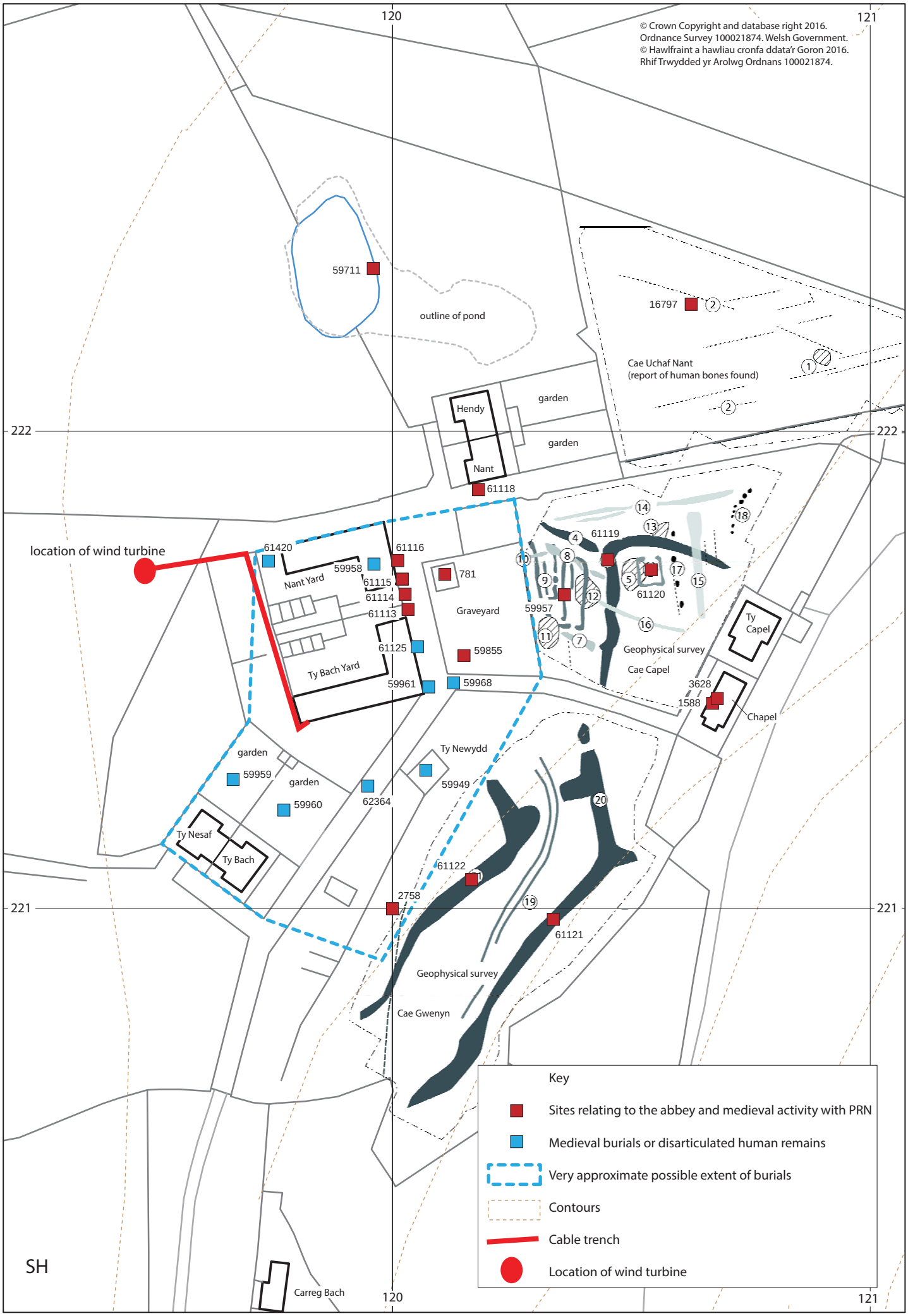


Figure 2. The abbey and medieval cemetery, with geophysical survey results

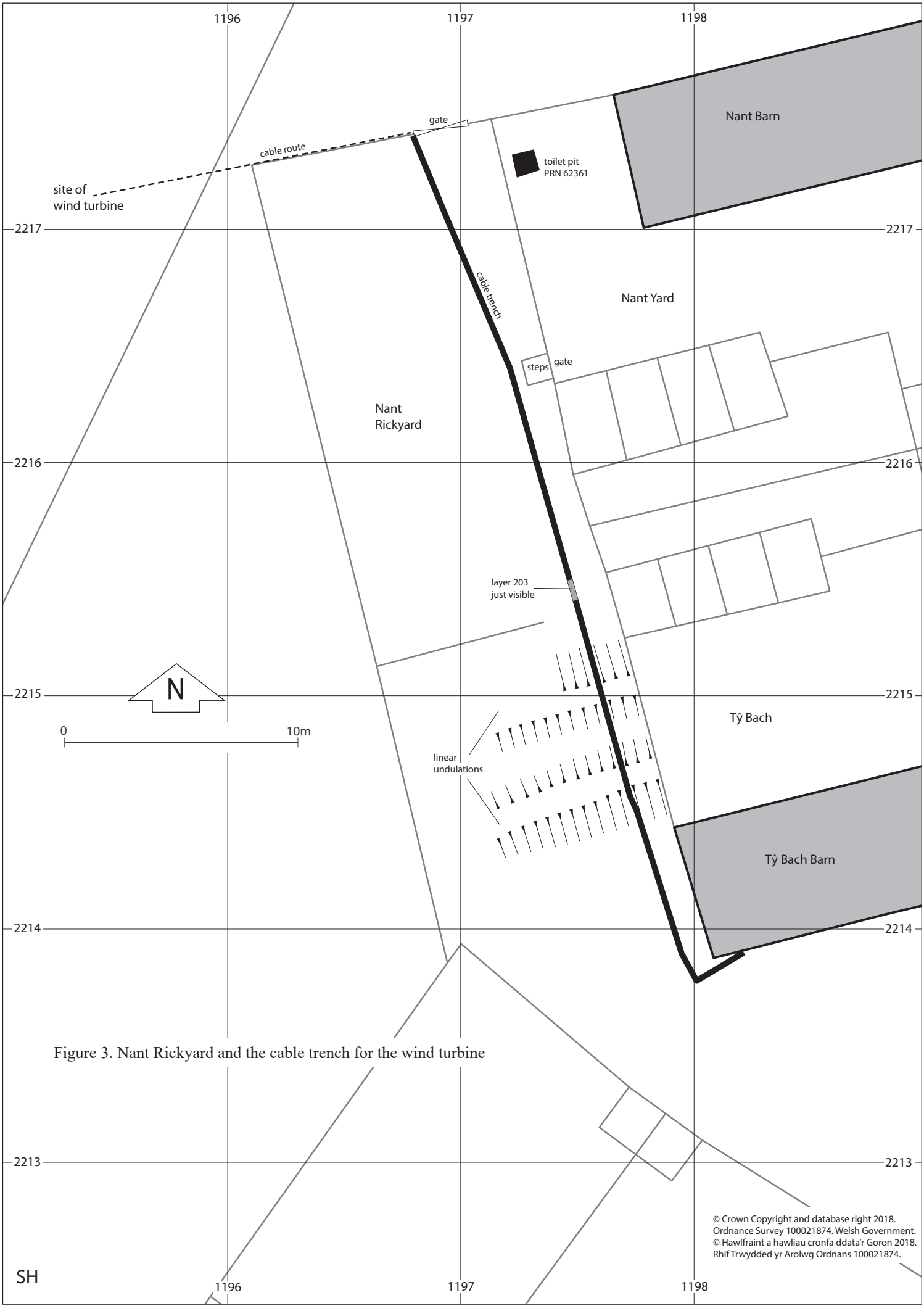


Figure 3. Nant Rickyard and the cable trench for the wind turbine

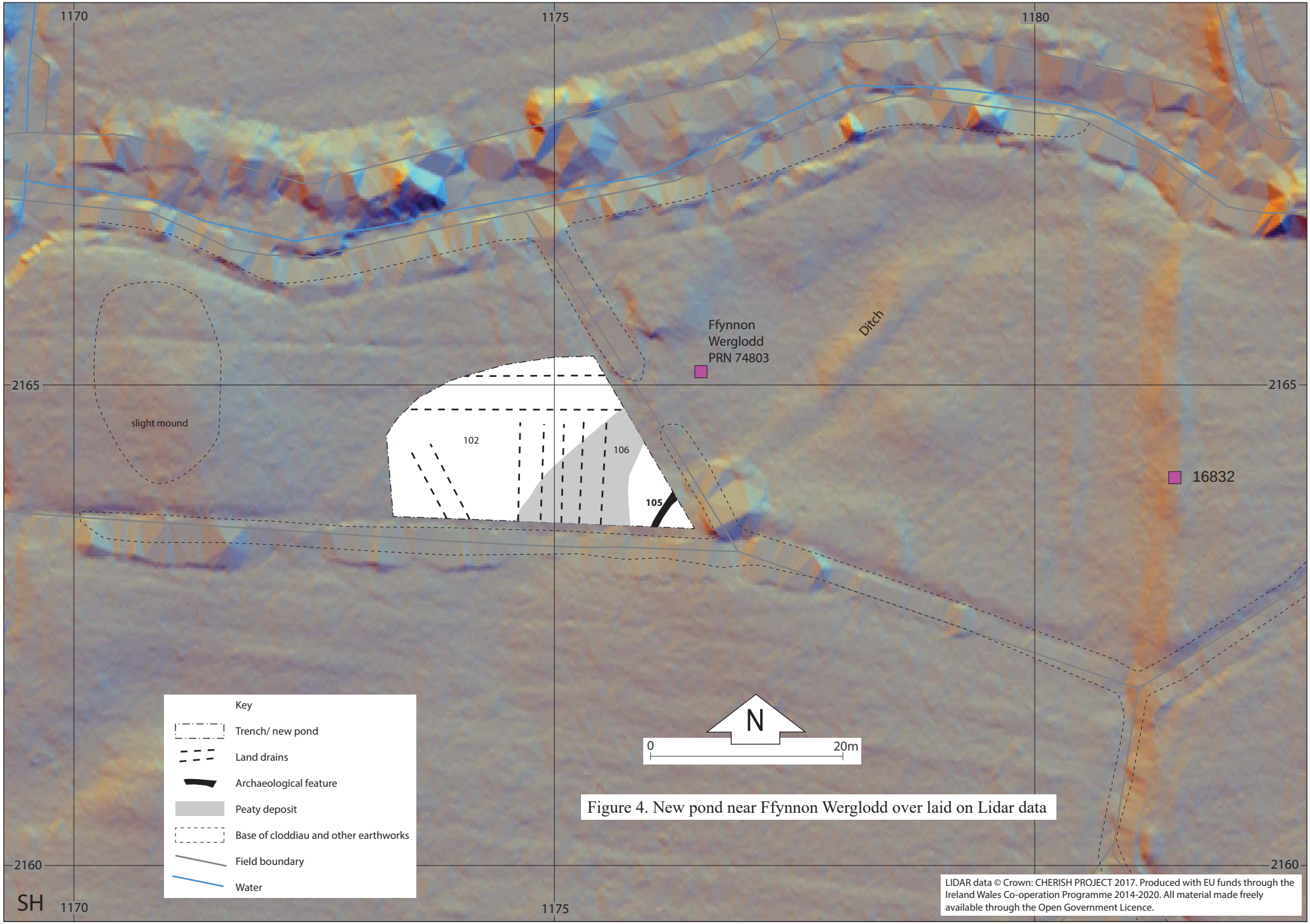


Figure 4. New pond near Ffynnon Werglodd over laid on Lidar data

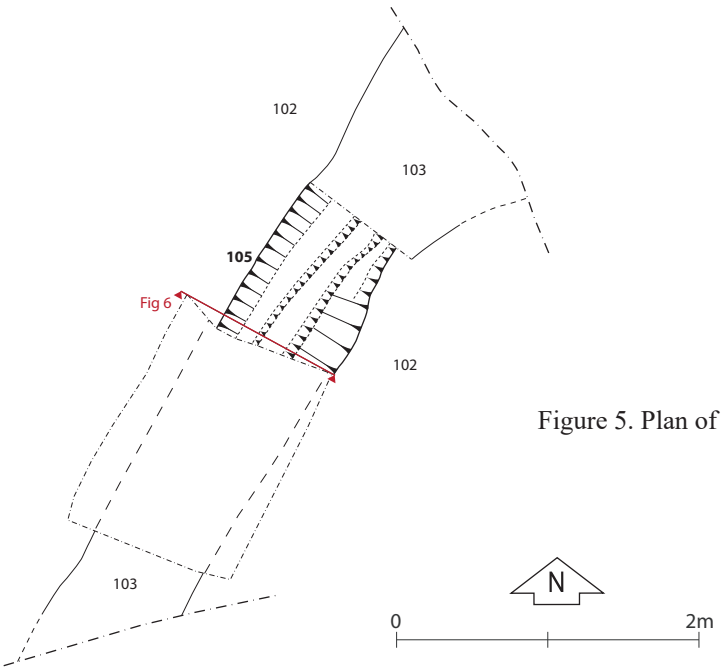


Figure 5. Plan of ditch 105

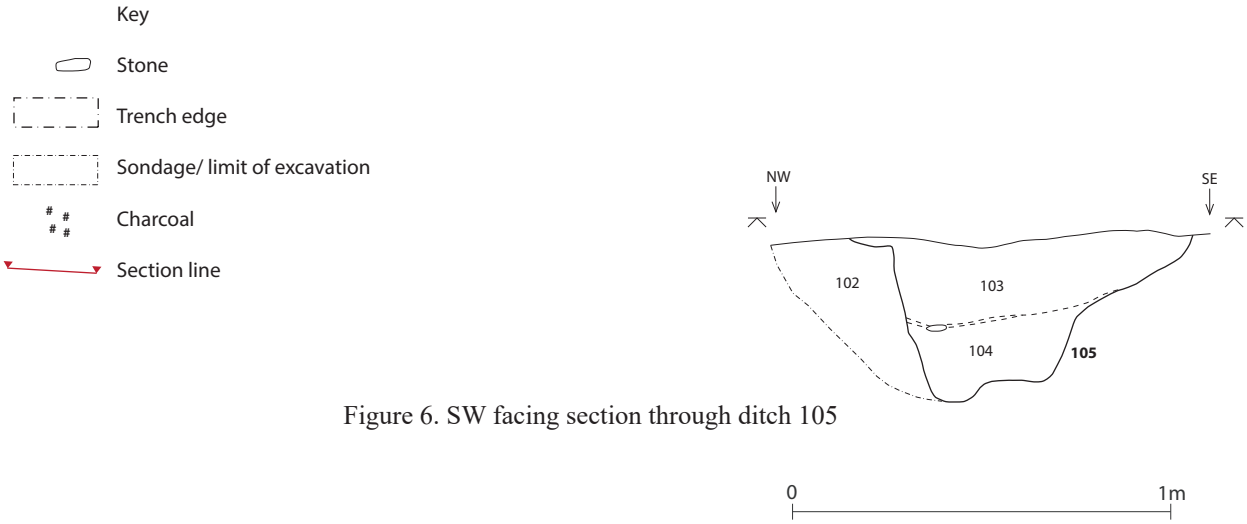


Figure 6. SW facing section through ditch 105

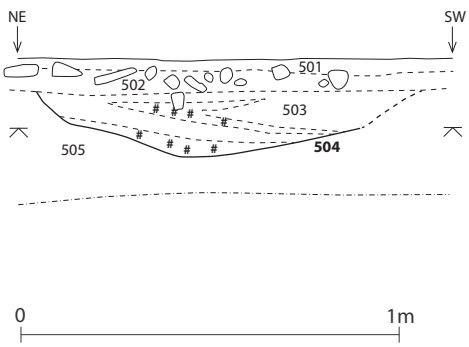


Figure 7. NW facing section through feature 504

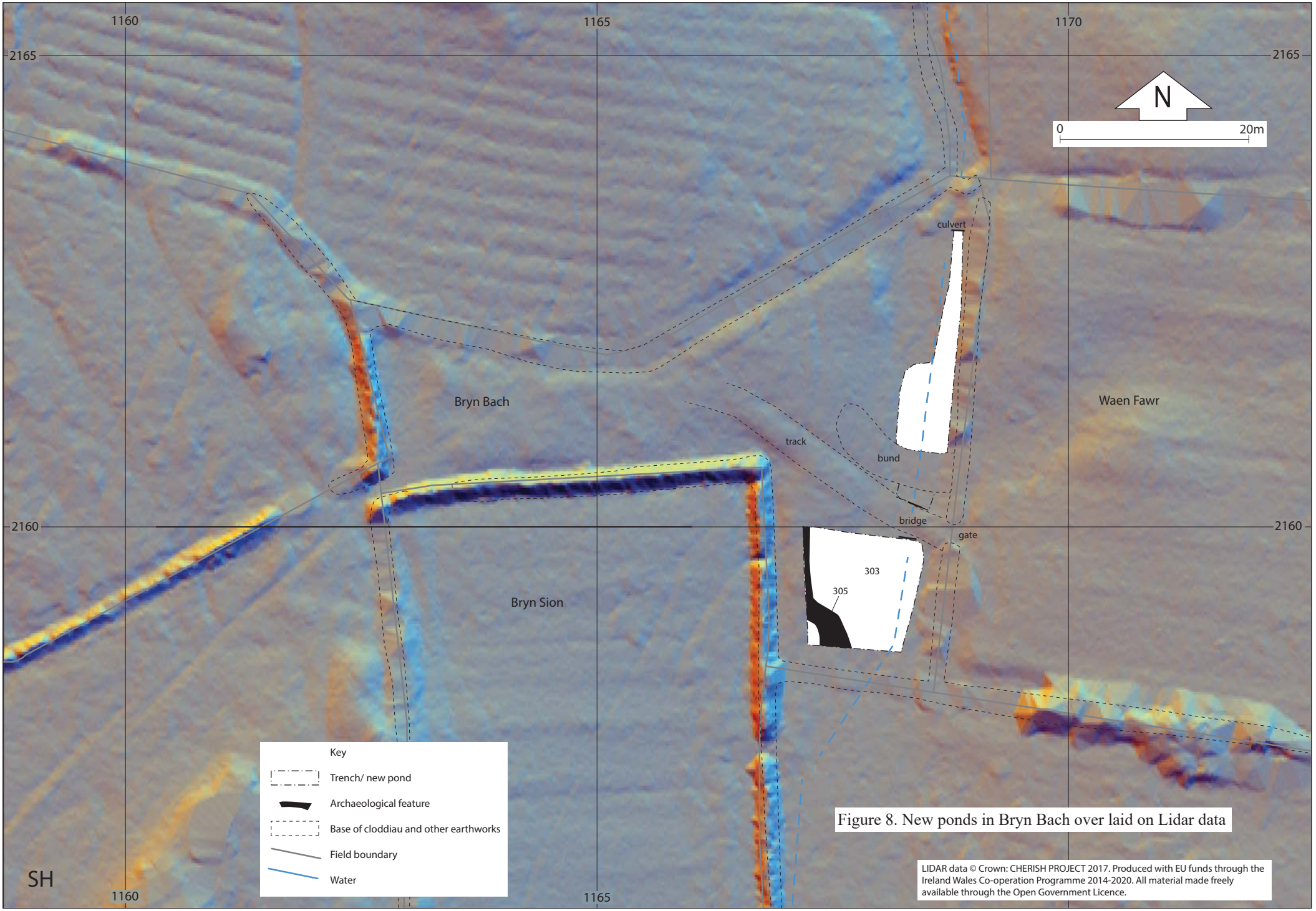


Figure 8. New ponds in Bryn Bach over laid on Lidar data

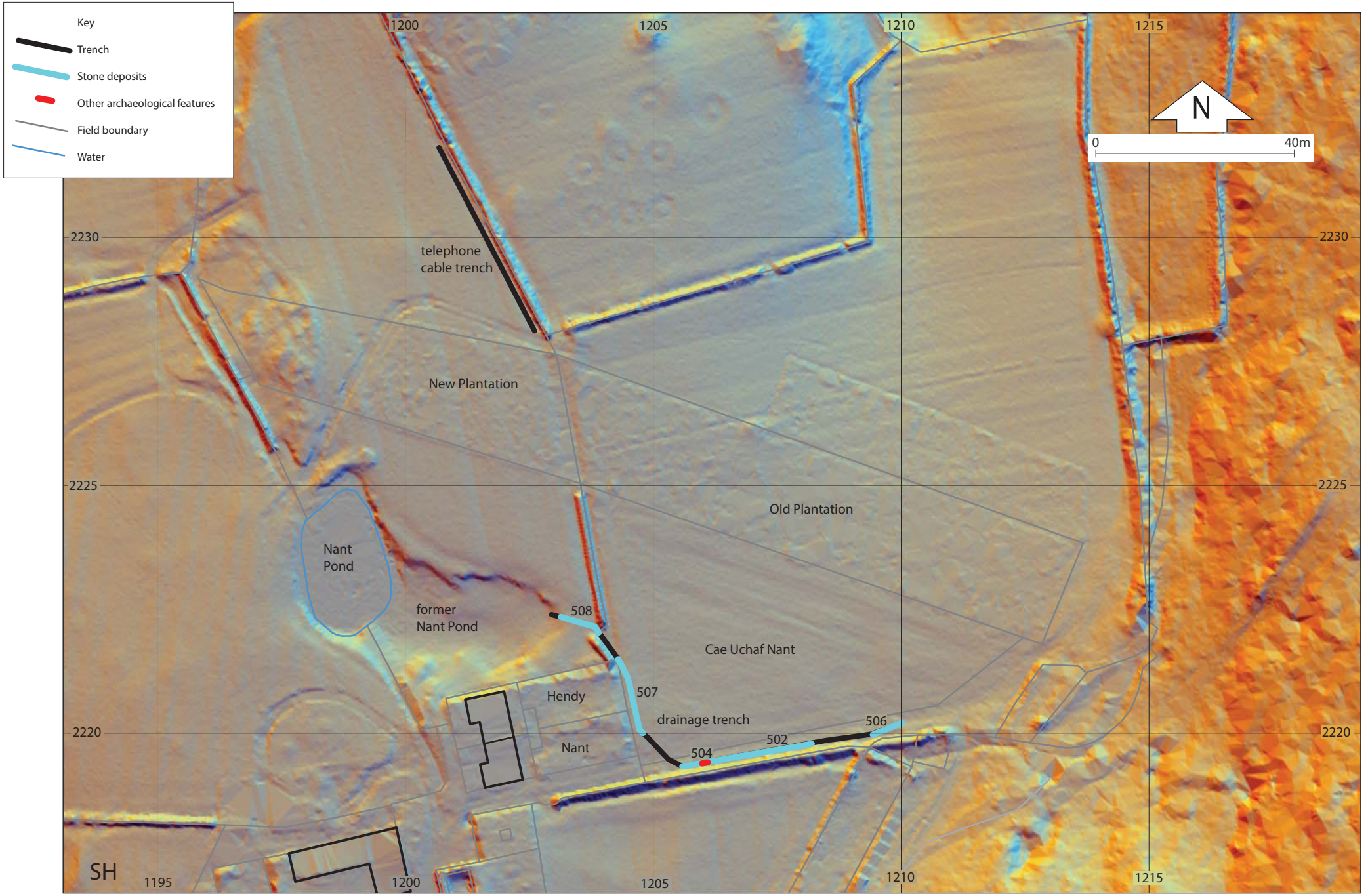


Figure 9. Trenches north and east of Nant overlaid on Lidar data

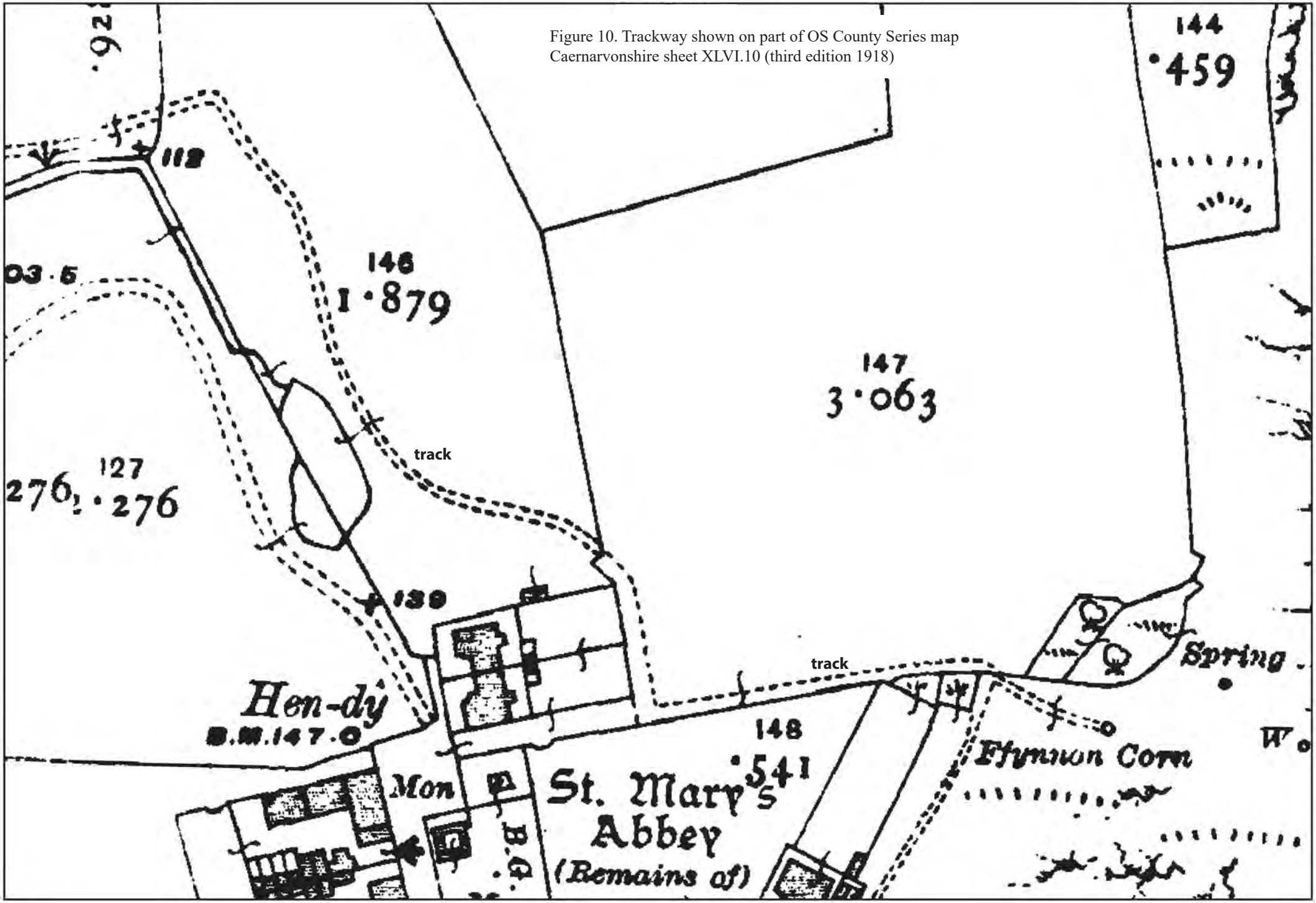


Figure 10. Trackway shown on part of OS County Series map Caernarvonshire sheet XLVI.10 (third edition 1918)

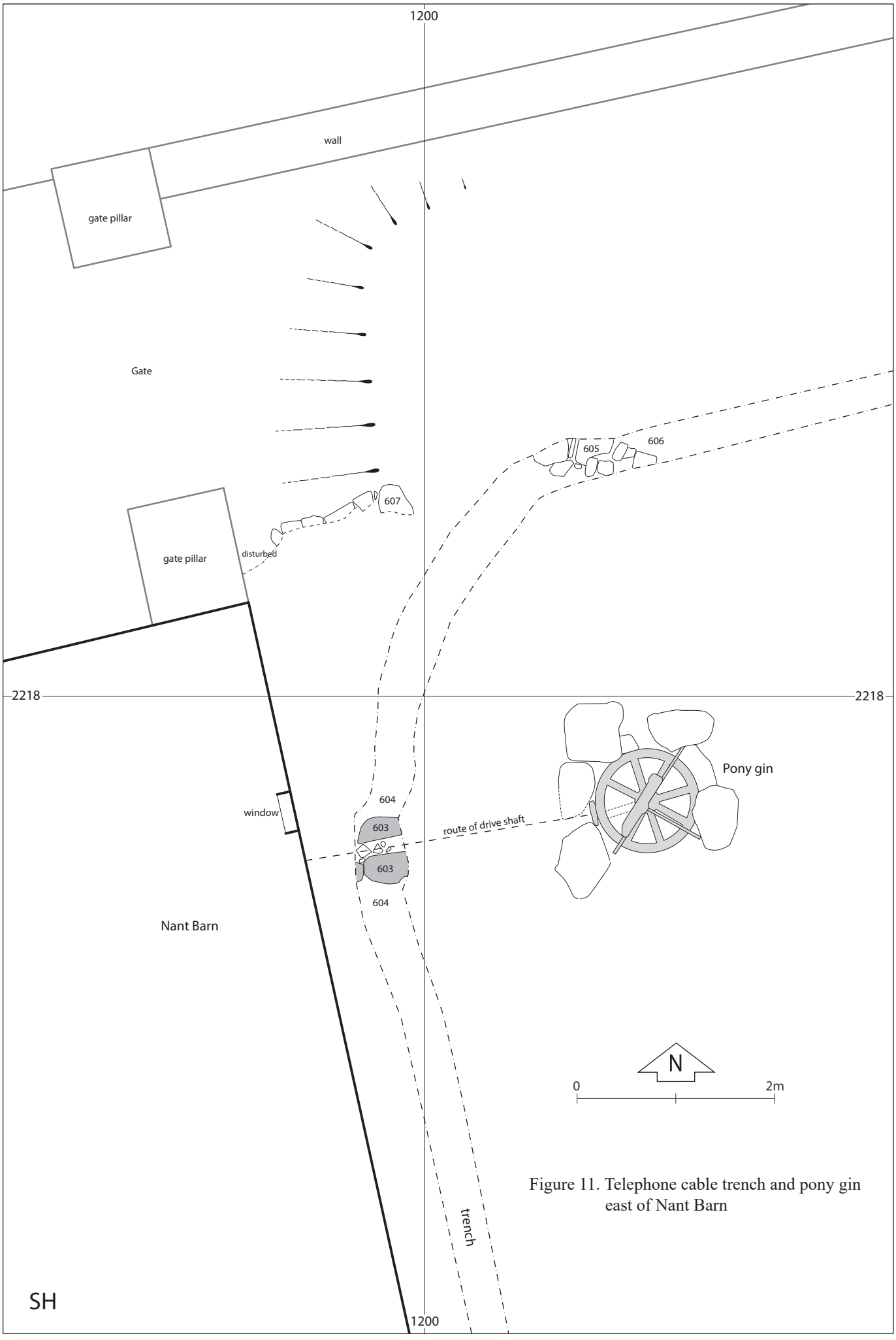
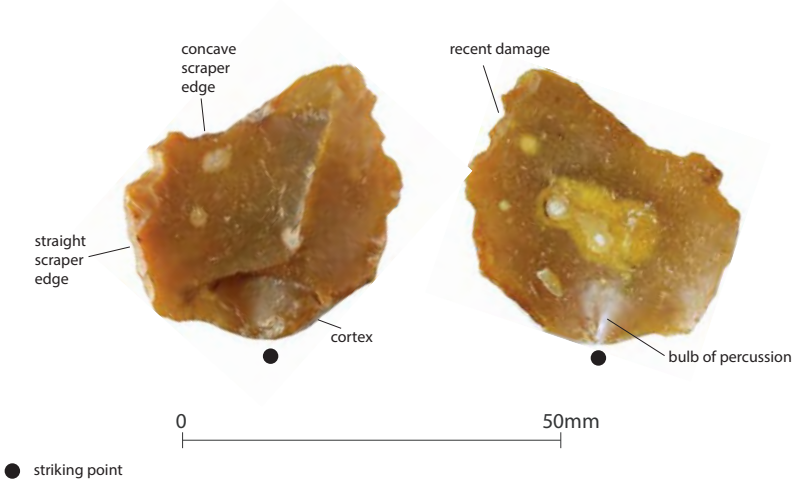


Figure 11. Telephone cable trench and pony gin east of Nant Barn

Pot sherd from the wind turbine cable trench (context 202)



Fint scraper from the new pond near Ffynnon Werglodd

Figure 12. Selected finds from the watching briefs

Figure 13. The bracken-free square on an aerial photograph (above) and lidar (below)

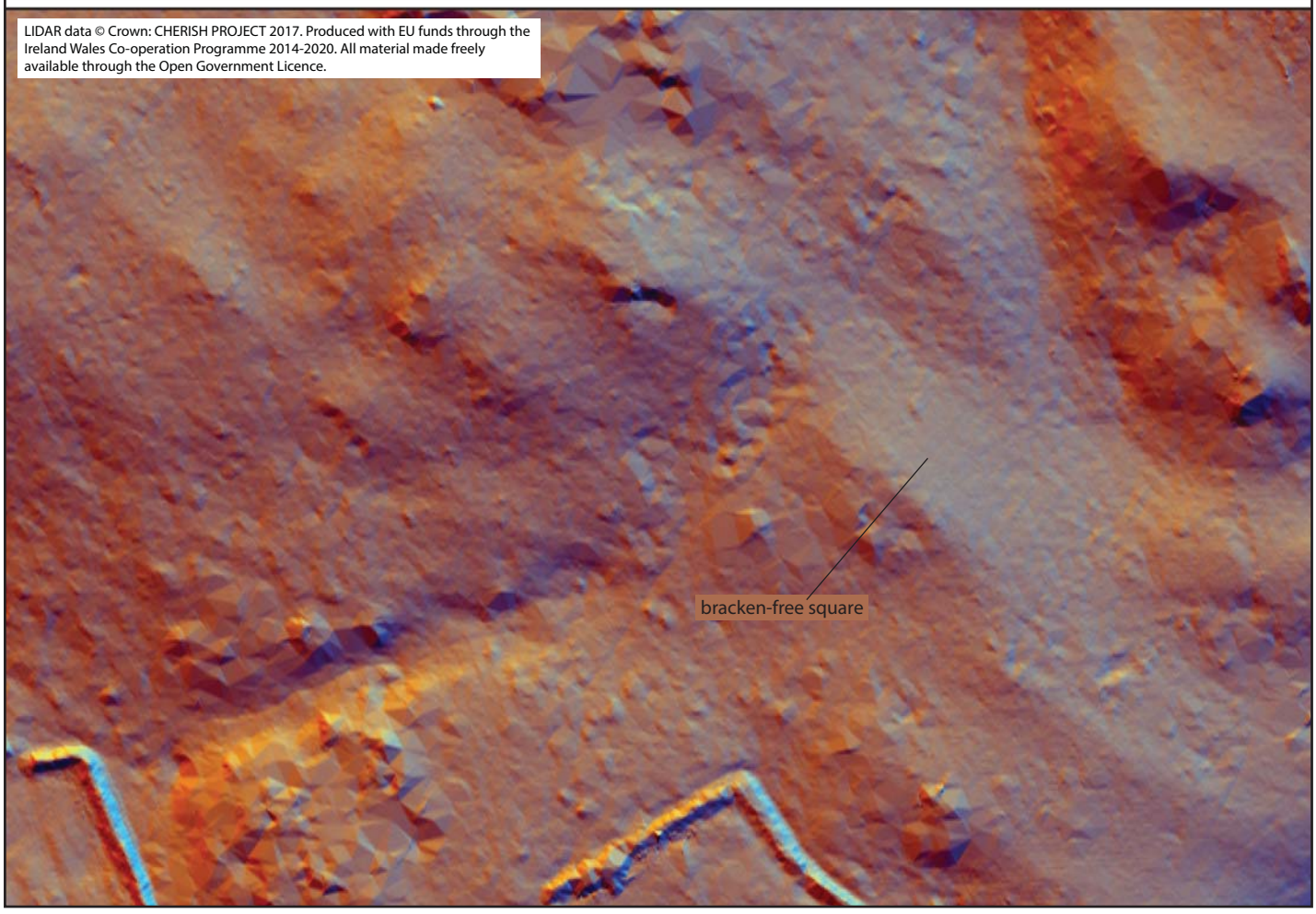


Plate 1. Gareth Roberts digging the pond near Ffynnon Werglodd

Plate 2. Gareth Roberts digging the ditch in Cae Uchaf Nant

Plate 3. Gareth Roberts digging the trench next to Nant Barn

Plate 4. Cable trench for the wind turbine dug along Nant Rickyard

Plate 5. Linear undulations in Nant Rickyard (ranging rod is on furthest undulation)

Plate 6. Location of new pond, seen behind Plas Bach from the mountain

Plate 7. Ffynnon Werglodd after being exposed

Plate 8. Site of new pond when topsoil has been stripped but before being dug to full depth. Peaty deposit and land drains visible.

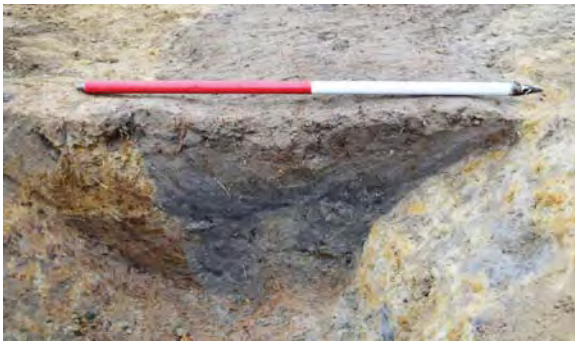


Plate 9. Section across of ditch 105

Plate 10. Part of ditch 105 dug out by hand

Plate 11. The southern pond in Bryn Bach, showing some of the stone spread (305)

Plate 12. The northernpond in Bryn Bach, with bund

Plate 13. Channel running from northern culvert

Plate 14. Culvert at northern end of Bryn Bach

Plate 15. Part of stone spread (305) as first exposed and cleaned up

Plate 16. Bridge in Bryn Bach

Plate 17. The end of the new drainage ditch where it runs into the former Nant Pond

Plate 18. The surface of the stone layer in Cae Uchaf Nant

Plate 19. Section through feature 504

Plate 20. Telephone cable trench north of Nant

Plate 21. Possible wall foundation 605

Plate 22. Possible wall 607 with trench and pony gin behind

Plate 23. Channel 603 that held the drive shaft of the pony gin

Plate 24. Pony gin outside Nant Barn

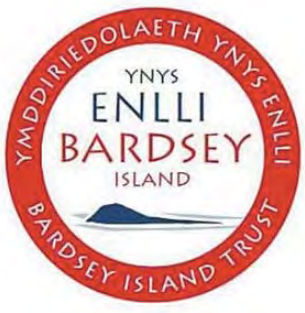
Plate 25. Detail of pony gin

Plate 26. Relationship of pony gin to the channel and the barn

Plate 27. Gorse mill in Llofft Nant

Plate 28. Jo Porter pointing out the bracken-free square

Plate 29. View of the bracken-free square and view out to sea beyond



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