# Archaeology Wales ited

# **Excavation at** Cefn Du Farm, **Gaerwen, Anglesey**

Assessment of Results

By Kate Pitt ACIfA

Andy Shobrook ACIfA

CORVIL

Report No. 1409

Archaeology Wales Limited, Rhos Helyg, Cwm Belan, Llanidloes, Powys SY18 6QF Tel: +44 (0) 1686 440371 E-mail: admin@arch-wales.co.uk

# Archaeology Wales

# **Excavation at** Cefn Du Farm, Gaerwen, Anglesey Jales

Assessment of Results

Prepared For: Bangor University

Edited by: Mark Houliston Signed: Marl Hanht Position: Managing Director Date: 23/11/15

Jopyri

<u>i</u>ck

By Kate Pitt CIfA Andy Shobbrook CIfA

Report No. 1409

November 2015

Archaeology Wales Limited, Rhos Helyg, Cwm Belan, Llanidloes, Powys SY18 6QF Tel: +44 (0) 1686 440371 E-mail: admin@arch-wales.co.uk

Authorised by: Mark Houliston Signed: Marl Hault Position: Managing Director Date: 25/11/15



- Figure 8 Features [1202] and sections
- Figure 9 Features [1078], [1199] and others
- Plate 1 & 2 Corn Dryer [1216] and Hearth [1040]

Plate 3 & 4 Pits [1006] and [1021]

Plate 5 & 6 Pit [1008]. Post holes [1069], [1071] and [1037].

Plate 7 & 8 Post [1058] and Pit [1047]. Pits [1054], [1065] and [1052].

- Plate 9 & 10 Pits [1088] and [1086]. Pit [1141].
- Plate 11 & 12 Pit [1147] and [1094]

Plate 13 & 14 Linear [1208]. Gully [1078].

Plate 15 & 16 Gully [1199]. Pit [1185].

Plate 17 & 18 Field Boundary Ditch [1202], [1003]

Plate 19 & 20 Field Boundary Ditch [1003], [1011]

Copyright Notice:

Archaeology Wales Ltd. retain copyright of this report under the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988, and have granted a licence to Menai Science Park to use and reproduce the material contained within.

Wales

The Ordnance Survey has granted Archaeology Wales Ltd a Copyright Licence (No. AL 52163A0001) to reproduce map information; Copyright remains otherwise with the Ordnance Survey.

Archaeology

### Summary

In August 2015 Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map and sample excavation' on land at Cefn Du Farm, Gaerwen, Anglesey (centred on NGR 248870, 372120). The excavation comprised an area of 7000m2 and was undertaken on behalf of Menai Science Park on the recommendation of the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) in their capacity as Archaeological Advisors to Isle of Anglesey County Council / Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn, to fulfill a condition of a planning application for a proposed Science Park for the University of Bangor.

The archaeological 'strip, map and sample excavation' was carried out in advance of first phase of the proposed development, targeting the centre of the southern field, as this area had the most, all-be-it moderate, archaeological potential, as revealed by the archaeological evaluation undertaken in August 2014 (Davies and Houliston 2014).

The following report provides a detailed account of the results of the excavation and includes assessment of the finds and environmental assemblages recovered.

A cluster of archaeological features was revealed in the western area of the excavation, the most significant of which was interpreted as a corn-dryer, from its form and character. However, a study of the environmental samples recovered from the feature, in combination with dating provided by the lithics, tentatively suggests it may represent evidence for Neolithic nut-drying, a food preparation process that could pre-date or compliment cereal-drying. The surrounding features, some ephemeral and mainly with few finds, are likely to relate to a temporary camp or activity at the periphery of the main settlement focus. There is evidence that this area of activity may have been enclosed, and it could be part of a large enclosure extending to the west of the excavation area.

In the northern part of the site, a hearth was recovered that provided further evidence of prehistoric cooking activity. The initial results of the environmental processing provided evidence for residues of barley, apple and spelt grain from the feature, again food types characteristic of the Neolithic period.

### 1. Introduction

### 1.1 **Project Background**

In August 2015 Archaeology Wales Ltd (AW) carried out an archaeological 'strip, map and sample excavation' on land at Cefn Du Farm, Gaerwen, Anglesey (centred on NGR 248870, 372120). The excavation comprised an area of 7000m2 and was undertaken on behalf of Menai Science Park, on the recommendation of the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS), to fulfil a condition of a planning application for a proposed Science Park on behalf of the University of Bangor.

The site is located in the south of Anglesey, just off junction 7 of the A55 North Wales Expressway, in an area of known archaeological and historical importance (**Figs. 1 & 2**). The site consists of three enclosed fields used as pasture for cattle and sheep and a cluster of buildings comprising Cefn Du Farm. Both the farmstead and the associated field system are likely to date to the nineteenth century.

The work followed a previous Desk-based Assessment and Site Visit (Amec 2013), a Geophysical Survey (Durham University 2013) and an Evaluation of the Assessment and Geophysical Survey (Amec 2013a), and an Archaeological Evaluation (Davies and Houliston 2014).

The following report gives provides details of the results of the work undertaken. It also includes an assessment of the finds and environmental assemblages recovered.

The work was managed by Kate Pitt (ACIfA) and supervised by Andy Shobrook (ACIfA). The AW Project Number is 2256 and the Site Code MSP/15/EX.

### 1.2 Desk-based Assessment

The Desk-based Assessment and Site Visit (Amec 2013) did not identify any designated historic assets within the site boundary. However, it was noted that excavations immediately to the north of the site along the route of the A55 revealed important evidence dating from the early Neolithic to the medieval period, in particular a late Iron Age / Romano-British farmstead consisting of a round house and several ancillary structures including a small industrial workshop and a possible granary. Further to the north, and approximately 500m from the site boundary, excavations at Capel Eithin (SAM: AN120) produced important evidence of occupation during periods spanning the Neolithic to the early medieval.

In addition to examining the results of these previous excavations, the Desk-based Assessment looked at the effect of the proposed development on historic assets located within pre-defined study areas. The majority of these comprised Grade II listed buildings located in the village of Gaerwen, the closest being an eighteenth century windmill located 120m from the site boundary.

The Desk-based Assessment concluded that the proposed development is unlikely to result in any substantial effect on the settings of any designated assets. However, the proximity of the two previous multi-period excavations to the north of the site, both of which uncovered evidence of at least regional significance, meant that the site was identified as having a high potential for the presence of archaeological remains. As a result, GAPS recommended that a geophysical survey of the site be undertaken.

### **1.3** The Geophysical Survey

The Geophysical Survey (Durham University 2013) identified a few features of potential archaeological interest, including a field boundary, pits and a pond, and a number of probable field drains, although the results were not indicative of extensive or significant archaeological remains. In was noted, however, that strong anomalies, which were probably caused by the underlying geology, dominated the results from the north-eastern part of the site, so archaeological features located in this area are likely to have been missed.

An evaluation of the results of the Assessment and Geophysical Survey (Amec 2013a) concluded that because the geological features are not judged to have significantly effected the survey results across the majority of the site, there is no indication of the presence of intense or complex archaeological remains within the site.

### **1.4** The Evaluation

As a result of the Desk-based Assessment, Site Visit and Geophysical Survey, GAPS recommended the excavation of forty, 20.0m long, evaluation trenches across the site (**Fig. 2**). The locations of the trenches were agreed with AW beforehand, the objective being to investigate all the area associated with the proposed planning application. The aim was to provide relatively uniform coverage across the site, although care was taken to target the few potential features identified by the geophysical survey.

The Archaeological Evaluation was undertaken by Archaeology Wales Ltd during August 2014. Despite the absence of datable features, evidence was recovered during the evaluation to suggest that prehistoric, Romano-British and post-medieval occupation occurred within the development area. This is in keeping with the extensive evidence for these and other periods recovered from the Cefn Du (Cutler et al 2012) and Capel Eithin (White 1981; White and Smith 1999) excavations further to the north. However, the density of features recovered was significantly less than from either of these earlier excavations, while evidence of some important periods, in particular the early medieval, was seemingly absent all together.

### 1.5 The strip, map & sample excavation

The results of the Archaeological Evaluation led GAPS to recommend an archaeological 'strip, map and sample excavation' to be carried out in the parts of the site that are threatened by the proposed development; in the centre of the southern field, the northern half of the north-eastern field, and in the smaller north-western field, as these represent the areas with moderate archaeological potential.

Both the excavation and the subsequent phases of post-excavation analysis and reporting have been undertaken to the requirements set out in a Written Scheme of Investigations. This was prepared by AW on behalf of Menai Science Park and subsequently approved by GAPS on behalf of Isle of Anglesey County Council / Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn.

### 2. Site Description

### 2.1 Location, Topography and Geology

The three fields comprising the site are bounded by the A55 North Wales Expressway in the north, the A5152 in the east, the A5 Holyhead Road in the south, and by a track leading to Cefn Du farm in the west. The village of Gaerwen is located to the southwest of the site, predominantly on land located to the south of the A5.

The fields are largely used for the pasture of cattle and sheep. They are relatively flat, with some undulations that appear geological in nature. The land slopes gently downwards from north to south and there are a number of springs and areas of wet ground, particularly in the south, indicative of a high water table. Water runs along a large ditch located along the western side of the southernmost field and there are indications that this represents a western diversion of an earlier water course located approximately 15-25m to the east; the ditch may have been cut to take water to a mill located near the southwest corner of the site.

The underlying geology is bedrock of the Central Anglesey Shear Zone and Berw Shear Zone Mica Schist and Coedana Complex - Mafic Gneiss. The superficial deposits are largely unrecorded but in places the bedrock is overlain by Devensian Till (British Geological Survey 2013).

### 2.2 Historical Background

A brief historical assessment was carried out as part of the Desk-based Assessment (Amec 2013).

No previous archaeological investigations have taken place within the site at this time; although to the immediate north a program of archaeological work was undertaken prior to the construction of the A55. An initial evaluation at Cefn Du (Cutler et al 2012) was undertaken by GAT in 1999 and identified a rubble spread indicative of prehistoric settlement. Trial trenching also revealed a corn drying kiln and some possible prehistoric features. Subsequently, because of the high potential of the site, the entire length of the corresponding road corridor was excavated (centred on NGR 249140, 372290).

Early Neolithic occupation consisted of circular pits containing charcoal-rich deposits and heat-shattered burnt stone. A single, well defined, post-hole was recorded in association with this group and three short gullies were identified nearby. Two of these were irregular in shape and one was arc-shaped. The latter was filled with charcoal and burnt stone, probably 'pot-boilers'. No datable artefacts were found, but the charcoal from one of the pits was radiocarbon dated to 4050-3790 BC (Cuttler et al 2012, 9).

Mid to late Neolithic evidence was represented by a group of twelve pits, six of which formed an arc 6m long. Three of these formed a cluster, while the others were located immediately to the south. Some of them had been truncated by later field boundaries. Abraded sherds dating to the mid to late Neolithic were recovered and one pit contained

a large serrated piece of flint, probably late Neolithic in date. Radiocarbon dating of charcoal recovered from one of the pits gave a date of 3640-3360 BC. The group is thought to represent domestic activity. It was noteworthy that two types of pottery thought to be chronologically distinct were found together in three instances. (Cuttler et al 2012, 9)

Mid to late Iron Age to Romano-British activity at Cefn Du was represented by a farmstead comprising a 8.2m (internal) diameter round house and several ancillary structures that had been terraced into the hillside. Archaeomagnetic dating of a hearth within the house to AD 120-170 probably represents the final occupation period (Cuttler et al 2012, 18). The settlement included a small industrial workshop and a rectangular nine post structure, thought to be a granary.

Early medieval activity was represented by reuse of the roundhouse ruin and significant quantities of germinated barley, probably intended for malting, which produced a radiocarbon date of 390-720 AD. A stone surface and two associated structures were also located.

Medieval occupation was represented by a corn dryer. Its period of use was dated to AD 1000-1280 from radiocarbon analysis of wheat and barley grains found in an associated pit (Cutler, Davidson and Hughes 2012).

At Cefn-du farm a possible, pre-19th century, field system was identified. An assessment of estate maps undertaken by GAT and the National Library showed that the remains of the round house had become part of the north-western corner of a field named Cae Carrig on a map dating to 1756 (NLW Ms Map Vol. 53), while a later estate map dated c.1820-1840 shows the reorganisation of the field system, which was part of the Holland estate and remained mostly unchanged until the end of the 20th century, suggesting elements of the roundhouse were visible until the end of the 20th century.

Archaeological investigations in the wider study area have mainly focused on Capel Eithin scheduled monument (SAM: AN120), located approximately 500m to the north of the site (White 1981; White and Smith 1999). Significant discoveries from the Neolithic period onwards included a Bronze Age cremation cemetery, a stone-built Roman structure, 6.5m square, set within an earlier enclosure, which may have had a ritual function, and the remains of an early medieval cemetery, one of the most extensively excavated in western Britain (Williams 2006, 150). The graves forming the cemetery seem to have focussed around a central structure built within a rectangular trench that had straight sides and a flat bottom. The structure was accessed from the east and had a clay floor. Despite the name of the site, no religious building, either associated with the burials or otherwise, has yet been found in the area. The excavators noted that an inscribed sixth or seventh-century (DEVORIGI) stone, now lost but recorded in a c. 1698 manuscript, may have originated from the early medieval cemetery at Capel Eithin (Williams 2006, 153).

It is apparent that below ground archaeological remains are highly likely to continue beyond the excavated areas at both Cefn Du and Capel Eithin. This has clear implications for the site, particularly its northern areas.

### 2.3 **Previous Archaeological Work**

During August 2014, Archaeology Wales Ltd undertook an Archaeological Evaluation at the proposed development site.

The earliest feature recovered was a chert core of probable Neolithic date from topsoil deposits in Trench 18. Three struck lithics were recovered from topsoil in Trench 6 and one from Trench 2.

The most important discoveries made are probably represented by the group of curved ditch segments, some of which had terminal ends, which were mainly clustered together in the central part of the southern field (Trench 18, Trench 21 and Trench 36). These could represent evidence for enclosures, burial mounds or even the external drip gullies of buildings.

The first of a sequence of two ditches identified in the north-eastern field (Trench 4) tentatively also belongs to this group. However, it was replaced with a slightly larger, linear structure, which has parallels with ditches identified in the north-west (Trench 2 & Trench 41) and in the west of the southern field (Trench 35). These are considered more likely to represent enclosure of field boundary ditches. It should be noted, however, that the north-western ditch is on a similar alignment to a post-medieval field boundary ditch found nearby during excavations in 1999 (Cutler R., Davidson A., and Hughes G. 2012).

Possible evidence for occupation during the Romano-British period is represented by a single sherd of pottery and an undated culvert. Two trackways, one which is still in use and crosses the centre of the site (Trench 42), and one, now abandoned, which is located in the northeast (Trench 45), represent the only evidence other than the farmhouse for post-medieval occupation (Smith, 2014).

### 3. Aims and Objectives

The excavation was undertaken to:

- Establish the extent of the archaeological remains within the area of proposed development.
- Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of archaeological remains present.
- Establish the ecofactual and environmental potential of archaeological features and deposits, sampling where necessary.
- Excavate and record all features such that they are thus preserved by record.

### 4. Methodology

The location of the excavation area of 7000m2, was agreed with GAPS prior to work commencing. The open-area trench was excavated using a tracked mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless ditching bucket to either the top of the uppermost surviving archaeological horizon or to the top of the natural soil horizon, whichever was encountered first.

The methodology followed by the excavation team is set out in detail in the WSI (see Appendix II). The excavation monitored with visits by GAPS on behalf of Isle of Anglesey County Council / Cyngor Sir Ynys Môn by GAPS.

4All areas were photographed using high resolution (14mp+) digital photography with images stored in \*RAW format for later conversion into Tiff files. All on-site illustrations were undertaken on drafting film using recognised conventions and scales (1:10, 1:20, 1:50) as appropriate.

All works were undertaken in accordance with the CIfA's Standards and Guidance: for an archaeological excavation (2014), Standards and Guidance: for a watching brief (2014) and current Health and Safety legislation.

Finds were recovered by hand during the course of the excavation and bagged by context. Deposits suitable for environmental sampling were taken in bulk and stored within sterile sample bags for later assessment.

### 5. Results

Detailed figures (plans and sections) have only been included if they contained identifiable features.

### 5.1 Description of Excavated Area

The excavation area measured 7000 cubic meters, with a loamy topsoil up to 0.4m in depth above the natural sub-strata. Within the natural sub-strata the archaeological cut features were observed.

The natural sub strata 1002 consisted of a firm pale yellow-ish grey clay which contained frequent small sub-angular stones and some occasional small sub-rounded stones. The natural was first viewed at around 0.40m below existing ground level. Large bands of rocky outcropping were prevalent on site, mainly confined to the eastern higher ground of the excavation area. The bedrock was Anglesey Blueschist.

### 5.1.1 Corn Dryer 1216 and 1067 re-cut. (Figs. 3&4, Plate 1)

The cut 1216 consisted of a large circular pit with a connecting shallow gully. Both the pit and the gully are thought to be one construction advent and both had been cut into the natural clay 1002.

The pit area of 1216 measured 2m in diameter by 0.6m in depth and had moderate to steep cut sides with a concave base. Two shallow depressions were found within the central basal area of the pit and are thought to be the remains of either post sockets or stone throws which were created during the excavation of the initial pit. The gully attached to the pit's south-western side measured 1.4m in length by 0.70m in width and 0.24m in depth. Within the pit two separate deposits were observed: 1217 and 1218. Deposit 1218 was confined to the north-eastern side of the dryer, being a moderately compacted mid orangey-brown silt-clay which measured 0.35m in depth and is considered to have formed from alluvial backfilling. Deposit 1217 was viewed with the south-western confines of the cut filling the south-western end of the pit and the entire basal plan area of the gully. The deposit was recorded as a moderate to firmly compacted light orangey-grey clay-silt which contained occasional small sub angular stones with some occasional flecks of charcoal measuring 0.25m in depth.

Both deposits 1217 and 1218 were observed to have been truncated from above by a later re-cut pit 1067. Re-cut pit 1067 proved to be circular in plan with sharp to moderate cut sides and a concave base measuring 1.36m in length by 1.2m in width by 0.49m in depth. The first deposit viewed sequentially within the confines of the pit was basal deposit 1192 which consisted of moderate to firmly compacted mid whitish-grey clay measuring 0.32m in depth and containing frequent inclusions of medium to large sized sub angular stones. It is considered that this deposit may be the remains of a clay lining or an intentional back-filling foundation for the dryer.

Overlying clay deposit 1192 a number of medium to large sized sub-angular stones 1195 were recorded, measuring on average 0.25m wide by 0.40m long and 0.25m deep. A concentration of stones formed a central ring within pit 1067 which would probably indicate the location for a central hearth area for the dryer. Many of the stones within the ring appeared to be vitrified on the inner side suggesting intense in-situ burning taking place within this area. Three smaller flat stones were placed on edge along the south eastern side of the gully and could be considered the remains of lining. One very large stone was found within the central area of the gully and was viewed as possibly capping remains which had fallen into the gully as the result of demolition.

Deposit 1169 was found to overlie stone arrangement 1195. The deposit was viewed as a moderately compacted whitish-grey silt clay which contained frequent inclusion of small to medium sized pieces of charcoal and had an almost ash cinder texture to the deposit. When viewing the deposit in plan it became apparent that it was of a higher density within the central ring of stones and that it became narrower and shallower as it progressed south westwards along the course of the gully. The deposit measured 2.75m in length, 1.2m wide by 0.10m in depth and produced one small fragment of poorly preserved pottery which has been retained. Deposit 1169 is considered to represent a period of sustained in-situ burning within the dryer.

The remains of a single stake hole 1193 was recorded within the south western end of the gully found to have been cut into ash deposit 1169. The stake hole measured 0.12m in diameter by 0.09m in depth and had step cut sides with a pointed base. A single fill was recorded within the stake hole 1194 and consisted of a loose to moderately compacted light-grey silt clay which contained occasional small pieces of charcoal.

A light yellowish grey silt clay was found overlying 1169 and may represent a final abandonment period for corn drying activity being undertaken within this area. The

deposit was moderately compacted, measuring 0.10cm in depth and capping both the underling dryers. Two struck flints were found within the deposit along with occasional flecks of charcoal.

The main pit area of 1216 is thought to be the oven or hearth area of the dryer whilst the shallow connecting gully is thought to be the remains of a flu which would fed air into the hearth area of the dryer. The later re-cut 1067 may indicate a period of abandonment or renewal for the dryer.

Deposit 1192 contained frequent inclusions of medium to large stones and it is thought that the presence of the stones would have helped the corn dryer process through the retainment of heat. Therefore it should be considered that these stones were intentionally placed within the backfill of deposit 1192.

### 5.1.2 Hearth 1040, with re-cuts 1173 and 1197. (Figs 3&5, Plate 2)

A circular hearth 1040 was revealed within the north western area of the site and was found to have been cut into the natural clay 1002. The hearth was recorded as having sharp near vertical cut sides which had a prolonged brake of slope near to the base which proved to be flattish in nature. The overall dimensions for the hearth was observed to be 1.05m in diameter by 0.38m in depth.

Sequentially the earliest fill recorded within the confines of the hearth consisted of a stone layer 1171 which was observed to line the base and sides of the feature. The stones varied in size with the largest measuring 0.46m long by 0.34m wide and 0.12m in depth. The smallest stone recorded measured 0.12m long by 0.10m wide and 0.04m deep. All show signs of being vitrified.

The next deposit revealed 1174 was viewed as a compact sandy-clay which varied in colour from black to brick red to a mottled grey in places. It is assumed that the red colour within the deposit would have been caused by intense heat associated with in-situ burning. Some occasional flecks of charcoal were also noted amongst the deposit along with some rear small fragments of burnt bone. The deposit measured on average 0.10m in depth on the sides of the hearth but was found to be very thin on the base measuring just around 0.01m in depth. It is considered that this deposit represents the initial first firing of the hearth.

A re-cut 1173 was noticed within the southern half of feature 1040 and is thought to indicate an episode of cleaning being undertaken within the hearth. The re-cut was subcircular in plan with vertical sides (which had been undercut in places) and a flattish base . Dimensions for the re-cut measured 0.87m in diameter by 0.25m in depth and was found to have truncated underlying deposits 1173 and stone lining 1171.

Within re-cut 1173 a red-orangey brown sandy-silt was revealed, 1172, which contained occasional small fleck s of charcoal and some rare small pieces of burnt bone. A small piece of possible slag was also recovered from this fill which may suggest industrial as well as domestic activities were being undertaken at the hearth. This deposit continued to a maximum depth of 0.05m.

Overlying deposit 1172 a very compact greyish brown sand-clay silt was recorded as 1196, which was found to contain frequent inclusions of small pieces of charcoal and occasional sub-angular stones. This deposit measure 0.04m in depth and is considered to be the remains of a backfill which was thrown onto the redundant hearth material 1172.

A second re-cut was noted within the hearths stratigraphy, being 1197 which was found to have cut the underlying deposit 1196. Re-cut 1197 was sub-oval in plan with a sharp break of slope to the base which proved to be smooth and sloping slightly to the south. The re-cut measured 0.93m in diameter by 0.24m in depth and appears to represent an episode of cleaning and a final period of re use of the hearths history.

The latest deposit stratigrahically viewed within the confines of the hearth consisted of a loosely compacted greyish dark brown silt clay 1041 and is considered to represent the final firing in the hearth's history. The deposit measured 0.25m in depth and contained occasional inclusions of small pieces of burnt bone, burnt daub and frequent flecks of charcoal.

# 5.1.3 Sub-rectangular Pit 1006, Linear Gully 1005 and Post Hole 1030. (Figs 3&5, Plate 3).

The remains of a shallow sub rectangular pit 1006 measuring 1.74m in length by 1.20m in width and 0.09m in depth was revealed within the centre of the site. The pit had gentle to moderate sloping sides with a concave base, was aligned on a northwest-southeast alignment and contained one fill 1007. Fill 1007 was viewed as a moderately compacted light greyish-brown sand-silt which contained occasional small flecks of charcoal and continued to a maximum depth of 0.09m. Seven stake holes 1032 were recorded located on the pits north-western side, three of which appeared to follow the outer edge of the pit suggesting the remains of a possible fence line or wind break or wicker covering frame (see fig). Stakes holes 1032 measured on average 0.05m in diameter by 0.04m in depth.

The remains of an ephemeral gully 1005 was found to have partially truncated the northeastern side of pit 1006 and measured 1.74m long by 1.20m wide and 0.09m in depth. The gully had gentle to moderate cut sides with a flattish base and produced a single fill, 1039, which consisted of a moderately compacted light greyish dark brown clay which contained rare flecks of charcoal and measured 0.03m in depth. Two shallow stake holes were recorded at the north-eastern end of the gully which could indicate that the gully may have accommodated a small wicker fence line or wind break.

Cut into the south western side of pit 1006 was the remains of a circular post hole 1030. Post hole 1030 measured 0.70m in diameter by 0.17m in depth and had moderate sloping sides with a concave base. One fill was recorded within the post hole which consisted of a moderately compacted mid to dark brown silt sand that contained occasional inclusions of small sub-angular stones and charcoal flecks. A single fragment of pottery was also recovered from this fill and has been retained.

### 5.1.4 Oval Pit 1021 and Post Hole 1019 (Figs 3&5, Plate 4)

Pit 1021 was located immediately to the south of an area of natural outcropping and appeared to be sub oval in shape whilst viewed in plan. When excavated the feature was recorded as having gentle sloping sides with a flattish base measuring 1.7m in length by 1m in width and 0.22m in depth. A single fill was recorded within the confines of the pit this being 1022 which consisted of a loosely compacted light to mid reddish-brown silt which contained frequent small to medium sized sub-angular stones.

Post hole 1019 was found to have been cut into the south western end of pit 1021 and proved to be circular in shape measuring 0.50m in diameter by 0.22m in depth and containing several packing stones. Packing stone deposit 1025 consisted of several stones

found within post hole 1019, two of which appeared to have been laid flat within the base of the cut forming a post pad with the remaining stones placed around the sides of the cut to form packing. The backfill found within the post hole,1020, consisted of a loosely compacted mid to dark grey silt which measured a maximum of 0.22m in depth.

Due to the presence of packing within post hole 1019 it could be considered that the post may have been load bearing suggesting that the feature may have been part of a possible structure.

### 5.1.5 Sub-oval Pit 1008 and Post Hole 1027 (Figs 3&6, Plate 5)

Context 1008 consisted of a sub oval shaped pit measuring 2.70m in length by 0.90m in width and 0.20m in depth with regular gradual sloping sides and a flattish base. The pit was aligned on an east/west alignment and contained two separate fills. Basal fill 1026 consisted of a very friable mid orangey grey sandy silt which measured 0.05m in depth and is probably the remains of alluvial backfilling which would have formed soon after the pit was originally excavated. Fill 1026 produced no datable evidence but did contain some occasional charcoal flecks. Overlying basal fill 1026 a friable mid yellowish-grey sandy silt was revealed 1009 which measured 0.15m in depth and contained occasional flecks of charcoal along with a single fragment of pottery.

Post hole 1027 was sub circular in plan measuring 0.23m in diameter by 0.05m in depth and located to the immediate south of Pit 1008. Both features were observed to be almost touching but sequentially the relationship remained unclear. Two separate fills were recorded within the confines of the post hole these being 1029 and 1028. Basal fill 1029 consisted of a very friable light orangey-grey sandy silt that contained occasional small flecks of charcoal and measure 0.03m in depth. Overlying 1029 a very friable mid orangey-grey sandy silt was revealed 1028 that contained occasional flecks of charcoal and measured roughly 0.02m in depth.

### 5.1.6 Post hole 1033. (Figs 3&5)

Post hole 1033 was observed to be circular in shape with moderately cut sloping sides leading to a concave base which had a sharp cut circular depression within its southern basal side. The overall feature size measured 0.64m in diameter by 0.34m in depth and contained a single fill, 1034. Primary fill 1034 consisted of a loosely compacted mid to dark reddish-brown sandy silt which contained rear small irregular shaped stones with some occasional small pieces of charcoal and is considered to be the remains of back filling.

The sharp circular depression located within the basal area of the post hole is presumed to be the remains of a post socket. The south western side of the post hole was also recorded as being less steeply cut indicating a possible post ramp which would have allowed the post to have been lowered into the socket from this direction with limited effort. This may also suggest that the post housed within post hole 1033 could have been quite substantial in size and may have had load bearing capabilities to support an above structure.

### 5.1.7 Circular pit 1035. (Figs 3&5)

Context 1035 consisted of a circular pit measuring 0.53m in diameter by 0.17m in depth with sharp cut sides which remained sharp until the break of slope at the base which proved to be flat. Two separate fills were recorded within the confines of the pit these

being primary fill 1042 and secondary fill 1036. Primary fill 1042 consisted of a loosely compacted light brown sandy clay which measured 0.08m in depth and was probably introduced through natural slumping soon after the pit was excavated. Secondary fill 1036 was viewed as a loosely compacted blackish brown sandy clay measuring 0.11m in depth and containing occasional small pieces of charcoal. A single fragment of degraded pot was also found within this upper fill.

### 5.1.8 Intercutting Post hole's 1069, 1071 and 1073 (Figs 3&6, Plate 6)

Post hole 1069 was observed as being circular in plan with moderate to steep cut sides and having a concave base. The cut for the post hole measured 0.70m in diameter by 0.25m in depth and contained a single fill this being 1070. Fill 1070 consisted of a loosely compacted mid to dark reddish-brown sandy silt which measured 0.25m in depth and was very sterile in nature.

Cut into the upper north-eastern corner of post hole 1069 was later post hole 1071. Post hole 1071 measured 0.65m in diameter by 0.20m depth and was viewed as being circular in plan with moderate sloping sides and a concave base. A single fill was viewed within the confines of the post hole this being fill 1072 which consisted of loosely compacted light to mid reddish-brown sandy-silt which contained occasional small sub angular stones. This fill measured 0.20m in depth and had been truncated from above by later post hole 1073.

Post hole 1073 was found to have been cut into the top of earlier post hole fill 1072 and was viewed as being circular in plan measuring 0.20m in diameter by 0.08m in depth and having straight cut vertical sides with a flattish base. A single fill was recorded within the confines of the post hole this being context 1038 which consisted of a loosely compacted very dark grey sandy silt which contained abundant inclusions of charcoal. Due to the heavy concentration of charcoal being found within this context it is assumed that it may represent the in-situ burning of a timber post.

Post hole 1073 was viewed as being circular in plan with gentle sloping sides and having a concaved base. The cut measured in total 0.46m in diameter by 0.10cm in depth and contained a single fill this being 1074. Fill 1074 consisted of a loosely compacted light to mid greyish-brown sandy silt which contained occasional flecks of charcoal and measured around 0.10m in depth.

### 5.1.9 Post hole 1043 (Fig. 3)

Context 1043 represents the cut for a shallow circular post hole which was recorded as having gentle sloping sides and a concave base. The feature measured 0.38m in diameter by 0.04m in depth and contained a single fill this being 1044. Fill 1044 was observed as a loosely compacted mid to dark reddish-brown sandy-silt which contained some rare flecks of charcoal measuring roughly 0.04m in depth.

### **5.1.10 Intercutting pits 1056 and 1045** (Fig. 3)

Pit 1056 was viewed as being oval in plan measuring 2m long by 1m wide and 0.08m in depth. The cut was recorded as having gentle cut sides with a flattish base and containing a single fill this being 1057. Primary fill 1057 consisted of a loosely compacted light to mid reddish brown sandy-silt which contained occasional small irregular shaped stones. This deposit produced no datable artefacts. Due to the sterile nature and shallow depth of this feature it is assumed that is of a natural origin and not archaeological.

A second smaller pit 1045 was found cut into the north eastern corner of pit 1056. Pit 1045 was recorded as being circular with very gentle sloping sides and having a flattish base. The pit was recorded as measuring 0.60m in diameter by 0.08m in depth and containing a single fill this being 1046. Primary fill 1046 consisted of a loosely compacted mid to dark grey sandy-silt which contained occasional small flecks of charcoal. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

### 5.1.11 Post Hole 1058 and Circular Pit 1047. (Figs 3&6, Plate 7).

Post hole 1058 was viewed as being circular in plan with sharp cut sides and having a flattish base measuring 0.12m in diameter by 0.11m in depth. A single fill was revealed within the confines of the post hole this being context 1059. Context 1059 consisted of a loosely compacted mid brown silt clay which was viewed as being very sterile in nature. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

Circular pit 1047 was recorded as cutting the upper part of post hole 1058 and therefore is later in date. Upon excavation the pit was described as having concave sides with an irregular cut base measuring 0.95m in diameter by 0.29m in depth. A single fill was revealed within the confines of the pit this being 1048 which was viewed as a loosely compacted dark brown sandy clay which contained frequent small pieces of charcoal. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

### 5.1.12 Post pit 1054 and pits 1065, 1052. (Figs 3&6, Plate 8).

Post pit 1054 was viewed as being sub circular in plan with a very sharp break of slope with steep sides which lead to a concave base. A small circular depression was recorded within the base which may be the remains for a post sitting. The post pit measured 0.60m in length by 0.60m wide and 0.20m in depth and contained a single fill this being 1055. Primary fill 1055 consisted of a slightly plastic mid brown clay-silt which contained several large stones which were concentrated within the centre of the fill and are considered to be the remains of post packing. Frequent flecks of charcoal were also found within the fill along with small pieces of re-deposited clay which would suggest immediate backfilling of the feature soon after excavation. The post pit has been truncated on its north-western side by later pit 1065.

Pit 1065 was observed as being sub oval in plan and having a sharp break of slope with steep cut sides which lead to a concave base. The pit measured 0.60m long by 0.50m wide and 0.15m in depth. A single fill was noted within the confines of the pit this being 1066 which was viewed as a slightly plastic mid reddish brown clay silt which contained occasional small sub angular stones some of which showed signs of being heat affected/fire cracked. Pit 1065 was observed to have truncated adjacent earlier pit 1054 on it north western side.

Sub oval 1052 was located immediately to the north of pits 1054 and 1065 measuring 0.80m in length by 0.57m wide and 0.12m in depth. The sides of the pit were viewed as being steeply cut with a sharp break of slope at the top but having a more gradual break of slope leading to the base which was described as being concaved. A single fill was recorded within pit 1052 this being 1053 which was recorded as a slightly plastic mid brown clay-silt which contained occasional inclusions of small sub angular stones along some occasional flecks of charcoal.

**5.1.13** Sub oval pit 1061 (Fig 3).

Sub oval pit 1061 measured 0.82m in diameter by 0.17m deep and was viewed as having straight cut sharp sides with a almost flat base. A single fill was revealed within the confines of the pit this being 1062. Primary fill 1062 was recorded as being a friable greyish dark brown sandy clay which contained occasional inclusions of small sub angular stones along with occasional small pieces of charcoal. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

### **5.1.14 Sub oval pit 1063** (Figs 3&5).

Sub oval pit 1063 measured 0.80m long by 0.40m wide and 0.15m in depth. The sides of the pit was recorded as being slightly concave continuing to a flattish base. A single fill was recorded within the pit this being 1064. Pit fill 1064 was viewed as a loosely compacted dark brown sandy clay which contained frequent small pieces of charcoal throughout the fill. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

### 5.1.15 Intercutting pits 1088 and 1086 (Figs 3&7).

Pit 1088 was viewed as being circular in plan measuring 0.50m in diameter by 0.18m in depth and having undercut bell shaped sides with a flat base. Within the pit a single fill was recorded this being 1089 which consisted of a loosely compact dark grey sandy clay which was observed as being very sterile in nature. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

Pit 1086 was found to have been cut into the upper part of pit 1089 and is probably evidence for a later re-cut. The later pit measured 1m in diameter by 0.33m in depth and had 45 degree sloping sides. A single fill was found contained within the pit this being a 1087 which consisted of a loosely compacted dark brown sandy clay occasional small sub angular stones with occasional small fragments of charcoal. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

### 5.1.16 Circular pit 1090 (Fig.3).

Circular pit 1090 was observed as having 45 degree sloping side which c continued to a concave base and measured 0.60m in diameter by 0.14m in depth. A single fill was found within the pit this being 1091 which was viewed as a loosely compacted light to mid greyish brown sandy-silt which contained occasional irregularly shaped stones with frequent small flecks of charcoal. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

### 5.1.17 Post hole 1101 (Fig.3)

Sub circular post hole 1101 measured 0.30m in diameter by 0.08m in depth and was recorded as having gradually sloping sides which lead to a flat base. Two separate fills were encountered within the confines of the cut these being basal fill 1191 and secondary fill 1102. Basal fill 1191 was recorded as a friable mid yellowish grey sandy silt which may be the remains of heat affected natural and measured 0.04m in depth. Overlying 1191 a friable dark blackish yellowish grey sandy silt was recorded as being charcoal rich and may be the remains of the base of a burnt post. No datable artefacts were found within this feature and therefore it is a undated post hole.

### 5.1.18 Sub circular post hole 1111 (Fig 3, Plate 9).

Sub circular post hole 1111 measured 0.70m in diameter by 0.16m in depth and is recorded as having irregular shaped sides with a slightly concaved base. Two separate

### 5.1.19 Sub rectangular pit 1139 and sub circular post hole 1213 (Fig.3).

The remains of a sub rectangular pit was revealed 0.80m to the south west of pit 1141. Rectangular pit 1139 measured 1.2m square by 0.40m deep and was observed as having a sharp cut northern side and a moderately sloped southern side which continued to a concaved base. Two separate fills were revealed from within the confines of the cut these being basal deposit 1215 and secondary deposit 1140. Basal deposit 1215 consisted of a compact light brown silt sand which contained occasional small sub angular stones and measuring 0.20m in depth. Overlying the basal deposit a black silt sand was revealed 1140, which was recorded as being charcoal rich and measuring 0.15m maximum in depth. Both deposits produced no datable artefacts.

Sub circular post hole 1213 was revealed immediately adjacent to the south eastern edge of pit 1139 and measured 0.15m in diameter by 0.15m in depth. The sides of the cut were recorded as being moderate to sharp in gradient with a flattish base. A single fill was revealed within the cut this being 1214 which consisted of a dark brown silt sand which contained several large stones which are considered to be the remains of post packing. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

### 5.1.20 Sub oval pit 1141 and re-cut 1210 (Figs 3&7, Plate 10)

Sub oval pit 1141 had steep cut sides which lead to a gentle break of slope at the base which was observed to slope gently to the south west. The pit measured 1.10m long by 0.80m wide and 0.25m in depth and was recorded as containing a single fill this being 1142. Primary fill 1142 was viewed as a moderately compacted clay which contained occasional inclusions of small sub angular stones along with some rare charcoal flecks. Cut into the upper part of the deposit was later re-cut 1210 which measured 0.90m long by 0.60m wide and 0.20m in depth. The re-cut was observed to have steep cut sides with round corners and a concave even base. A single fill was revealed within the re-cut this being fill 1211 which was viewed as a soft to moderately compacted light reddish brown sandy silt which contained occasional small sub angular stones along with frequent small pieces of charcoal. Both deposits produced no datable artefacts.

1082 was located to the north-east of 1141, being an irregular shaped feature 1.4m in length, 0.8m in width and 0.14m in depth, with a sandy-silt fill 1083, interpreted as a shallow tree bowl.

### 5.1.21 Circular pit 1147 (Figs 3&7, Plate 11)

Circular pit 1147 measured 1.4m in diameter by 0.25m in depth and was observed as having a steeply cut sides which continued to a flattish concaved base. A single fill was recorded within the feature this being 1148 which was observed to be a loosely compacted dark orangey brown sandy clay which contained frequent small pieces of

### 5.1.22 Sub circular post hole 1165 (Fig 3).

Sub circular post hole 1165 was observed to have steep cut sides with a flattish base measuring overall 0.14m in diameter by 0.09m in depth. The feature was located next to a tree bowl root which is perceived to be of a later date than the feature. A single fill 1166 was found within the posthole and consisted of a loosely compacted mid to dark reddish brown sandy-silt which contained occasional small sub angular stones. No datable artefacts were found within this feature.

### 5.1.23 Post holes 1187, 1189 and Pit 1094 (Figs 3&7, Plate 12)

Post hole 1187 was viewed as being circular in plan with near vertical cut sides leading to a concave base. The remains of a probable ramp was present on the features north eastern side which suggests that the cut would have housed a substantial post. The feature measured 0.39m in diameter by 0.27m in depth and contained a single fill this being 1188. Primary fill 1188 consisted of a loosely compacted very dark grey sandy-silt which contained occasional small irregular shaped stones some of which showed signs of being heat affected. Charcoal flecks were also found widespread throughout the deposit possibly indicating in situ burring. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

To the immediate south west of post hole 1187 a second post hole was revealed this being post hole 1189. Post hole 1189 was viewed as being sub circular in shape with near vertical sides and having a flattish base. The cut measured 0.27m in diameter by 0.15m in depth and contained a single fill this being 1190. Deposit 1190 consisted of a loosely compacted very dark grey sandy-silt which contained two irregular shaped stones with abundant flecks of charcoal being found throughout the fill. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

Overlying postholes 1187 and 1189 was later pit cut 1094 which had truncated the tops of both features. Pit 1094 was viewed as oval in plan with gentle sloping sides which continued to a flattish base. The feature measured 1.94m long by 1.10m wide and continued to a depth of 0.10m. A single fill was revealed with the confines of the pit this being 1095 which consisted of a friable light to mid orangey brown sandy silt which had occasional small irregularly shaped stones which showed signs of being heat affected along with occasional flecks of charcoal.

Due to the large size of post holes 1187 and 1189 it could be considered that both features are load bearing and may have been part of a structure.

Pit 1094 is thought to possibly be the remains of a tree bowl as the sides of the cut were described as being very defuse and undiscernible in nature. Also it could be considered that a tree may have taken root into a collapsed structure which may have belonged to the two underlying post holes.

### 5.1.24 Linear cut 1208 (Figs 3, 8&9, Plates 13)

The remains of a linear cut 1208 was revealed within the south western vicinity of the site next to an area of outcropping. The linear cut when viewed in plan was aligned west south-west by east south-east measuring 2.8m in length by 0.8m wide and 0.30m in depth. The sides of the cut were observed as being straight leading to an uneven base due to the

underlying bed rock. Two separate deposits were observed within this cut feature these being basal fill 1212 and secondary fill 1209. Basal fill 1212 was revealed as being entirely confined to the middle lower basal area of the feature and was recorded as a dark brown silt sand which was observed as being very sterile in nature with some iron panning visible at the base of the deposit. Overlying the basal deposit 1212 a light brown silt sand was revealed 1209 measuring 0.25m in depth and containing preserved pieces of turf which it is assumed are the remains of backfill re-deposited during backfilling. Both deposits produced no datable artefacts.

## 5.1.25 Curvilinear Gully 1078, 1080, 1199, 1084, 1201, 1175, 1181 and Small Pit feature 1185 (Figs 3, 8&9, Plates 14-16)

The remains of shallow curvilinear gully was recorded within the south western end of the excavation area heading on a north west/south east alignment. This feature was found to have been truncated along its route by a later stone land drain and field boundary 1202.

Several sections were placed across the curvilinear to ascertain its form and to recover any possible artefacts which may indicate the features purpose. Below are described the results of the separate section's starting at the north-western most to continue south east numbered 1 through to 7.

Section 1 was located at far north western end of the curvilinear where the feature continued under the south east facing baulk of the excavation area (Plate 15). The cut of the feature 1078 was observed to be well defined with sharp cut sides which descend to a smooth concave base measuring 0.60m wide by 0.12m deep and containing a single fill this being 1079. Primary fill 1079 consisted of compact light brownish-grey sand silt clay which contained occasional inclusions of small sub angular stones and some rare flecks of charcoal. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

Section 2 found that the gully at this location 1080 was observed as having a steep upper slope on its north eastern side which had a gradual break of slope before leading to a flat uneven base. Whereas the gullies south east side was recorded as having a more diffuse edge with a more gentle break of slope leading to the base. Measurements taken at this location confirmed that the gully measured 0.60m wide by 0.08m deep and contained a single fill this being 1081. Context 1081 is described as being a fairly compacted dark grey clay silt which contained mottled patches that were orangey brown in colour. Inclusions found within this deposit consisted occasional amounts of small sub angular stones with rear large sub angular stones. A number of patches of soot were noted within the deposit with very few flecks of charcoal. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

Section 3 revealed that within this location the upper part of the gullies cut 1199 had probably been truncated and reduced in depth by historic ploughing. Due to the historic ploughing only the base survived and was observed as being shallow and concave measuring 0.60m wide by 0.05m deep. A single fill was observed within the confines of the gully consisting of a compact mid grey sand-silt 1200 which contained occasional inclusions of small sub rounded stones, some of which were fire cracked. This deposit produced no datable artefacts and almost no charcoal flecks (Plate 16)

Section 4 was positioned where the course of the gully turned sharply to the north east. The cut of the gully 1084 was observed as having sharply cut sides with a sharp break of slope at the gullies base which was recorded as being a irregular flattish base. It was noted during excavation that the gully had a more sharper cut side on its north eastern

edge whereas the south western edge of the cut was more eroded which may suggest that the up cast material created through the excavation of the gully may have formed a bank the north eastern side of the feature. The gully cut measured 0.60m in width and 0.14m in depth and contained two separate fills these being 1085 and 1100. Basal fill 1085 consisted of a compact light to mid grey sandy clay silt which contained frequent small sub angular stones some of which resembled pot boiler/fire cracked stone. Rare Charcoal flecks were also recorded within this deposit along with some rare small pieces of charcoal. This deposit measured 0.14m in depth. Overlying 1085 a compact dark brown sandy silt was revealed 1100 which was recorded as being relatively sterile and probably formed from rotting vegetation being present within the top of the gully. This deposit measured 0.04m in depth and produced no datable artefacts.

Section 5 revealed the most complex stratigraphy recorded with the gully. Sequentially the earliest event recorded within Section 5 consisted of the remains of a possible stake hole 1207. The stake hole cut was observed as having steep cut sides with a sharp break of slope at the base measuring 0.05m wide by 0.10m in depth. A single fill was recorded within the confines of the stake hole this being 1206 which was recorded as being a very compacted mid brown clay silt which contained frequent charcoal pieces and occasional small sub angular stones. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

Gully cut 1201 was found to have truncated the upper part of stake hole 1206 and therefore sequentially is considered later in date. The gully at this location was observed as having sharp cut north-eastern side and a more eroded south western side with a concave base measuring 0.70m wide by 0.21m in depth. Two separate deposits were recorded within the confines of the gully theses being 1204 and 1205. Basal deposit 1204 measured0.10m in depth and consisted of a very compact mid grey slightly sandy clay silt which contained rare flecks of charcoal. Overlying 1204 a very compacted mid dark greyish brown slightly sandy clay silt was revealed 1205, which measure 0.12m in depth and contained occasional small sub angular stones some of which appeared to be heat affected/ fire cracked. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

Section 6 was placed over the Gully and the adjacent modern field boundary to the north east. The cut of the gully 1175 measured 0.60m wide by 0.15m deep and was observed as having steeply sloping sides with a gradual break of slope at the base. The base of the gully was recorded as being shallow and concaved. The gully was observed at this location to have been cut by later boundary ditch 1202. A single fill was revealed within the confines of the gully this being 1176 which consisted of a very compacted mid grey slightly sandy silt clay and contained occasional small sub rounded stones with occasional flecks of charcoal. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

Section 7 was located near to the north western facing baulk of the site and revealed the south eastern terminus of the gully. The terminus of the gully 1181 measured 0.25m wide by 0.05m in depth and contained a single fill this being 1182. Primary deposit 1186 consisted of a compact mottled grey clay silt which contained frequent flecks of charcoal measuring 0.05m in depth. This deposit produced no datable artefacts. Gully terminus 1181 was found to have been truncated by later boundary ditch 1202.

Section 7 also partially revealed the remains of a shallow pit 1185 which measured 0.45m in length by 0.25m wide and 0.10m in depth. The sides of the pit were vied as having been cut steeply on the south western side whereas the north western and south eastern sides were cut more gentle leading to a concave base. A single fill was recorded within

the confines of the pit this being 1186 which consisted of a compact mottled grey clay silt which contained frequent inclusions of charcoal flecks. This deposit produced no datable artefacts. The fill of pit feature 1186 is recorded as being identical in form to gully fill 1182 and therefore it could be considered that both features are contiguous.

### 5.1.26 Boundary ditch 1202 (Figs 3&8, Plate 17)

Boundary ditch 1202 was revealed within the south-western area of the site and was recorded as being slightly curvilinear and heading roughly on a north west/south east alignment. A section was placed on the ditch where the feature continued under the south east facing baulk of the site. The sides of the feature were revealed as having moderate cut sloping sides leading to a flattish/concave base measuring 2.6m wide by 0.54m in depth. A single fill was found contained within the ditch this being 1203 which consisted of a soft to moderately compacted brownish grey sandy-silt which contained occasional small sub rounded stones and several pieces of modern china.

When viewing the south eastern baulk section of the site it could be clearly seen that the ditch cut had been cut through the subsoil layer and stopped at the subsoil/topsoil interface which would suggest that this feature is modern in date.

Two further sections were placed at the south eastern end of ditch boundary 1202 and recorded that the feature truncated curvilinear boundary 1181 at these two locations and therefore indicating that ditch boundary 1202 is of a later date in construction. Through viewing the site plan it is considered that this feature is a continuation of field boundary 1003.

### 5.1.27 Field boundary 1003, Stone land drain 1024 (Figs 3&9, Plates 18 &19)

Field boundary ditch 1003 was aligned on a south west/ north east alignment, turning north west to head under the northern baulk of the site. The cut for the ditch measured 1.7m wide by 0.40m in depth and had moderate sloping sides with a flattish base. A single deposit was recorded within the ditch this being 1004 which consisted of a dark brown sandy clay which continued to a maximum depth of 0.40m. A stone land drain 1023 was constructed within the cut of the north western edge of the boundary ditch 1003 and measured 0.50m wide by 0.30m in depth. Through viewing the site plan it is considered that this feature is a continuation of field boundary 1202.

### 5.1.28 Field boundary 1011, Stone land drain 1015 (Figs 3 & 9, Plate 20)

Field boundary 1011 was located within the south eastern corner of the site running on a south east/north west alignment continuing under both northern and eastern bulks of the site for an unknown distance. Two separate 1m wide sections were placed over the route of the field boundary to ascertain its character and form.

Section 1 was placed where the boundary continued under the north-western facing baulk of the site and where the boundary was also truncated by a later stone lined drain 1014. Therefore the width of the boundary at this location was distorted due to the drain truncating the north-eastern side of the feature. The surviving south -western edge of the boundary measured 0.90m in width by 0.25m in depth and contained a single fill this being 1012 which consisted of a tightly compacted dark greyish brown sandy clay.

The cut for the stone lined drain 1014 measured 0.40m wide by 0.34m deep and was found to have heavily truncated earlier field boundary cut 1011 and boundary fill 1012

at this location. Within the drain cut a number of inverted stone slabs 1015 had been placed which formed a v-shaped channel along the route of the cut. Overlying the stone drain a loosely compacted mottled Orangey-brown sandy clay was revealed 1017 which measured 0.17m in depth and appeared to be the remains of backfilling.

Section 2 was located to the north west of section 1 and produced a unrestricted view of field boundary cut 1011 which measure measured 1.9m wide by 0.32m in depth and contained a single fill this being 1012. Deposit 1012 consisted of a dark brown sandy clay which was sterile in nature and appeared to have formed as the result of alluvial action. This deposit produced no datable artefacts.

### 5.1.29 Subsoil and Topsoil

The subsoil layer 1001 was observed as a moderately compacted light greyish-brown silt clay which measured 0.20m in depth and contained occasional small sub angular stones. The general trend for the layer shows that it becomes progressively deeper towards the lower eastern end of the site which is probably the result of hill wash actions taking place. This context produced a small number of post medieval finds such as pipe stems and modern glass, several struck flints and stone tools.

The general lack of post medieval finds found within this layer suggests that the excavation area had undergone little historic ploughing or land management in the past and may have been mainly used as pasture.

The overlying topsoil layer 1000 was viewed as a well-drained soft dark brown silt clay which contained occasional small sub angular stones and on average measured 0.15m in depth across the site.

### 5.2 Finds

A total of 54 items were recovered during the excavation. This comprised: 11 sherds of pottery, 4 CBM fragments, 22 lithic items, 5 pieces of stone, 4 pieces of slag, 1 tobacco pipe fragment, 1 piece of wood and some fragments of burnt bone (see Appendix 3).

### 5.2.1 Pottery by Dr David Mullin

### Results

All of the pottery assemblage came from stratified contexts.

A total of five sherds weighing 9g and 22g of fired clay were recovered from five contexts. The extremely low sherd size (average = 1.7g) makes meaningful identification of these sherds problematic, which is further compounded by the lack of featured sherds.

Context 1001: two sherds weighing 4g, both well fired and oxidised. Not prehistoric, possibly post-Med.

Context 1009: a single sherd weighing 3g. Relatively thin-walled with oxidised outer and reduced inner surfaces suggesting bonfire firing. Fabric contains quartz and stone. Prehistoric.

Context 1031: a single sherd weighing 1g. Appears to be same fabric as that from 1009.

Context 1036: a single sherd weighing 1g. Appears to be same fabric as that from 1009 and 1031.

Context 1041/1170: five fragments of fired clay weighing 22g. Very low-fired and contains charcoal. Although identified as daub on the finds bag this is probably best described as fired clay.

### **Conclusions & recommendations**

Although the fabric would not be out of place within the Neolithic or Early Bronze Age, positive identification of the prehistoric pottery from 1009, 1031 and 1036 is not possible due to its fragmentary state and the lack of any decorative/diagnostic features. The sherds have low potential for further work for the same reasons. No further work is recommended.

### **5.2.2 Lithics** by Kate Pitt

| Stone   |      |  | Amount | Weight |
|---------|------|--|--------|--------|
|         | 1001 | Polished rubber stone/ polished axe fragment | 2      | 240    |
|         | 1036 | Burnt stone                                  | 1      | 13     |
|         | 1068 | Stone flakes                                 | 2      | 102    |
|         | 1076 | Hammer stone                                 | 1      | 333    |
|         | U/S  | Stone flakes                                 | 2      | 30     |
|         |      |  |        |        |
| Lithics |      |  |        |        |
|         | 1001 | 2 cores, 1 blade fragment, 1 scraper         | 13     | 120    |
|         |      | fragment, 9 flakes                           |        |        |
|         | 1068 | Flint flakes                                 | 3      | 11     |
|         | 1070 | Burnt flint flake                            | 1      | 4      |
|         | 1076 | Flint flake                                  | 1      | <1     |
|         | 1085 | Flake  | 1      | 4      |
|         | 1095 | Flint flake                                  | 1      | 6      |
|         | 1114 | Flint scraper                                | 1      | 3      |
| * (     | U/S  | Flint flake                                  | 1      | <1     |

The lithic assemblage is made up of 22 lithic items and 8 pieces of stone.

### Results

This assemblage is typical of Neolithic to Early Bronze Age settlement activity. There is a range of flint knapping debitage and fragments of flint tools. The rubber stone is likely a handstone used to accompany a saddle quern for crushing foodstuffs, such as nuts and cereals into flour. The presence of stone flakes and a polished axe fragment with central depressions gives further insight into prehistoric life.

### **Conclusions & recommendations**

This assemblage has potential to give additional information on the settlement and trade of prehistoric Anglesey if studied in detail by a lithic specialist.

### 5.2.3 Finds Summary

The majority of the finds are prehistoric in character, but not in any great quantity. The sparse, degraded pottery and lithic and stone assemblage are indicative of a Neolithic to Bronze Age settlement of either short duration, possibly a seasonal camp, or that from the periphery of a larger settlement.

### 5.3 Environmental samples

The site sampling policy followed that set out in the approved Specification. Samples were taken of all significant, non-contaminated, deposits. Samples were not taken from features where there was clear evidence of contamination resulting from bioturbation, i.e. where root action or other post-depositional processes had allowed modern and earlier material to penetrate into a context.

In all cases the aim was to obtain material suitable for dating such as earbon, and for improving the interpretation of the associated feature by recovering items such as charred bone, flint fragments and pottery sherds. 64 samples were taken in total, with the sample list being in Appendix 3. Of these samples, 10 were processed in house by Archaeology Wales, and for initial specialist assessment 5 of the most significant and productive flots were chosen. The unprocessed samples, flots and residues have all been retained.

### 5.3.1 Assessment of the Charred Plant Remains by Wendy J. Carruthers

### Introduction

At the site of the Menai Science Park, Anglesey, an area of around 7000 cubic metres was excavated by Archaeology Wales (AW) in 2015. The natural substrata consisted of a firm yellowish grey clay with angular and rounded stones. The solid geology consisted of Anglesey Blueschist (Archaeology Wales information sheet for specialists). Soil and context descriptions in this report have been taken from an AW information sheet for specialists sent by Irma Bernadus (AW).

Soil samples were taken from a variety of features cutting the natural substrata. Ten samples were processed by Irma Bernadus (Archaeology Wales) using bucket floatation (250 micron mesh and 1mm flot sieves, and 1mm mesh retaining the residue). Out of these, the flots from five samples were selected for assessment. The selected samples came from two undated features thought to be prehistoric; the re-cut pit [1067] of a corndrier [1216] and a hearth [1040].

### Assessment Methods

Each of the five flots was dry-sieved through 3mm, 1mm and 250 microns prior to scanning to make the scan more efficient. Large charcoal fragments recovered by the 3mm mesh sieve were sorted and bagged, ready to be sent to a charcoal specialist where required. The volume of large charcoal was measured and tabulated (see Table). Other charred plant remains observed during the scanning were placed in glass tubes/containers for protection, but the tubes were retained within the flot bags, awaiting full analysis. Further items are likely to be extracted from the flots (particularly small items such as chaff and weed seeds) during full analysis.

### **Results of the assessment**

Recovery and preservation - Dense charred items such as hazelnut (Corylus avellana) shell fragments (abbreviated to HNS in Table 1 and hereafter) often fail to float, so it is important to check coarse residues by eye (>3mm) and finer residues under a microscope (<3mm). This is particularly important for prehistoric sites where hazel nuts might make up a considerable proportion of the diet. It is also especially important for sites on clay soils where silt and mineral impregnation can make charred material too dense to float. The charred remains from this site were particularly poorly preserved, with heavy white and orange silt (and iron?) impregnation causing difficulties in spotting items such as cereal grains, as well as making material difficult to identify. For this reason the flots will need to be double-checked during full analysis. No residues have been examined at this stage so the efficiency of the recovery process has not been checked by that author. Five litre subsamples of the bulk samples were used for the assessment, amounting to 11% to 40% of the five bulk samples (Irma Bernadus (AW) floatation record sheet). Since prehistoric deposits often contain only sparse charred plant remains it is important that the remaining soil is processed during the full analysis stage, as recommended below. This is likely to produce around two to five times as much charred material as has been recorded in Table 1 if the distribution of charred remains is evenly distributed in the soil (which it rarely is). This may mean that more-suitable material for radiocarbon dating is obtained in the full analysis stage. Nevertheless, some recommendations regarding the dating of material found during the assessment have been given in Table 1.

### The character of the assemblages

Hearth [1040]- Two samples were assessed from a circular hearth in the north-western areas of the site, cut into natural clay. Sample 51 came from context (1174) – a compact sandy clay with evidence of burning overlying a stony layer. The deposit is thought to represent the first use of the hearth. A single lateral twisted grain of hulled barley (Hordeum sp.) and the apex of an apple or pear pip (Malus/Pyrus sp.) were recovered from the 5 litre sub-sample, indicating that the hearth had been used for the preparation of food. It is recommended that the remaining 13 litres is processed in order to recover further evidence of foods being consumed and other remains that might help in dating this activity.

The second sample (sample 15) is thought to have come from the final firing of the hearth, following two re-cuts. Context 1041 consisted of compacted greyish dark brown silt clay. It contained burnt bone, burnt daub and charcoal. A large fragment of possible crab apple, complete with a very poorly preserved seed within the core, was recovered, in addition to a very poorly preserved emmer/spelt grain (Triticum dicoccum/spelta) and a sheep's sorrel (Rumex acetosella) achene. As a further 50 litres of soil exists for this context there is a good chance that additional food remains may be found if it is fully processed. Sheep's sorrel is indicative of sandy, acidic soils in grasslands, heath or cultivated land.

Although both samples have not produced remains that definitely confirm the date of the hearth, the recovery of charred apple with a little hulled wheat and barley is characteristic of early prehistoric sites, in particular of Neolithic to early Bronze Age deposits (Moffett et al 1989). Sites such as Willow Farm, Castle Donnington, Leics (Monckton 2004) and Clifton Quarry, Severn Stoke, Worcs (Clapham forth) have produced assemblages rich in whole and broken crab apples from Late Neolithic/EBA pits. Apples that appear to have been cut open to aid drying have also been found on the Continent (Zohary & Hopf

2000, 2000). On Anglesey at Capel Eithin naked barley and emmer were found (Hillman 1981) and at Gwernvale (Moffett & Hillman forth in Caseldine 1990) in south-east Wales and Plas Gogerddan, mid Wales (Caseldine forth in Caseldine 1990) HNS and apple were recovered.

It is strongly recommended that radiocarbon dating is carried out, but possibly after the remaining soil has been processed and scanned for suitable, closely identifiable material. The cereal grains from the assessment were rather small and incomplete and the cf. apple has not yet been positively identified due to the poor state of preservation, but either of these could be dated.

Corndrier re-cut [1067] of corndrier [1216] – Three samples were assessed from re-cut pit [1067]. Basal deposit (1192) consisted of compacted mid whitish grey clay. It was thought to possibly be the remains of a clay lining or intentional back filling foundation for the drier. Sample 54 from this deposit produced two medium/large fragments of HNS, large enough for dating. Large charcoal fragments were infrequent. It is likely that more fragments of HNS will be present in the residue. A large amount of soil remains to be processed (79 litres). It would be worthwhile processing at least 40 litres more to see whether a substantial amount of HNS was present in the base of the pit, perhaps indicating parching nuts prior to storage, or prior to cracking or grinding. Evidence for processing hazelnuts on a large scale has been recovered from Mesolithic deposits on Colonsay, Southern Hebrides (Carruthers 2000) but very little clear evidence for processing nuts has been recovered from elsewhere, even though HNS is sometimes abundant in early prehistoric samples. The association of frequent nut remains from an oven-like feature would be significant in demonstrating that drying was carried out. Clearly, a radiocarbon date would be required to establish when this was taking place. An alternative explanation is that shell was being used for fuel/tinder.

An arrangement of stones with evidence of intense in situ burning overlay context (1192). Above this deposit lies context (1169), a compacted whitish grey silty clay with frequent charcoal fragments. 100ml of large charcoal was recovered from the 5 litre sample. This deposit is thought to represent a period of sustained in situ burning within the dryer. Samples 34 and 36 were taken from deposit (1169). Sample 34 contained frequent charred cleavers nutlets (seeds, Galium aparine). Eight seeds were present in the 5 litre sub-sample which is notable for this small amount of soil. It may represent an accumulation of small, round seeds that had 'trickled down' through other foods (perhaps nuts or cereals) being dried in the oven. A single vetch/tare (Vicia/Lathyrus sp.) is a similar small, round seed. Both taxa are climbers/scramblers that are common in hedgerows and disturbed ground, so they could have been gathered amongst nuts, particularly if nuts had been gathered by beating the bushes/trees when ripe.

The second sample from this deposit (sample 36) contained only a very small fragment of HNS. Charcoal was infrequent. Since only 7 more litres of unprocessed soil are available it may be better to concentrate resources on the other sample from this context, sample 34. Eighteen litres of soil are available for processing from sample 34. If the two samples are not from specific, different areas of the deposit they could be amalgamated, making a total of 25 litres of extra soil to be processed. As yet no cereal remains have been recovered from the proposed 'corndrier' so the function of this oven clearly requires reconsidering. In particular, the feature needs to be radiocarbon dated, as if its function was confirmed to be for drying hazelnuts (though at present this is based on only traces of HNS) this would be of national importance.

The parching of whole hazelnuts serves several purposes; it helps to make the shells brittle to facilitate cracking them without crushing the nut and it dries them prior to storage to make them less likely to go mouldy and to kill off parasites. Nut kernels can also be parched to make them easier to grind into 'flour'. Nut shells are also useful for kindling and fuel, where nuts are shelled en masse.

### Charcoal analysis

Reasonable quantities of identifiable charcoal have been recovered from the assessment sub-samples from both features (see Table 1). Once dates have been obtained and further soil has been processed it would be worthwhile sending the large charcoal to a specialist in order to analyse the species present and determine what type of woodland the fuel wood was being taken from. It may help to resolve, for example, whether the HNS was an accidental inclusion in sample 54, having been gathered with hazel wood as fuel. If of a similar date, comparisons between the fuels used may show whether different taxa were selected for specific purposes.

### **Conclusions**

Samples from both features have the potential for providing important information about the early prehistoric economy on Anglesey. In particular, they may demonstrate the processing of wild gathered foods such as crab apples and hazelnuts, though this depends on the results from processing the remaining soil samples. Other sites in the area, such as Early Neolithic pits at Carrog, Llanbadrig (Caseldine & Griffiths 2013) can be used for comparative purposes, depending on the results of radiocarbon dating.

### **Recommendations**

As described in this assessment report, both features have the potential for being early prehistoric in date, and as such they could be of major importance. Radiocarbon dating is therefore essential to resolve this issue. Further processing and analysis of all five samples is recommended, although if resources are limited sample 36 could be omitted.

### 5.4 Summary of the Results

### 5.4.1 Prehistoric

In the western area of the excavations a cluster of features were revealed. The most significant feature was initially interpreted a corn-dryer, from its form and character. With the associated lithics and environmental results, this feature has potential to become even more interesting, possibly being that of a nut drying process for food processing, which could pre-date or compliment cereal-drying. The surrounding features, some ephemeral, are likely to be associated and that of a temporary camp or edge of the main settlement. The curved gully of [1078] could be an enclosure of this area of activity, and if so could suggest a large enclosed area extending to the west of the excavations undertaken.

25

In the northern site area a hearth provides further evidence of prehistoric cooking activity, with the initial environmental sampling results showing food residues of barley, apple and spelt grain from the feature.

### 5.4.2 Post-medieval

Three large post-medieval field boundary ditches ran across the excavation site, giving layout information of the land divisions of pastoral farming in the post-medieval period.

### 6. Discussion and Conclusions

Evidence was recovered during the excavation to suggest that prehistoric and postmedieval occupation occurred within the development area. This is in keeping with the extensive evidence for these and other periods recovered from the Cefn Du (Cutler et al 2012) and Capel Eithin (White 1981; White and Smith 1999) excavations further to the north.

The prehistoric settlement evidence encountered compliments an increasing knowledge of Neolithic settlement on Anglesey, with recent discoveries of Neolithic settlement at Llanfaethlu (Rees and Jones 2015).

There is a high potential for prehistoric archaeology to be encountered in any further works to the west and north-west of the present area of strip, map and excavate.

The archive will be deposited with the finds in the Gwynedd Museum

### 7. Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to the field team, with the assistance of Nebu George - Bangor University Intern 2015 and to Irma Bernardus for the illustrations.

### 8. Bibliography

Amec 2013, J7, A55, Gaerwen: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment, Amec report no. 34291rr15

Amec 2013a, Ty Mawr, Gaerwen, and Lledwigan Sites – Evaluation of Archaeological Assessment & Geophysical Survey, Amec report no. 34291rr17

British Geological Survey 2013, http://www.bgs.ac.ukldiscoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html

Carruthers, Wendy J. (2000) The charred hazelnut shell and other plant remains. In Steven Mithen, Hunter-gatherer landscape archaeology. The Southern Hebrides Mesolithic Project 1988-98. Vol 2: Archaeological fieldwork on Colonsay, computer

modeling, experimental archaeology, and final interpretations. McDonald Institute Monograph, p.407-415.

Caseldine, Astrid (1990) *Environmental Archaeology in Wales*. Department of Archaeology, Saint David's University College Lampeter.

Caseldine, A.E. (1992) The Neolithic carbonized plant remains from pit 206. In Murphy, K., Plas Gogerddan, Dyfed: a multi-period burial and ritual site. *Archaeological Journal 149*, 24-26.

Caseldine, A.E. & Griffiths, C.J. (2013) Environmental Evidence. In George Smith, Early Neolithic settlement & an early Iron Age hill top enclosure at Carrog, Llanbadrig, Anglesey. GAT Report No. 1148, 11-19.

Clapham, Alan (forth) Plant macrofossils. In A. Mann & R.Jackson Archaeological watching brief and contingency excavation at Clifton Quarry, Severn Stoke, Worcestershire. *Proc Prehist Soc.* 

Cutler R., Davidson A., and Hughes G. 2012, A Corridor Through Time: The Archaeology of the A55 Anglesey Road Scheme, Oxbow Books

Davies I. and Houliston M. 2014, *Menai Science Park, Gaerwen, Archaeological Evaluation*. AW Report No 1273

Durham University 2013, *J7*, *A55*, *Gaerwen*, *Anglesey: Geophysical Survey*, Archaeological Services, Durham University report no. 3194

Higgins, D, A. 1987. Some Clay Pipes From Cheshire and Merseyside. North West Archaeological Trust Report No. 3

Moffett, L., Robinson, M.A. & Straker, V. (1989) Cereals, fruits and nuts: charred plant remains from neolithic sites in England and Wales and the neolithic economy. *In* Milles, A., Williams, D. & Monckton A. (unpublished 2002) *Charred plant remains from Bronze Age features and a burnt mound at Willow Farm, Castle Donington, Leicestershire* (xA14.97).

Rees C. and Jones M. 2015 'Neolithic House from Llanfaethlu, Anglesey', in *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society vol 81* 

ULEAS Rep.Gardner N. (eds) The Beginnings of Agriculture. BAR Int. 496, 243-261.

Zohary, D. & Hopf, M. (2000) *Domestication of Plants in the Old World*. Oxford: OP, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.

White S. I. 1981, 'Excavations at Capel Eithin, Gaerwen, Anglesey, 1980: First Interim Report', in *Transactions of the Anglesey Antiquarian Society*, 15-27

White S. I. and Smith G. 1999, 'A Funerary and Ceremonial Centre at Capel Eithin, Gaerwen, Anglesey', in *Transactions of the Anglesey Antiquarian Society* 

Williams, H. 2006. *Death and Memory in Early Medieval Britain*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press

t

Nales























 ## Charcoal

 Job Title: Menai Science Park, Gaerwen

 Drawing Title: Plan & sections of Ditch

 [1202]

 Date: October 2015

 Drawn By: ILB

 Scale: 1:20 @ A3

 Figure 8.

Key

Stone







Plate 1. Shot of Corn Dryer [1216]. Looking east. Scale 40cm



Plate 2. Shot of Hearth [1040]. Looking south. Scale 1m





Plate 4. Shot of Pit [1021] and Post hole [1019]. Looking west. Scale 40cm





Plate 6. Shot of Post holes [1069], [1071] and [1037]. Looking north-west. Scale 1m





Plate 7. Shot of Post hole [1058] and Pit [1047], Looking north-east. Scale 1m



Plate 8. Shot of Pits [1054], [1065] and [1052]. Looking west. Scale 1m





Plate 9. Shot of Pits [1088] and [1086]. Looking west. Scale 30cm



Plate 10. Shot of Pit [1141]. Looking north-west. Scale 30cm





Plate 12. Shot of Post holes [1187], [1189] and Pit [1094]. Scale 40cm x 30cm





Plate 13. Shot of Linear Cut [1208]. Looking north-east. Scale 1m



Plate 14. Shot of Gully [1078]. Looking east. Scale 1m x 40cm









Plate 17. Shot of Field Boundary Ditch [1202]. Looking west. Scale 1m



Plate 18. Shot of Field Boundary Ditch [1003]. Looking North-east. Scale 1m





Plate 19. Shot of Field Boundary Ditch [1003]. Looking south-west. Scale 1m



Plate 20. Shot of Field Boundary Ditch [1011]. Looking south-east. Scale 1m



Archaeology Wales

# atalo,

### Archaeology Wales Ltd.

Finds catalogue Menai Science Park, Gearwen

Site code: MSP/15/EX

|                     | Number<br>Pottery | Context | Description                      | Amount | Weight | Kept/Discard |
|---------------------|-------------------|---------|----------------------------------|--------|--------|--------------|
|                     |                   | 1001    | Pot?                             | 2      | 4      | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1009    |                                  | 1      | 3      | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1031    |                                  | 1      | <1     | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1036    |                                  | 1      | <1     | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1203    | Porcelain                        | 6      | 17     | Kept         |
|                     |                   |         |                                  | 5      |        |              |
|                     | CBM               |         |                                  | 0,     |        |              |
|                     |                   | 1041    | Fired clay                       | 4      | 25     | Kept         |
|                     | Stone             |         |                                  | 0      |        |              |
|                     |                   | 1001    | Polished/worked                  | 2      | 240    | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1036    | Burnt stone                      | 1      | 13     | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1068    | Stone flakes                     | 2      | 102    | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1076    | Hammer?                          | 1      | 333    | Kept         |
|                     |                   | U/S     | Stone flakes found next to gully | 2      | 30     | Kept         |
|                     | Lithics           |         |                                  |        |        |              |
|                     | Litines           | 1001    |                                  | 13     | 120    | Kent         |
|                     |                   | 1068    |                                  | 3      | 11     | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1070    | Burnt flint flake?               | 1      | 4      | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1076    |                                  | 1      | <1     | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1085    | c                                | 1      | 4      | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1095    |                                  | 1      | 6      | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1114    |                                  | 1      | 3      | Kept         |
|                     |                   | U/S     |                                  | 1      | <1     | Kept         |
|                     | Slag              |         |                                  |        |        |              |
|                     |                   | 1068    | Possible slag                    | 2      | <1     | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1169    |                                  | 2      | <1     | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1169    |                                  | n/a    | 15     | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1172    | Sample no. 42                    | n/a    | 47     | Kept         |
|                     | 5                 | 1196    | Possible slag                    | n/a    | 23     | Kept         |
|                     |                   |         |                                  | .,     |        |              |
| CY                  | Miscellan         | eous    |                                  |        |        |              |
| $\mathbf{\bigcirc}$ |                   | 1001    | Tabacco clay pipe                | 1      | 2      | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1169    | Preserved wood                   | 4      | 9      | Kept         |
|                     |                   | 1169    | Sample from corn dryer, C14?     | n/a    | n/a    | kept         |
|                     |                   | 1041    | Burnt bone samples               | n/a    | 6      | Kept         |

|              | 1172   | Burnt bone samples, sample no. 41 |        | n/a | 6            | Kept   |
|--------------|--------|-----------------------------------|--------|-----|--------------|--------|
|              |        | Total finds:                      |        |     |              |        |
|              |        | Potterv                           |        | 11  |              |        |
|              |        | СМВ                               |        | 4   |              |        |
|              |        | Stone                             |        | 8   |              |        |
|              |        | Lithics                           |        | 22  |              |        |
|              |        | Slag                              |        | 4   |              |        |
|              |        | Miscellaneous                     |        | 5   |              |        |
|              |        |                                   | Total: | 54  |              | ,<br>, |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     | $\mathbf{V}$ |        |
|              |        |                                   |        | G   | *            |        |
|              |        |                                   |        | 0.9 |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        | C                                 |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   | 2      |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        | $\mathbf{O}$                      |        |     |              |        |
|              |        | 0                                 |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              | $\sim$ | *                                 |        |     |              |        |
|              | $\sim$ |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              | ノ      |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
| $\mathbf{O}$ |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
| CN           |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
| $\mathbf{O}$ |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |
|              |        |                                   |        |     |              |        |

|                                   |                            |                |                  | Archaeolog<br>Overview b | y Wales Ltd.<br>ucket floatation results  | •   | imiteo  |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------------------|---|---|---------|
| Site name<br>Site code<br>MSP/15/ | e: Menai Scio<br>:<br>EX   | ence Parc, G   | aerwen           |                          |   | 105                                       |         |
| Date: Oct<br>Details bu           | ober 2015<br>ucket floatat | tion: 1 mm s   | ieve + 250       | ) mu sieve               |   | NS.                                       |         |
| Sample<br>number                  | Context<br>number          | Soil<br>volume | Sample<br>weight | % Sample<br>processed    | Weight<br>Flot 1  | Weight<br>Weight Res.<br>Residue discarde | Remarks |
| 3                                 | 1009                       | 90 L           | 81 KG            | 5 L = 18%                | 23 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic<br>material, silt                                    | 805 gr 228 g<br>ex. discarded residu      | r<br>e  |
| 15                                | 1041 =<br>1170             | 55 L           | 49 KG            | 5 L = 11%                | 66 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic<br>material, silt,<br>burnt bone 12 fragments < 1 gr | 1135 gr 66 gr<br>ex. Discarded residւ     | ie      |
| 27                                | 1068                       | 73 L           | 87.5 KG          | 5 L =<br>14.6%           | 14 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic<br>material,<br>silt                                 | 437 gr 504 g<br>ex. Discarded residu      | r       |
|                                   | C                          | 8,             |                  |                          |   |   |         |

|    |      |      |         |           |   |   | nited |
|----|------|------|---------|-----------|---|---|-------|
| 34 | 1169 | 23 L | 28.4 KG | 5 L = 23% | 75 gr<br>1 mm flot = 57 gr<br>250 mu flot = 18 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic<br>material silt                                 | 589 gr 1107 gr<br>ex. Discarded residue |       |
| 36 | 1169 | 12 L | 13.5    | 5 L = 40% | 24 gr<br>1 mm flot = 34 gr<br>250 mu flot = 11 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic material   | 1229 gr 594 gr<br>ex. Discarded residue |       |
| 38 | 1172 | 24 L | 23.6 KG | 5 L = 24% | 85 gr<br>1 mm flot = 62 gr<br>250 mu flot = 23 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic material,<br>silt, burnt bone 7 fragments < 1 gr | 1255 gr 299 gr<br>ex. Discarded residue |       |
| 40 | 1196 | 12 L | 11.5 KG | 5 L= 40%  | 50 gr<br>1 mm flot = 23 gr<br>250 mu flot = 27 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic material,<br>silt, burnt bone 2 fragments < 1 gr | 942 gr 562 gr<br>ex. Discarded residue  |       |
| 47 | 1204 | 121  | 14.5 KG | 5 L = 40% | 7 gr  | 437 gr 239 gr                           |       |

|    |      |      |         |           | Incl. carbon, organic material,<br>lot of silt  | ex. Discarded residue                   |
|----|------|------|---------|-----------|---|---|
| 51 | 1174 | 18 L | 17.5 KG | 5 L = 35% | 82 gr<br>1 mm flot = 34 gr<br>250 mu flot = 48 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic material,<br>silt, burnt bone 1 fragment 1< gr | 1608 gr 598 gr<br>ex. Discarded residue |
| 52 | 1209 | 80 L | 96 KG   | 5 L = 16% | 6 gr<br>Inc. carbon, organic material,<br>silt, bone? 1 fragment < 1%   | 1229 gr 694 gr<br>ex. Discarded residue |
| 54 | 1192 | 84 L | 98 KG   | 5 L = 17% | 6 gr<br>Incl. carbon, organic material,<br>silt   | 1216 gr 695 gr<br>ex. Discarded residue |
|    | CO   | 24   |         |           | G   |   |

| sample<br>no. | context   | feature                               | assessmen<br>t sub-<br>sample<br>volume (I) | remaining<br>unprocesse<br>d soil<br>volume (I) | flot description   | extracted<br>large<br>charcoal<br>(ml) | charred plant macrofossils   | further<br>potentia<br>I | recommended action  | material<br>suitable for<br>C14 dating                          |
|---------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|--------------------------|---|---|
| 15            | 1041=1170 | hearth [1040] -<br>final firing layer | 5   | 50  | 66 g flot (175 ml). Frequent<br>encrusted charcoal, burnt<br>bone++, silty, rootlets         | 20                                     | 1 poorly preserved emmer/spelt grain<br>( <i>Triticum dicoccum/spelta</i> ); 1 large<br>fragment of cf. charred whole crab apple<br>(cf. <i>Malus</i> sp.); sheep's sorrel ( <i>Rumex</i><br><i>acetosella</i> ) + | YES                      | process remaining soil, retain<br>residues of c. 3mm to 250<br>microns for microscopic<br>scanning. Sort coarser residues<br>by eye for charred material. | possibly<br>cereal<br>grain,<br>definitely<br>apple<br>fragment |
| 51            | 1174      | hearth [1040]                         | 5   | 13  | 82g flot (130 ml). Frequent<br>encrusted large charcoal,<br>rootlets, burnt bone +;          | 35                                     | 1 small twisted barley grain ( <i>Hordeum</i><br>sp.); 1 apple/pear seed apex<br>( <i>Malus/Pyrus</i> sp.)   | YES                      | process remaining soil, retain<br>residues of c. 3mm to 250<br>microns for microscopic<br>scanning. Sort coarser residues<br>by eye for charred material. | possibly<br>small<br>barley<br>grain                            |
| 34            | 1169      | 'corndrier' recut pit<br>[1067]       | 5   | 18  | 75 g flot (185 ml). Abundant<br>large encrusted charcoal,<br>rootlets                        | 100                                    | Cleavers seeds ( <i>Galium aparine</i> ) ++; cf.<br>vetch /tare (cf. <i>Vicia/Lathyrus</i> sp.) +  | YES                      | process remaining soil, retain<br>residues of c. 3mm to 250<br>microns for microscopic<br>scanning. Sort coarser residues<br>by eye for charred material. | cleavers<br>seeds (8<br>extracted<br>so far)                    |
| 36            | 1169      | 'corndrier' recut pit<br>[1067]       | 5   | 7   | 24 g flot (45 ml). Some<br>large encrusted charcoal,<br>clinker-type material +;<br>rootlets | 10                                     | 1 very small hazelnut shell frag (HNS,<br><i>Corylus avellana</i> )  | little                   | check (by eye) coarse residues<br>for HNS etc.  | none  |
| 54            | 1192      | 'corndrier' recut pit<br>[1067]       | 5   | 79  | 6 g flot (20ml). Rootlets, encrusted charcoal  | 5 (15<br>frags)                        | 2 large frags HNS ( <i>Corylus avellana</i> )  | YES                      | process remaining soil & check all residues for HNS etc.  | HNS   |

Site name: Menai Science Parc, Gaerwen

Site code: MSP/15/EX

Environmental Assessment Results by Wendy Carruthers

c, opyright. t

Archaeology Wales

**APPENDIX IV: Archive Cover Sheet** 

6

.ve Ci Magodoosti Archaeoloosti Sooviiosti. Archaeoloosti Sooviiosti.

### **ARCHIVE COVER SHEET**

### Land at Cefn Du Farm, Gaerwen, Anglesey

| Site Name:                      | Menai Science Park    |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Site Code:                      | MSP/15/EX             |
| PRN:                            | -                     |
| NPRN:                           | -                     |
| SAM:                            | -                     |
| Other Ref No:                   | -                     |
| NGR:                            | NGR 248870, 372120    |
| Site Type:                      | Green Field           |
| Project Type:                   | Strip, Map, Excavate  |
| Project Manager:                | Kate Pitt             |
| Project Dates:                  | August 2015           |
| Categories Present:             | Prehistoric to Modern |
| Location of Original Archive:   | AW                    |
| Location of duplicate Archives: | Gwynedd Museum        |
| Number of Finds Boxes:          | NA                    |
| Location of Finds:              | NA                    |
| Museum Reference:               | NA                    |
| Copyright:                      | AW                    |
| Restrictions to access:         | None                  |
|                                 |                       |
|                                 |                       |
| COX                             |                       |
| U <sup>-</sup>                  |                       |
|                                 |                       |

# Archaeology Wales

50

ooviionti. Archaeolooy walesti Rhos Helyg, Cwm Belan, Llanidloes, Powys, SY18 6QF Tel: +44 (0) 1686 440371 Email: admin@arch-wales.co.uk