

Characterising the Double Ringwork Enclosures of Gwynedd: Meillionydd

Excavations, July 2012

Interim Report



Kate Waddington and Raimund Karl

Bangor: Gwynedd, December 2015



Bangor Studies in Archaeology

Report No. 11

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Cover image: The stone roundhouse set into the body of the outer bank in trench 2

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Published by:

Bangor University School of History, Welsh History and Archaeology

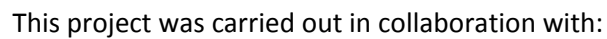
College Road

Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DG

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 Canolfan Uwchefrydiau Cymreig a Cheltaidd Prifysgol Cymru 
University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies



Introduction

Meillionydd is a 'double ringwork' enclosure dating to the first millennium BC. It is located near the village of Rhiw (NGR SH21902905), on the south-western end of the Llŷn Peninsula in Gwynedd, northwest Wales (Figure 1). A detailed location description and site description has already been provided in a previous report (Waddington and Karl 2010, 4-5) and thus will not be repeated in detail.

The overall research context and objectives for this project have already been outlined in previous reports (Waddington 2010; Waddington and Karl 2010, 3-4; Karl and Waddington 2011). The interim report for the 2010 excavations (Waddington and Karl 2010) and the 2011 excavations (Waddington and Karl 2015) also provide detailed stratigraphic report for the various trenches that were opened in those first two excavation seasons.

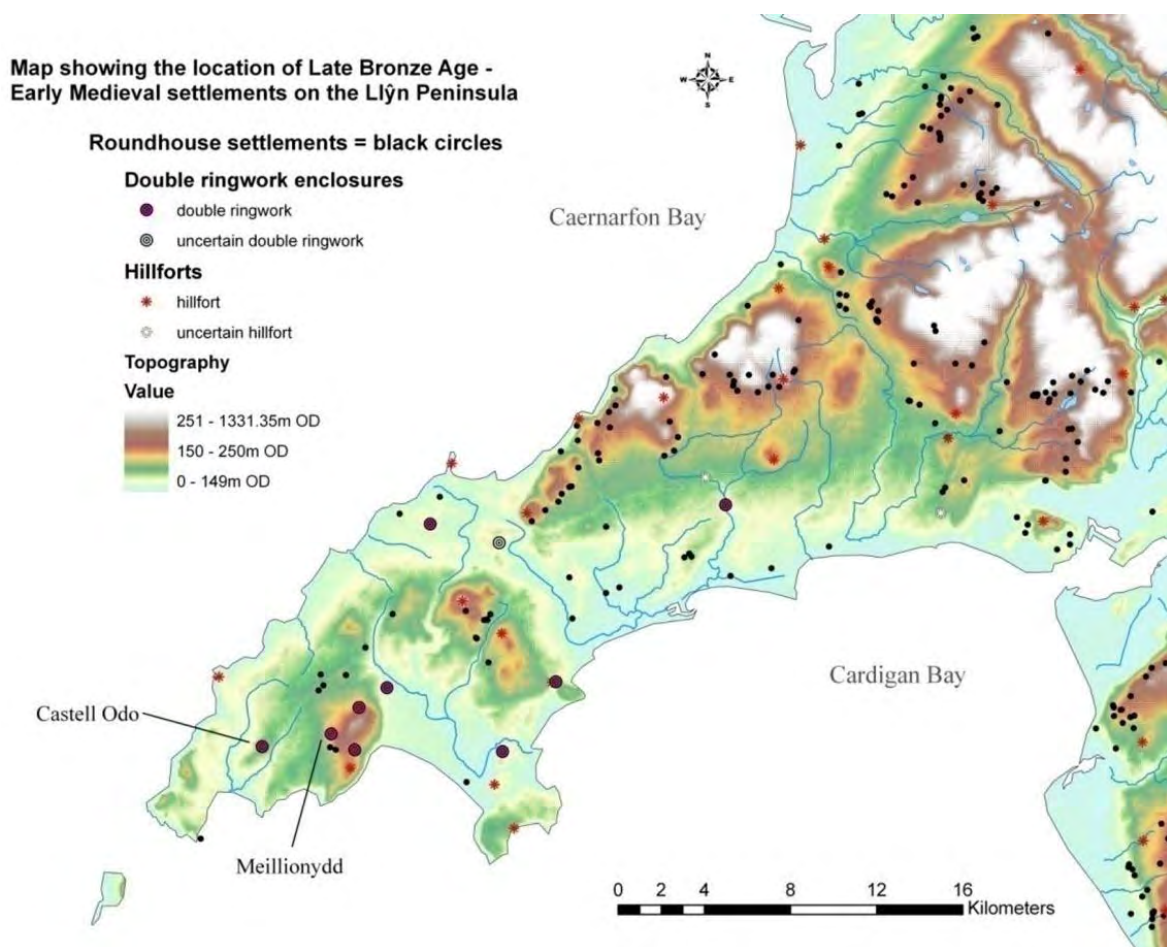


Figure 1: Map of the Llŷn Peninsula, showing the location of the site as well as all other later prehistoric hillfort and settlement sites in the area. The double ringwork enclosures are shown in purple circles, hillforts are shown in red stars and roundhouse settlements are shown in black dots (image: K. Waddington).

The objectives of the 2012 excavations

This third excavation season aimed to reopen and extend trench 1 west extension with trench 2 west extension which were opened in 2011, to form one large trench, c. 12m by 24m. A 1m-wide bulk was preserved in the upper middle part of the trench, which served to divide the area containing the large house set into the outer quarry hollow and outer bank in Trench 2 west extension, from the

inner bank deposits and house in trench 1 west extension. This working bulk was removed in a later season (2013). An additional 1m-wide bulk was preserved over the outer bank in the lower part of trench 2 west extension, just behind the roundhouse. This was also removed in the excavation season in 2013.

The overall objectives were to continue to collect data on the construction and phasing of the enclosure boundaries and buildings and to produce more datable materials to build up a chronological sequence for these monuments in Gwynedd. The large trench aimed to:

- expose and excavate the whole substantial (estimated c. 8-9 meter diameter) stone roundhouse already partially exposed and excavated in 2011 in trench 2 west extension;
- assess the continuation of the quarry hollow and the earlier u-shaped ditch (identified in trench 1 in 2010) in the newly opened area, and assess whether an entrance through the outer bank exists to the north of the roundhouse in trench 2 west extension;
- expose and excavate the outer bank at the east end of trench 2 west extension;
- continue to trace the inner bank identified in trench 1 and 1 west extension and establish whether an in-turned entranceway through the inner bank exists in the newly extended area;
- partially re-open and complete the excavations of the inner roundhouse exposed and excavated in trenches 1 and 1 West extension in 2010 and 2011;

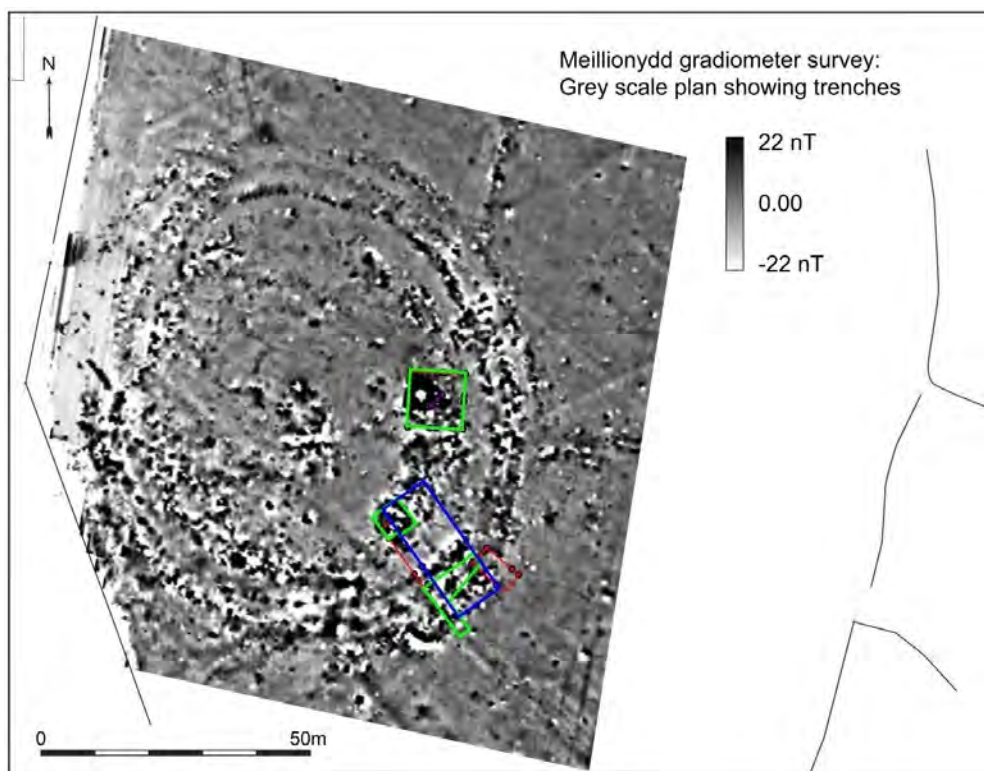


Figure 2: Geophysical survey of Meillionydd, showing (in blue) the position of the trench planned for the 2012 season (adapted from Smith and Hopewell 2007, fig 11). The 2011 trenches are shown in bright green, and the 2010 trenches are shown in red.

The topographic survey and the ground penetrating radar survey

A topographic survey was also carried out on the site during the excavations in 2012, and the Digital Terrain Model is presented in Figure 3, which was produced by Mario Wallner. This model was

produced in Arc-map and the positions of the trenches excavated between 2010-2012 is accurately. The main structural features of the excavations are presented within the trench through 3D photographs (produced via Agi Soft Photo Scan Standard Edition for creating 3D renderings).



Figure 3: Digital terrain model of the site, using data from a topographic survey carried out in 2012 and presented using hillside effect. 3D photographs of the main features within each excavation area are positioned accurately over the image in Arc GIS (image: Mario Wallner). The image clearly demonstrates the slight nature of the inner bank on the eastern side of the enclosure.

A recent GPR survey carried out by Ray Karl, Klaus Loecker, and Mario Wallner and Tanja Trausmuth in April 2012, with a team from the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Archaeological Prospection Vienna, produced spectacular results which have provided additional data on the structure and

layout of the settlement. Figure 4 presents the raw data for each 30cm depth slice through the site: image one in the top right corner shows the topsoil and the position of our trenches; image two shows the inner and outer banks and the quarry hollow; images three and four show the earlier U-shaped ditch, which the quarry hollow truncated, proving beyond doubt that this ditch forms the first boundary to the site and is possibly a ditch for a timber palisade. The survey was also important for demonstrating the intensity of occupation in the enclosure (Figure 5). The data not only suggests that roundhouses were repeatedly built on top of one-another throughout the interior area, as the results from trenches 3, 1, and 1 west extension support, but that the practice of setting roundhouses into the body of the outer bank, as demonstrated in trench 2 west extension, continued in other areas of the enclosure (Figure 5). There may well even be an earlier phase to the occupation of this site, as some of the roundhouses on the northern side of the enclosure may even pre-date the bank. This theory will hopefully be tested in future excavation seasons. The interpretation of this data will be provided in a forthcoming report.

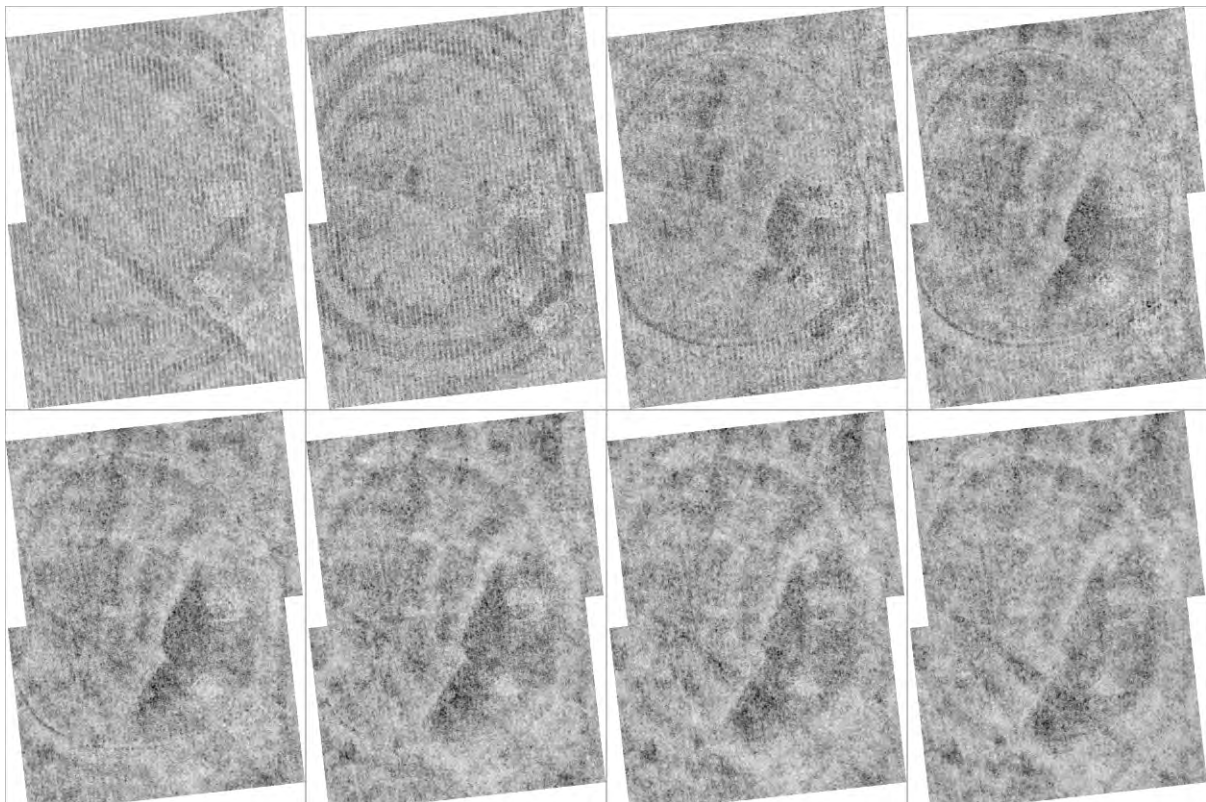


Figure 4: The ground penetrating radar survey of Meillionydd (image: Ludwig Boltzmann Institute for Archaeological Prospection).

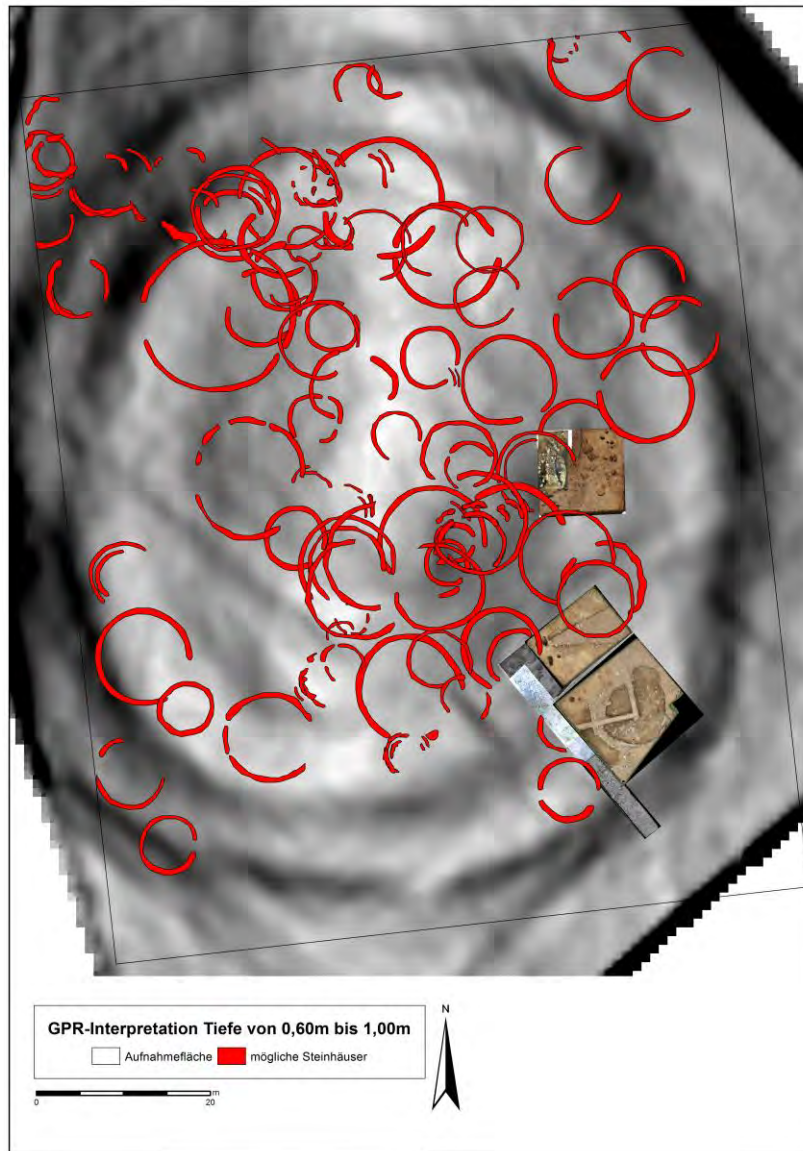


Figure 5: Interpretation of the GPR survey, showing the location of possible roundhouses, as well as the position of the trenches excavated between 2010-2012, 3D images of the main features within the trenches, and the digital terrain model from the topographic survey, presented using hillside effect (image: Mario Wallner).

Methodology

The excavations were carried out in the stratigraphic method (Harris 1989; Harris et al. 1993). All contexts were recorded in single context recording on standard context record sheets, as were small find and samples. In addition, where appropriate, single and multiple context plans and sections were drawn on permatrace. Digital documentation photographs of features and quadrants / trenches were taken in RAW format using a Pentax *istDL2 digital SLR camera with a SMC Pentax DA 18-55 mm F3.5-5.6 AL lens at 6 Megapixel resolution. In addition, digital photographs for three-dimensional photographic recording were taken in RAW and JPEG format using a Nikon D50 digital SLR camera with a AF-S DX 18-55mm F3.5-5.6G ED lens at 6 Megapixel and 1 Megapixel resolution respectively and processed using Agi Soft Photo Scan Standard Edition for creating 3D renderings. The trenches were recorded as 3D survey points using a Leica GPS 1205 Smart Pole with +/- 1.5 cm

accuracy, averaged out of 4 independent measurements. All records, plans, photos and 3D measurements were taken by staff, students and volunteers under guidance and supervision of the excavation directors, who also checked the records for correctness and completeness. All students, and almost all volunteers, performed all these tasks (with the exception of surveying) at least once, in most cases repeatedly over the course of several days. Finds were recorded using standard finds record sheets, with individual team members responsible for finds recording and the excavation directors for keeping the site diary as well as the general excavation record book.

The excavations: preliminary results



Figure 6: 3D photo reconstruction of trench 1 west extension and trench 2 west extension, taken at the end of the excavation season. By the end of the excavation, the fills sitting within the house in trench 2 west extension had been removed, and features, such as pits and postholes had been excavated in trench 1 west extension, alongside a working section through the inturn to the inner bank as well as its entranceway (a triangular-shaped area through the inner bank and entranceway in this trench was preserved for excavation in 2013). The areas opened up in 2010 and 2011 are also shown on this image (image: Mario Wallner).

Trench 1 West extension

Trench 1 West extension in 2011 was opened to expose a larger area of the roundhouse and the inner bank which had originally been identified at the western end of trench 1 in 2010. Just under half of a roundhouse, which is roughly 9m in diameter, was exposed in the western half of the trench in 2011. This house appeared to be later than the inner bank, being set into, or possibly over, the slighted remains of the bank. The inner bank also visibly curved to the west in the most northern strip of the trench, and we proposed that this was the beginning of an in-turn for the entranceway through the inner bank. These interpretations were confirmed in the 2012 excavations (Figure 7).

The only features left unexcavated in the 2011 trench were positioned along the northern metre of the trench and are associated with the roundhouse. This metre-wide strip was reopened and excavated as part of the 2012 trench, thereby completing the excavations of the exposed area of the roundhouse. In the newly opened area, the inner bank continued to turn inwards (to the west) and the bank was a significantly widened structure here, presumably to create an enhanced entranceway. Around half of the entrance passage through the enclosure was exposed; this consisted of a shallow hollow-way which contained a metallised surface. The excavation of a triangular-shaped segment through the inner bank and the entranceway was not completed this year and it was covered with plastic at the end of the season and reopened again in 2013 (see Figure 8).

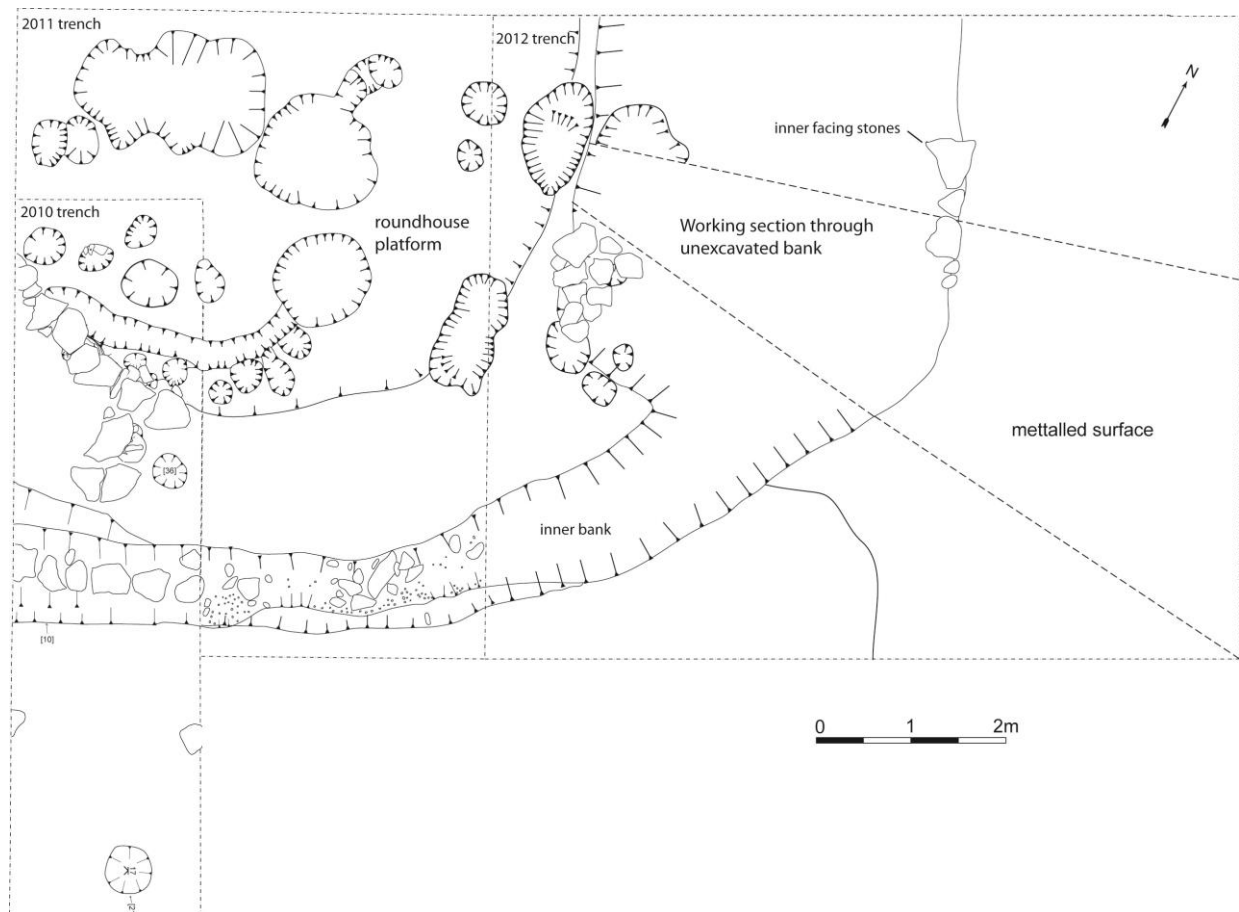


Figure 7: Plan of Trench 1 and Trench 1 west extension in 2010, 2011 and 2012, showing the roundhouse platform, the cut for the curving inner bank which forms an in-turn through the entranceway, and the edge of the metallised surface which runs through the entranceway and extends into trench 2 west extension. The stone infill of the bank has not been digitised on this plan (see Figure 19 for plan of bank), but the possible facing stones of the bank are drawn in order to highlight their location, for the purposes of the text.



Figure 8: Working shot of trench 1 west extension. The terrace cut for the roundhouse with its various features (including the two large pits (640 and 619) are just visible in the foreground, and the working section through the inner bank and the metallised surface in the entrance passage are visible in the remainder of the trench.

The features cutting the natural, including the roundhouse platform

As stated above, the remaining unexcavated features associated with the roundhouse were positioned along the northern metre-strip of the 2012 trench. Further cleaning of this strip in 2012 led to a slight change in the plan and the features were all assigned new context numbers this year ([636], [621] [617] and [640]). Additional features also extended into the newly opened area and some were partially truncated by the overlying in-turn of the inner bank.

The earliest features in the trench consist of a cluster of circular features which were located outside and to the north of the terrace cut for the roundhouse. These features were partially truncated and sealed by the overlying inner bank (Figure 7). Three of the features can be best characterised as shallow scoops, although these may represent the truncated remains of postholes which were later cut by the construction of the inner bank [10]. A small circular scoop [642] had a diameter of 0.25m and it was filled with dark grey silt (641) containing an abundance of charcoal flecks. Another small circular scoop [649], c. 0.20m in diameter, was filled with a dark soil (648). An oval feature [646], c. 0.30m by 0.40m, with a depth of 0.10m, was filled with a light brown gravelly silt (645). This was cut by a posthole [644] which was oval in shape, measuring 0.52m by 0.32m, and with a depth of 0.33m. It was filled with mid-brown silt (643) containing several angular stones which were possibly packing stones. Approximately 1.80m to the west was another pit [623] (see Figure 9). This was curvilinear in shape, with a diameter of c. 0.80m, but it was much shallower than the other two pits, with a depth of only 0.30m. Its sides gently sloped down into a narrow, flat base, measuring only 0.20m wide, and it was filled with upright packing stones (625). It contained a greyish brown loose silt (622) containing some burnt stone and occasional charcoal flecks and some larger stone blocks. This feature was truncated by the shallow cut for the inner bank (see below).



Figure 9: Post-excitation shot of possible post-pit [644], which was truncated by the shallow cut for the inner bank (the large stone visible in the side of the cut belongs to the inner bank).

Due to time-restraints, two features cutting the natural (11) at the northern end of the trench were not excavated this year and were planned and covered with plastic for a future excavation season. They were located next to the metalled surface of the entranceway (603; see below) which ran through the entrance of the inner bank. They consisted of a large circular feature [651], with a diameter of 0.80m (filled with 510), and another circular feature [653] with a diameter of 0.70m (filled with 652). These features were excavated in the 2013 season and are described in a forthcoming report.

The final features excavated in this trench were clearly associated with the terrace cut for the roundhouse, located in the south-western corner of the trench (see Figures 7 and 19). As previously argued (Waddington and Karl 2015), this house appears to post-date the inner bank. For ease and convenience, the features are discussed here. The terrace cut [47] for the roundhouse extended 1.80m by 3.40m from the south-western corner of the trench, and it gently sloped downwards, reaching a maximum depth of 0.40m below the top of the topsoil in the corner of the trench (see Figure 10). The fills of the roundhouse were removed in 2011 and you can mainly see backfill in the trench section shown in Figure 10. A dense surface spread of charcoal contained within a dark brown soil (612), and measuring c. 0.50m in diameter, was located near the edge of the terrace cut, and this was truncated by a circular-shaped posthole [636], c. 0.30m in diameter and 0.25m deep, with a V-shaped profile. It was filled with two upright packing stones (637) and a dark brown silt (611). Another circular posthole [621] lay next to this features (0.20m to the west). This had a diameter of 0.60m and a depth of 0.30m, with straight sides and a flat bottom. It contained c. 13 upright packing stones (620) and it was filled with a soft dark brown silt (610).





Figure 11: post-excavation shot pit 640. The shallower, less vertical-sided cut for the later posthole [617] is visible on the left-hand side of the feature.



Figure 12: pre-excavation shot of posthole [617], showing preserved insitu packing stones (616). This posthole truncated a large double post pit [640].



Figure 13: post-excitation shot of intercutting pits 619 and 632. The shallower posthole [632] is visible on the right-hand side of the photo.

Finally, two layers filled the roundhouse terrace in this area. Context 608 was originally interpreted as the basal remains of the roundhouse wall. It sat along the edge of the cut for the roundhouse [47], and was roughly 1m wide, but the edges of the feature were not particularly well-defined as they extended into the 2011 trench, where it had already been excavated but not previously identified. It consisted of a mid-brown silt with frequent small stones (angular and rounded) and it contained heat-affected stones. Some large stone blocks were visible in this layer during excavation, and originally presumed to be the remains of a stone wall which was no longer preserved. It overlay the upper fills of the intercutting pits described above (fills 618, 633, 638 and 615), and it also partially overlay the stone slabs (624), described below, which appear to form part of the structure of the inner bank. If context 608 is indeed the remains of a wall, the wall is very badly preserved and practically non-existent, and it is too similar in appearance to the upper fill of the roundhouse (05) to be confidently interpreted as a wall. The last remnants of the stone infill (05) of the roundhouse were also removed this year. This was a mid-brown silty deposit containing frequent small stones, both angular and rounded, as well as frequent heat affected stones. This description is very similar to context 608 and the two likely represent equivalent deposits relating to the same abandonment process. It is worth noting that context 05 in trench 1 west extension in 2011 also contained some large stone blocks which also sat along the terrace edge. The preferred interpretation here is that contexts 608 and 05 are equivalent and represent abandonment deposits associated with the demise of the roundhouse.

The in-turn to the inner bank and entranceway

Similar to trench 1 (2010) and trench 1 west extension opened in 2011, only the foundations and basal layers of the inner bank were preserved in this trench. In trench 1 west extension opened in

2012, the inner bank visibly turned inwards to form an in-turned entranceway, aligned east-west, and it sat next to an entrance-passage which contained a compacted cobbled (metalled) surface (Figure 14). The terminal of the in-turn to the bank was not identified in the trench and it visibly extended underneath the western edge of the trench. The metalled surface leading through the entrance-passage was found to partially extend underneath the bank, and as such, this will be discussed first.



Figure 14: Image showing trench 1 west extension, facing north. The stony spread shows the position of the inner bank where it forms a widened inturn through the entrance of the enclosure. The arrangement of flat stone slabs (624) is visible in the foreground along the edge of the in-turn for the inner bank. The metalled surface (603) is visible at the far end of the trench, and the shallow hollow-way in the entrance-way is visible in the far left-hand corner of the image.

The passage through the in-turned entrance-way consisted of a slight hollow-way that was partly filled with a metalled surface to make up a trackway, which ran east-west through the trench. It was also identified in trench 2 west extension, where it was assigned context number 811. It petered out towards the western end of the trench, and in the section through the west end of the trench, it was only visible in the trench corner, extending some 0.50m southwards. The metalled surface consisted of a highly compacted layer of small stones (603) which formed a flat surface. It presented a challenge to excavate, due to its concreted/compact nature. Where soil existed, it was a grey-brown compacted loam, but c. 95% of the context consisted of small angular and rounded stones which were tightly packed together. It formed a layer c. 0.15-0.30m thick. It contained various stone and flint objects (see Appendix). At the very base of the layer, it became very gravelly and greyer in appearance, and the deposit undoubtedly represents multiple trackway surfaces that were laid down throughout the life of the enclosure. Some of metalled surface had been compacted into the underlying natural, and had effectively truncated parts of this natural surface. During excavation, the fills of several potential postholes and a gully were visible cutting through the natural gravel which

underlay the metallised surface, and several contexts numbers were assigned (fills 626, 629, 630, 631, and 634). Excavation proved that most of these were not cut features but undulations in the natural gravel that were undoubtedly caused by the traffic of people, carts, and animals in this area, although the short stretch of a narrow linear feature may well be a wheel-rut from the traffic of carts. Two features were positively identified; a shallow scoop [628], filled with possible packing stones (627) and dark stony silt (626), and a posthole [634], which was filled with dark soil (631) and left unexcavated for the next season.

The metallised surface thus appeared to represent multiple track-way surfaces. This is also verified in part by its stratigraphic relationship to the inner bank. A layer of metallising (labelled 656 in 2013) was found to partially extend underneath the inner facing stones (600) and the body (607) of the inner bank, but a distinct layer of metallising (603) also banked up against the inner facing stones and clearly post-dated the construction of the bank. The excavations of trench 1 west extension in 2013 also revealed that the early phase of the metallising was contemporary with a timber post-alignment and a substantial four-post structure that formed the original timber boundary and entrance-way gate-house, before the banks of the double ringwork existed (see forthcoming report).



Figure 15: The badly preserved inner bank in trench 1 west extension is visible as the narrow linear spread of dark material in the foreground of this shot, before it widens and turns inwards to form an in-turned entranceway. The top of the metallised surface running through both trenches is visible in the upper portion of this image.

The bank was positioned within a shallow cut [10] which was similar to that identified in the 2010 and 2011 trenches and formed a foundation trench for the bank (see Figures 10, 14 and 15). The body of the bank was a dark brown silt which was packed full of stones (607, equivalent to 09). At the southern end of the trench, on the boundary with the 2011 trench, the bank continued to curve inwards into the enclosure (and to the west), to form the beginning of an in-turned entranceway (see Figures 7 and 19). Here, the feature has a width of 1m and is just slightly wider than the majority of the part excavated in 2011 (which, was on average c. 0.80m wide). In this part, it was filled with soft dark grey-brown silt and small stones (09, equivalent to 607). The large, deliberately set stones (30)

that were visible in the 2010 and 2011 excavation areas were not found to be preserved here (see Waddington and Karl 2015, fig. 7). Approximately 2m into the trench, the boundary widened to form an inturned entranceway, and the boundary here reached a maximum width of 4m and was aligned east-west. The cut for the bank here was deeper here, reaching 0.20m, and it truncated some earlier features on its southern side (see above; [623], [642], [646], [649]). Its fill was noticeably rich in stone, and consisted of dark brown silt containing frequent angular and rounded stones (607; see Figures 14 and 19). This context reached a maximum thickness of 0.40m. Some facing stones were visible on the inner face of the bank. This consisted of a single course of five large stone boulders (600), aligned east-west, and included one large quartz boulder (see Figures 16 and 19). Another large boulder was visible on the same alignment in the western section through the trench. These facing stones sat ontop of a dark brown silty layer (647), and within this, sitting directly underneath one of the facing stones, was a lead spindlewhorl (SF 318).



Figure 16: Image showing trench 1 west extension, facing south. The inner facing stones of the inner bank (600) are visible in the centre-right of this image. Parts of the metallised surface of the trackway running through the entrance passage is visible in the foreground, although this has not been properly cleaned in this image.

Two short alignments of stones, positioned just south-west of the facing stones (600), were identified in the body of the bank and seen to extend underneath the western end of the trench. This consisted of a short stretch of stones, aligned east-west, which were originally interpreted as the inner facing stones of a wall (606), another corresponding alignment of stones interpreted as the outer facing stones of a wall (604) and a core of dark brown silt (605). However, on excavation, no wall was identified, and the stones simply form part of the stony body of the bank.

While no clearly defined facing stones were visible along the southern face of the bank, some large stone blocks were found preserved along its southern edge and are probably remnants of a stone facing (see Figures 14 and 19). A notable feature in this area was an arrangement of flat stone slabs (624) which ran along the face of the bank here. These stone slabs were positioned just in front of the two large intercutting pits described above, and it was proposed that they may be stone paving for

an entranceway into a roundhouse, which had been set partly on top of the bank. In order to clarify the relationship of the stone slabs to the inner bank, a working section was set up which ran through the two features (Figure 17). The stone slabs (624) were found to sit on top of a thin layer of dark brown silt (635), which was between and this dark brown silt partially overlay the main body of the inner bank (607), as well the upper fill (641) of a shallow scoop [642] described above. However, the body of the bank also contained dark brown silt, so the two contexts could well be contemporary. In plan, the stone slabs did not form a very convincing paving for a roundhouse entranceway, and analysis of the section drawing and photographs of the section suggests that the stone slabs are part of the bank structure, and that they represent the badly preserved remains of stone facing on this side. The presence of a dark brown silt beneath these stone slabs is important. A thin layer of dark brown silt (647) also extended beneath the facing stones (600) on the northern side of the bank, and likewise, the inner facing stones of the outer bank in trench 1 east extension (2011) also sat on top of a dark silt layer (477), which also banked up on top of a basal layer of a the bank (see Waddington and Karl 2015, 9). As the construction of bank facing stones on this site typically sees the wall being set on top of a dark brown silt, we can therefore be fairly confident that contexts 624 and 635 are part of the remains of a stone facing for the inner bank.



Figure 17: Shot showing the working section through the in-turned inner bank (gentle hump in left half of image), and the metallised surface in the entrance-way to the enclosure (at right end of the trench). The flat stone slabs (624, possibly representing facing stones of the bank, are visible at the left-hand end of the bank, and the dark earth stony body of the bank (607) is visible in the centre.

Partially sitting on top of the stone slabs (624), as well as the adjacent postholes (described above), was a thick deposit of dark brown silt with small stones (608; see above description of roundhouse terrace). This deposit was a mid-brown silty soil which contained frequent small stones (both rounded and angular), and it was rich in heat-affected stones. As noted above, this was provisionally interpreted as the basal layer of the wall core for a roundhouse wall which did not survive in this

area, but the deposit was too badly defined and is too similar in character to the stone infill of the roundhouse (05) to be confidently identified as wall foundations. Here, it is regarded as equivalent to the stony infill of the roundhouse (05) and therefore as forming part of the abandonment deposits of this house. At the base of this layer, and sitting directly on top of one of the underlying stone slabs (624) was a curving iron shank, which may be part of a brooch (SFF 277). It was presumably well-preserved in this context due to the stony character of the archaeology, which contained very little soil.

Next in the sequence came bank tumble (601) which partially covered the inner facing stones (600) but also spread c. 1m into the entrance-way where it partially overlay the metallised surface (603). This was a reddish brown silt, packed with angular and rounded stones of varying sizes, and it was a discrete spread confined to the area of the facing stones.

Covering the entrance passage in the north-western corner of the trench was a thick, soft mid-brown silt with only occasional medium-sized stones (609). This deposit extended covered an area c. 2.30m by 3m from the corner of the trench, and it ranged in thickness, between 0.06-0.20m. It was substantially thicker in the north-western corner of the trench, where the entrance hollow-way was deepest (and here, the deposit reached a thickness of 0.20m). It abutted the bank tumble (601), but it probably post-dates the tumble, forming when the entrance-passage was no longer in use. The silt accumulations contained very few stones, and the absence of a stone infill in the entrance-passage is interesting; it confirms the previously argued interpretation that the inner banks had already been slighted before the enclosure was abandoned, and during the last phase of occupation when roundhouses were built over the remains of the boundaries (see Waddington and Karl 2015). A similar sequence was identified at Castell Odo (Alcock 1960). Overlying this silt accumulation was another brown silt (602), which was once again relatively free from stones. It extended some 5m by 3m from the north-western corner of the trench, and it reached a maximum thickness of 0.30m, although it was much thinner where it sloped down over the bank slump (601) and the silt accumulation (609).

Finally, topsoil (03) covered the entire sequence. As stated above, a working section through the inner bank and entranceway remained unexcavated by the end of this season (Figure 18), and this area was reopened and completed in 2013.



Figure 18: Trench 1 west extension on the last day of the excavation, before being covered with plastic sheeting for excavation in 2013. The triangular shaped strip through the trench served to preserve working sections through the inner bank.

Overview Plan: Trenches 1 (2010), 1 west extension (2011) and 2 extension (2012) and 2 west extension (2011) and 2 west extension (2012)

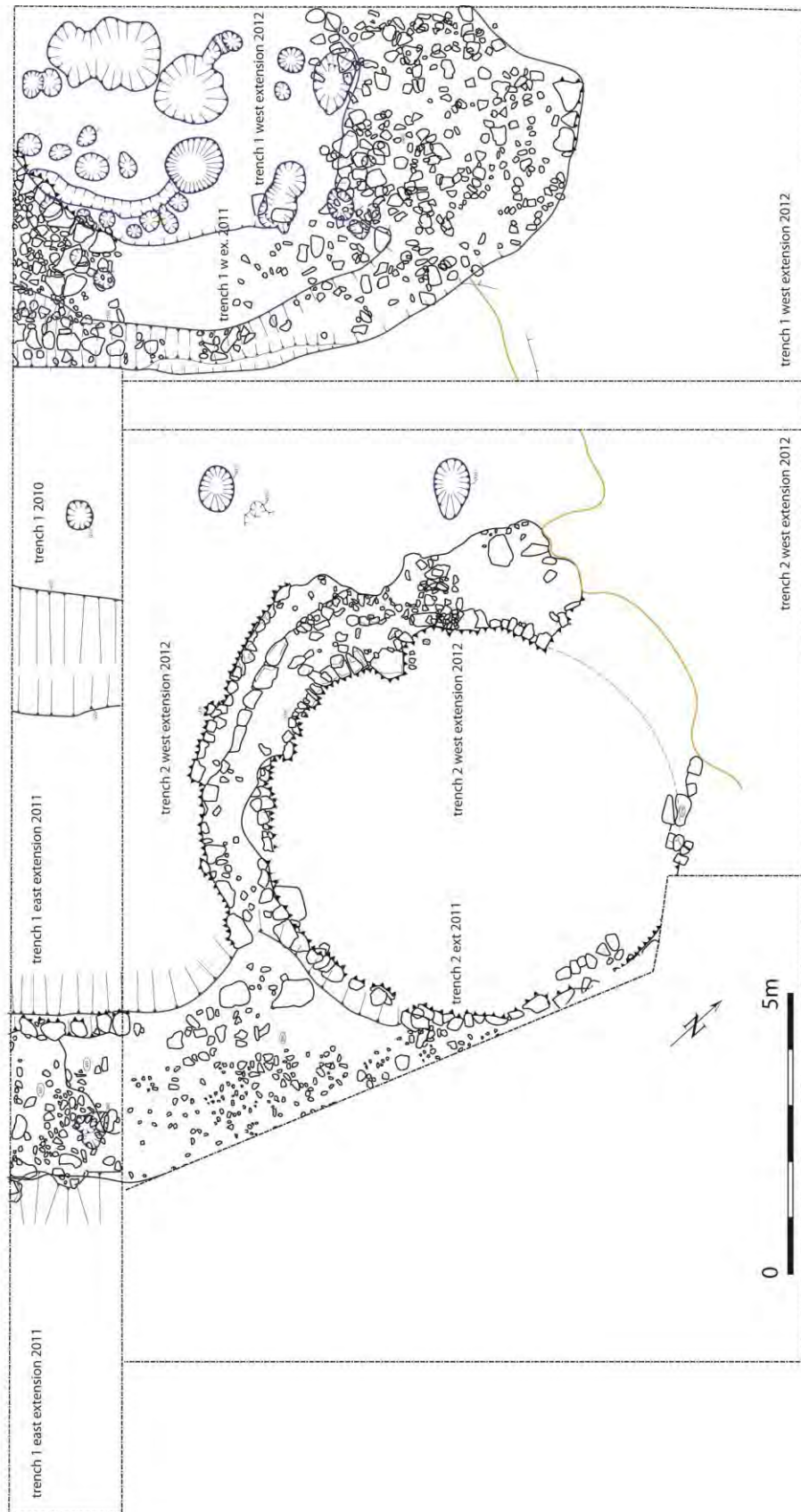


Figure 19: Plan of all features in trenches opened in 2010, 2011 and 2012. The in-turn for the inner bank is visible, along with features inside and outside the adjacent house platform. The outer bank is shown in trench 2 west extension, along with the entire roundhouse. The edge of the metalled surface in both trenches is shown in orange line.

Trench 2 west extension

Trench 2 west extension in 2011 exposed a large area of the outer bank and quarry hollow, within which was set a stone roundhouse. This year, the trench was extended to the west and north so that the entire roundhouse could be exposed and the fills excavated (see Figures 19 and 20). The eastern end of the trench served to expose a wide strip of the outer bank. However, as efforts focussed on removing the abandonment fills of the roundhouse, time did not allow for the outer bank to be excavated, and only the topsoil was removed from the area of the outer bank. The entrance through the outer bank was not identified in this trench and this was excavated in a new trench opened in 2014, positioned directly to the north of trench 2 west extension. Nevertheless, an area of metalling (a cobbled surface) was exposed, running through the north-west end of the trench, and this corresponded with the area of metalling excavated in trench 1 west extension (see above) and demonstrates that the entrance-passage through the inner bank exists in the area of trench 2 west extension.

Due to time-restraints, the deposits sitting in the north-eastern corner of the trench, immediately outside the roundhouse, were also not excavated this year, and so the terminal of the quarry hollow has not yet been identified. It seems likely that it does exist in this area, and that the cut for the roundhouse truncated the terminal of the quarry hollow. However, this research question will have to be tackled in a future excavation season.

The earliest feature exposed but not excavated in this trench consists of a U-shaped ditch. This was the first major boundary on the settlement; its fills had been visibly truncated by the quarry hollow in trench 1 in 2010 (Waddington and Karl 2010). The cut [830 = 23] and fill (829) of the ditch was exposed in the 2012 trench but it was not excavated this year as it terminated in the area beneath the roundhouse in trench 2 west extension (see forthcoming 2013 interim report).

Possibly contemporary with this early phase, and positioned on the western side of the trench (outside the quarry hollow and immediately to the west of the U-shaped ditch), were some shallow, cut features. Initial cleaning in the natural (11) in this area (following the removal of the topsoil) revealed several discrete spreads of dark earth. Excavation proved that many of these deposits (807, 808, 809, 810, 812, and 813) were not the fills of cut features but merely natural undulations in the hill-surface. However, three dark patches in the south-western quarter of the trench did turn out to be the fills of features. One oval-shaped cut [817] for a posthole measured c. 0.60m-0.80m in diameter and 0.23m deep. The north-western side of the cut was near-vertical and the south-eastern side had a gentler slope. It was filled with possible packing stones (816) and a dark brown silty loam (806). Immediately next to this was a shallow scoop [818], broadly curvilinear in shape and measuring 0.25m in diameter, with a depth of between 0.08-0.18m. It was filled with a sterile dark brown silt with frequent gravel inclusions (815). Approximately 4m to the north of posthole 817 was another feature. This was another shallow, circular cut [821], measuring 0.25m in diameter and only 0.11m deep. Its fill contained stones around the edge of the cut (826; possible packing stones) and a dark silt (814). Finally, in the north-western quarter of the trench, another shallow scoop was excavated. The cut [820] was irregular in shape, measuring 1m by 0.60m and only 0.10m deep. It was filled with dark silt (812) containing occasional stones.

Broadly contemporary with the U-shaped ditch and the small, shallow cut features described above, is a metalled surface (811), aligned east-west through the north end of the trench. This was a surface consisting of tightly compacted small cobbles; it extended 4.40m from the northern section of the

trench and it is equivalent to context 603 in trench 1 west extension (see above). This surface was not excavated in 2012 and it is described in a forthcoming report.



Figure 20: Image showing the archaeology in trench 2 west extension following the removal of the back-fill in the 2011 trench and the topsoil over the rest of the 2012 trench. The upper dark fills of the house are clearly visible in the newly excavated area.

Next in the sequence in this trench came the cut for the quarry hollow [155] and the construction of the adjacent outer bank (49, with facing stones 301). The quarry hollow was not fully excavated in 2012, but a section through the quarry hollow and outer bank was excavated in 2010 and 2011 and the feature is described in previous reports (trench 1, Waddington and Karl 2010; trench 1 east extension, Waddington and Karl 2015). The outer bank in this area was also not fully exposed and excavated this year, but was preserved for the 2013 excavations (see Waddington and Karl 2015 for description of the excavations of the outer bank in trench 1 east extension).

The basal fill of the quarry hollow was a dark greenish-grey gravel (460), which was c. 0.05-0.10m thick. This extended into trench 1 east extension (Waddington and Karl 2015) and it was truncated by the cut [338] for the roundhouse, which also removed a chunk from the inner face of the outer bank, and possibly truncated some of the metalling on the northern side of the house. The house has an internal diameter of 7m and an external diameter of 9m (see Figures 19, 20, and 21). It is constructed from stone walls measuring c. 1.20m wide and standing to a height of 0.40m, which mainly consist of an outer wall face (825 = 306), an inner wall face (305) and a core of earth and stones (307) (see Figure 21). Where the wall was set into the outer bank, it utilised the body of its bank as its wall core, and only inner stone facing existed here. No walling was visible in the northern corner of the house, and here, the cut for the roundhouse gently sloped down into the floor of the house, suggestive of an entrance-way. The terminal of one of the walls was just about visible on the southern side of this entrance-way, but the northern terminal was not preserved and part of the walling on this side was completely destroyed. A discrete occupation deposit was present within the roundhouse entrance-way. This consisted of a dark brown silt (304), with frequent charcoal inclusions and mottled with orange sand/gravel. The orange components in the deposit likely represents trampling of the underlying natural orange gravel within this threshold, and its mixing with the occupation floor. Thus, the evidence all points towards a roundhouse entrance orientated to the north and facing the entrance-passage through the outer bank, which lies further north (see

interim report on the 2014 excavations). This strongly suggests that the entrance to the enclosure was still in use when this building was occupied.



Figure 21: the stone walled roundhouse set into the outer bank and quarry hollow in trench 2 west extension. The outer support wall-face (823 and 824) for the building is visible in the foreground of this image.

On the southern side of the roundhouse, a stretch of outer wall facing extending from the edge of the quarry hollow was associated with an additional outer support wall or wall repair. This wall consisted of between one to three courses of stones (823), neatly aligned and following the alignment of the outer wall face precisely (see Figures 19 and 21). This wall extends from the edge of the quarry hollow cut and runs for some 4m along the outside of the house wall, on its southern side. The wall-face was similar to that of the main roundhouse wall, containing some large blocks of stone; where large stone blocks were present, the wall face was only one course high, but in other places the wall face was up to three courses high. The gap between the two stone faces measured 0.40m, and the material infilling this space consisted of a brown silt (824) with some small stones, which is a typical wall core fill on this site. This additional support wall face was fully excavated this year, but the main house wall was preserved for the 2013 excavations, when the entire house was excavated.

Several occupation deposits and features were exposed on the house floor. These deposits and features were excavated in the 2013 and are thus described in detail in a forthcoming report (see also Waddington and Karl 2015, for a description of features exposed in trench 2 extension in 2011). The basal floor deposit consisted of a dark grey clayey soil (827) which covered most of the western side of the house floor, as well as a dark clayey soil (312), rich in charcoal inclusions, located in the south-eastern corner of the house floor (part of this deposit was excavated in the 2011 trench). Sitting within these two floor deposits were a number of flat angular-shaped stone slabs (319), which may represent the remains of a stone paving inside the roundhouse or the stone caps of internal house drains (see forthcoming report). In the eastern side of the house, some additional features were exposed but not excavated: a circular patch of dark grey soil with a lot of charcoal and ashy material (828), located just in front of trench 2 opened in 2010; and a number of features that were exposed in the 2011 trench (see Waddington and Karl 2015, 16). The nature of the features and the stone slabs, and their stratigraphic relationship with the house floors, will be addressed in the interim report on the 2013 excavations, when the all the floor deposits and features were fully excavated.

The main bulk of the work carried out in 2012 entailed the removal of the fills of the roundhouse, which consisted of various silt and rubble layers. The lowest fill was a stone slump (822) that infilled the periphery of the house floor and banked up against the house walls, partially overlying the upper edge of the cut for the quarry hollow on the western side of the house, and sealing the occupation deposit in the roundhouse entrance (304). Where it banked up against the walls and the quarry hollow cut, the rubble spread was between 0.20-0.30m thick, but it gradually petered out towards the centre of the house floor and did not extend over the central area of the interior or over the eastern end of the house where the house is set into the body of the outer bank. The lower parts of this infill also contained a number of utilised stone tools. This deposit therefore appears to represent a demolition layer in the roundhouse, possibly when the free-standing walls collapsed or were dismantled, and much of this material appears to have been pushed into the house from the western side of the building. (Part of this stone slump which infilled the narrow gap between the quarry hollow cut and the house wall on the western side of the building was left unexcavated for 2013.)



Figure 22: The silty fills of the stone roundhouse, which are very different to the stone infills of the stone roundhouses excavated in 2010 and 2011 in trench 1 and its western extension as well as trench 3.

Partially overlying rubble spread 822, and covering the central area of the roundhouse, was a dark orange-brown silty loam (309; partly excavated in 2011), which contained some large stones and represents another abandonment layer. This layer was up to 0.15m thick. Overlying this was another layer of silt and rubble (308), which was up to 0.12m thick (this was partially excavated in 2011). This was a reddish brown silt containing some stones and measuring up to 0.12m thick. The next fill consisted of another spread of stones and dark brown silt (803), which fills the interior area of the house and was between 0.06-0.15m thick. This produced a small sherd of pottery, possibly Iron Age or Romano-British in date (small find 287; see Figure 23 below). This deposit was followed by two layers (801 and 802) which are broadly contemporary. A dark brown silty soil, containing medium-to-

large stones (802) was largely confined to the top of the house wall on the south-western side of the house; this deposit covered an area 12m by 6m and was up to 0.06m thick. Finally, the uppermost deposit infilling the interior of the house was a dark brown silt with very little stone (801; see Figure 20). This deposit was between 0.12-0.15m thick. This upper fill is visible in Figure 20, and it clearly demarcates the edge of the roundhouse interior. This is important, as it has enabled the reconstruction of the house on its northern side, where the walls around the entrance to the roundhouse were not as well-preserved.

As the section through the house fills in Figure 22 reveals, apart from the lower spread of rubble, the bulk of the fills are rich in silt and they are of an entirely different character to the compact stony infills of the final phase roundhouses in trench 3 and trench 1 west extension (see Waddington and Karl 2015). This reveals that the roundhouse in trench 2 west extension was not subjected to the same closing rites as the houses located on the interior of the enclosure.

Possibly broadly contemporary with the abandonment of the roundhouse are the final fills of the quarry hollow, which were exposed to the south of the roundhouse. The lowest deposit consisted of an orange-brown silt with frequent medium-sized stones (302; partially excavated in 2011). This deposit was up to 0.45m thick. Partially overlying this fill, but confined to the area behind the house wall, was a dark brown silt which contained frequent stones (800). On the other side of the roundhouse, in the north-eastern corner of the trench, there lay a brown silt with occasional stones (819). This deposit was left unexcavated for a future season. If the quarry hollow continues on this side of the roundhouse, it may represent an upper fill of this feature, although it is also possible that roundhouse sits ontop of the terminal of the quarry hollow and that the deposit is associated with the outer bank, which was heavily slighted in this area.

Overlying all of these layers was the topsoil (01).

Preliminary conclusions

The 2012 excavations achieved a number of its aims. In trench 1 west extension, we identified the in-turned entranceway through the inner bank, as well as a track-way which leads through the entrance passage-way to the enclosure. The track is roughly cobbled and it provided a good, hard surface for the traffic of animals, people and carts. The inner bank itself was badly preserved, and only partial fragments of facing stones survived. In some areas, particularly within the entrance-passage itself, large blocks of stone formed the lowest course of stone facing, including a relatively substantial block of quartz, which would have looked impressive at the time. Underneath one of the facing stones was a lead spindlewhorl (Figure 23, bottom image). The remaining features associated with the part of the roundhouse exposed in this trench were also excavated. The intercutting features once again highlights the presence of two phases of roundhouse construction. Some postholes and pits were sealed by the inner bank and this provides further support to the interpretation that an extensive timber-post settlement existed on this site before the double ringwork enclosure was constructed.

Our main aims in trench 2 west extension were to uncover all of a stone roundhouse that we partially exposed in 2011, and which was positioned in the quarry hollow and partially set into the inner face of the outer bank. This house has an internal diameter of 7m and an internal diameter 9m. It was well-preserved and its entrance-way is orientated to the north, even though the walls on this side of the house were not well-preserved. The house sits on top of the earlier U-shaped ditch which was excavated in trench 1 in 2010; the fills of this feature had been visibly truncated by the cut for quarry

hollow, an observation that was confirmed in the 2012 season (see also forthcoming report on the 2013 excavations). The ditch ran roughly north-south through the trench and it terminated underneath the house. This year, we focussed our efforts on excavating all of the rubble and soil that filled the house after it was abandoned. The final fills of the roundhouse produced a lead spindlewhorl and a sherd of later Iron Age or Romano-British pottery (see Figure 23).

Next to the house, and running across the northern end of the trench, was an area of metallurgy which corresponds to the metallised surface identified in trench 1 west extension. As the 2013 and 2014 excavations revealed, the house is located next to the entrance through the outer bank and so it might have had a special role on the settlement, perhaps serving as a gate-house.

Alongside the metalwork and pottery, a range of stone objects were recovered, and many high quality dating samples and environmental samples were taken (see Appendices). The environmental samples from the fills of the roundhouse were taken systematically in sample columns from the working bulks running diagonally through the roundhouse.

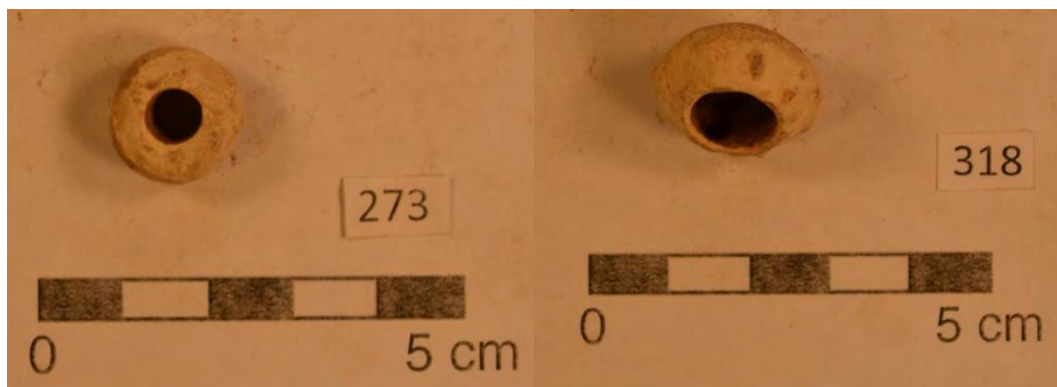


Figure 23: lead spindlewhorls discovered in 2012. Top; small find 273 came from context 802, which is an abandonment deposit associated with the roundhouse (lying just outside the house wall). Bottom; small find 318 came from an ephemeral spread of dark silt (647), sealed by the facing stones of the in-turn to the inner bank (600).

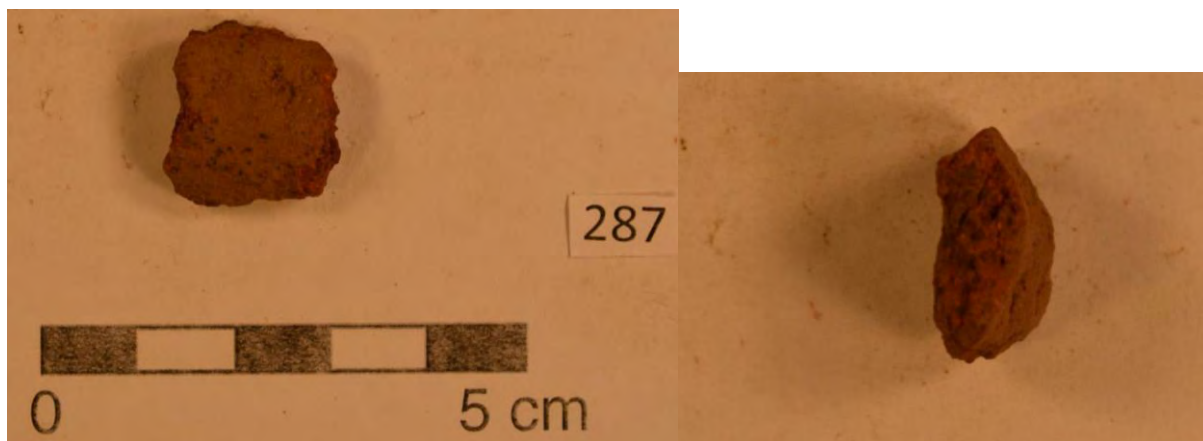


Figure 24: small sherd of pottery from the upper fill (context 803) of the stone roundhouse in trench 2 west extension.

Excavation of trench 2 west extension in 2013 will complete the excavations of the stone roundhouse, the underlying quarry hollow and associated outer bank, as well as the earlier U-shaped ditch. The terminal for the quarry hollow will hopefully be identified. Trench 1 west extension will be

reopened and the remaining sections through the inner bank and metalled surface, and the underlying pits, will be excavated.

Acknowledgements

We are extremely grateful the landowners of Meillionydd, the Thomas family at Meillionydd Mawr and Meillionydd Bach, who have generously hosted the excavations and activities and have been tremendously supportive of the work.

Special thanks are owed to Beki Jones, Tanja Trausmuth, and Mario Wallner for their supervision on site, to Michael Lyons and Rhys Mwyn for leading the School Visits. A great many thanks are due to the excavation team for all their hard work: Gareth Davey, Max Higgins, Beki Jones, Michael Lyons, Carol Ryan Young, Mike Hicks, Pip Jones, Heather xxxx and Sarah Morton Williams from Bangor University; Jade Prince, Henry Annesley, Dominic Chorney, John Oberst, and Warren Moore from Cardiff University; Tanja Trausmuth, Mario Wallner, Sigrun Maurer, Vera Ofenschüssl, Robert Schuhmann and Zea Frana from the University of Vienna; our volunteers, John Jones, Keelan Valley, Carian Roberts, and Elin Daly. Huge thanks go to Carol Ryan Young and Valerie Jones for supervising the wet sieving. And finally, we are grateful to Sonja-U. Prochaska for her help again this year and for baking so many cakes. We would also like to thank Dafydd Davies-Hughes and his team from Felin Uchaf for helping to make the community open days such a success, as well as for his inspired ideas and hard work during the community open days and school visits.

We are extremely grateful to Arwel Jones of the Llŷn Landscape Partnership for his support in the project and for providing many excellent ideas.

The research and community engagement programme would not have been possible without funding from the Publications and Collaborative Research Committee at the University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, The Llŷn AONB Sustainable Development Award, The Llŷn Landscape Partnership, Bangor University, Cardiff University and ARGE Archäologie.

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3D-renderings of the post-excavation state of trenches 1 West extension and 3 are available on request as 3D-pdfs or universal 3D.

Appendices

Small Finds Register

SF No.	Trench	Context	Category	Description
213	2 EXT	1	Pottery	Post-med glazed pottery
214	1 W EXT	3	Stone	rubbing stone, possible
216	1 W EXT	3	Pottery	Post-med glazed pottery
217	2 EXT	1	Iron	Fragments of corroded iron (modern)
218	2 EXT	1	Iron	Iron loop piece (modern)
219	2 EXT	1	Iron	Nail (modern)
220	2 EXT	1	Iron	Nail (modern?)
221	2 EXT	1	Flint	Knapped flint flake
222	2 EXT	1	Stone	gaming counter, possible? Red exotic stone
223	2 EXT	1	Copper	Victorian halfpenny - 1845
224	2 EXT	1	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw stone flake
225	1 W EXT	3	Iron	Nail (modern)
226	1 W EXT	3	Iron	Nail (modern)
227	1 W EXT	3	Iron	Fragment flat/curved iron
228	1 W EXT	3	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw stone flake
229	1 W EXT	3	Slate	Slate slice
230	1 W EXT	3	Pottery	Pottery (modern)
231	1 W EXT	3	Pottery	Modern pottery
232	1 W EXT	3	Flint	Flint fragment x 2
233	2 EXT	1	Pottery	Modern pottery, fits to SF no. 296
234	1 W EXT	3	Glass	Glass fragment (modern)
235	2 EXT	1	Pottery	Modern pottery x 2
236	2 EXT	1	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw stone
237	2 EXT	1	Flint	Flint fragment x 2
263	2 EXT	1	Flint	Flint flake
264	2 EXT	1	Bone	Animal bone
265	2 W EXT	1	Pottery	Modern pottery
266	2 W EXT	1	Flint	Flint fragment
267	1 W EXT	5	Flint	Flint scraper
268	1 W EXT	608	Stone	Grinding stone
269	1 W EXT	9	Clay	Lump of clay
270	1 W EXT	603	Flint	Small flake
271	2 W EXT	801	Stone	Smoothing stone
272	2 W EXT	801	Stone	Smoothing stone
273	2 W EXT	802	Lead	spindlewhorl
274	1 W EXT	601	Flint	Flint flake
275	2 W EXT	802	Slag	Slag
276	2 W EXT	802	Flint	Scraper

SF No.	Trench	Context	Category	Description
277	1 W EXT	608	Iron	Possible brooch, curving shank
278		Unstratified	Stone	Grinding stone (Spoil Heap)
279	1 W EXT	607	Stone	Hammer Stone
280	1 W EXT	607	Chert?	Blade (chert?)
281		Unstratified	Stone	Smoothing stone/gaming token?
282	2 W EXT	803	Clay	Piece of burnt clay (5 cm)
283		Unstratified	Stone	Grinding stone from soil heap
284	2 W EXT	802	Stone	smoothing stone, possible
285	2 W EXT	803	Clay	2 pieces of burnt clay (1 cm & 3 cm)
286	1 W EXT	608	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw stone flake
287	2 W EXT	803	Pottery	Pottery, Iron Age or Roman?
288	1 W EXT	3	Stone	Whetstone
289	2 W EXT	824	Clay	Burnt clay
290	2 W EXT	824	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw flake
291	1 W EXT	603	Stone	hammer
292	2 W EXT	302	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw, worked
293	1 W EXT	603	Stone	Quern/grinder
294	1 W EXT	603	Stone	Hammer
295	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Grinding stone
296	2 W EXT	308	Pottery	Modern pottery, fits to SF no. 233
297	2 W EXT	822	Seeds	Seeds next to roundhouse wall
298	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Grinding stone
299	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Grinding stone
300	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Hammer stone
301	2 W EXT	822	Stone	grinding stone, possible
302	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Smoother stone
303	2 W EXT	304	Seed	Seed (?)
304	1 W EXT	603	Stone	Smooth worked stone
305		Unstratified	Stone	grinding stone, pos. (822), large, possible
306	2 W EXT	309	Stone	Smoothing stone
307	2 W EXT	827	Stone	Grinding stone
308	2 W EXT	304	Iron	Iron-oxidation around root*
309	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Smoothing stone*
310	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Round stone
311	2 W EXT	304	Stone	Smoothing stone
312	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Grinding stone
313	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Hammer stone
314	2 W EXT	822	Stone	Grinding stone
315	2 W EXT	822	Seeds	Seeds
316	1 W EXT	647	Stone	Grinding stone
317	2 W EXT	822	Clay	Burnt clay
318	1 W EXT	647	Lead	spindlewhorl

SF No.	Trench	Context	Category	Description
319	2 W EXT	304	Seed	Possible seed
320	2 W EXT	304	Iron	Iron fallout
321	1 W EXT	607	Stone	Possible utilised edge (grinding stone)
322	1 W EXT	604	Stone	Grinding stone/hammer
323	1 W EXT	607	Stone	Grinder
324	1 W EXT	607	Stone	Mynydd Rhiw stone
325	2 W EXT	308	Clay	Burnt clay, bottom of (308)
326	2 Ext	455	Stone	Flat stone, possible counter
327	1 W Ext.	351	Stone	Foreign stone

Sample Register

Sample number	Type	Trench	Context number	Description (e. g. charcoal twig/s, litres of soil, context type)	Date
200	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	608	Charcoal twig next to SF 277	11/07/2012
201	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	803	Charcoal twig	12/07/2012
202	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	803	Charcoal twig next to <201>	13/07/2012
203	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	803	Charcoal twig next to <201> <202>	13/07/2012
204	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	608	Phosphate sample from core of roundhouse wall	13/07/2012
205	Soil	T1 W Ext.	608	Soil sample for flotation	13/07/2012
206	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	803	Charcoal twig next to <201> <202> <203>	13/07/2012
207	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	803	Charcoal twig next to <201> <202> <203> <206>	13/07/2012
208	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	608	Charcoal sample from (608)	13/07/2012
209	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	803	Charcoal twig from (803)	17/07/2012
210	Soil	T2 W Ext.	806	Soil sample from posthole fill	17/07/2012
211	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	803	Charcoal sample from bottom of (803)	17/07/2012
212	Soil	T1 W Ext.	609	Soil sample & phosphate sample	17/07/2012
213	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	608	Charcoal from bottom of (608)	17/07/2012
214	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	608	Charcoal from bottom of (608)	17/07/2012
215	Soil	T2 W Ext.	815	Soil sample from cut [818]	17/07/2012
217	Soil	T2 W Ext.	814	Soil sample of posthole	18/07/2012
218	Soil	T2 W Ext.	824	Soil sample & phosphate	18/07/2012
219	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	824	Charcoal sample from (824)	19/07/2012
220	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	824	Charcoal sample from (824)	19/07/2012
222	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	824	Charcoal sample	19/07/2012
224	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	308	Charcoal sample from (308)	20/07/2012
225	Soil	T2 W Ext.	308	Soil sample from (308)	20/07/2012
226	Phosphate	T2 W Ext.	308	Phosphate sample from (308)	20/07/2012
227	Soil	T1 W Ext.	9	Soil sample from (09)	20/07/2012
228	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	9	Phosphate sample from (09)	20/07/2012

Sample number	Type	Trench	Context number	Description (e. g. charcoal twig/s, litres of soil, context type)	Date
229	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	822	Charcoal spread bottom of (822)	20/07/2012
230	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	822	Charcoal piece bottom of (822)	20/07/2012
231	Soil	T2 W Ext.	822	Soil sample from (822)	20/07/2012
232	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	822	Charcoal piece bottom of (822)	21/07/2012
233	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	603	Charcoal piece from bottom of (603)	21/07/2012
234	Soil	T1 W Ext.	622	Soil sample from (622)	21/07/2012
235	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	618	Charcoal twig found near the bottom of (618)	23/07/2012
236	Phosphate	T2 W Ext.	309	Phosphate sample from (309)	23/07/2012
237	Soil	T2 W Ext.	309	Soil sample from (309)	23/07/2012
238	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	309	Charcoal from (309)	23/07/2012
239	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	304	Charcoal from (304)	23/07/2012
240	Soil	T2 W Ext.	304	Soil sample & phosphate sample	23/07/2012
241	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	827	Charcoal sample	23/07/2012
242	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	618	Charcoal sample	24/07/2012
243	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	304	Charcoal sample	24/07/2012
244	Soil	T1 W Ext.	611	Soil sample & phosphate sample	24/07/2012
245	Soil	T1 W Ext.	618	Soil sample from bottom of (618)	24/07/2012
246	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	309	Charcoal twig	24/07/2012
247	Soil	T1 W Ext.	638	Soil fill from posthole	24/07/2012
248	Soil	T1 W Ext.	633	Soil fill from [632]	24/07/2012
249	Soil	T1 W Ext.	638	Soil fill from cut [640]	24/07/2012
250	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	822	Charcoal sample	24/07/2012
251	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	822	Charcoal sample	24/07/2012
252	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	9	Charcoal twig & chunk	24/07/2012
253	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	822	Bottom of (822) on cut of quarry	25/07/2012
254	Soil	T1 W Ext.	647	Below (600)	25/07/2012
255	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	827	Charcoal next to bulk in (827)	25/07/2012
256	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	647	Charcoal from layer (647) underneath (600)	25/07/2012
257	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	822	Piece of charcoal (822)	25/07/2012
258	Charcoal	T1 W Ext.	607	Charcoal	25/07/2012
260	Soil	T1 W Ext.	605	Soil sample from wall	25/07/2012
261	Soil	T1 W Ext.	615	Soil sample from posthole fill 615	25/07/2012
262	Charcoal	T2 W Ext.	827	Charcoal twig in cut	25/07/2012
263	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	638	Phosphate sample from posthole	25/07/2012
264	Soil	T2 W Ext.	828	Soil sample	26/07/2012
265	Soil	T1 W Ext.	654	Soil sample	26/07/2012
267	Soil	T1 W Ext.	643	Soil sample	26/07/2012
269	Phosphate	T2 W Ext.	308	Phosphate sample baulk	27/07/2012

Sample number	Type	Trench	Context number	Description (e. g. charcoal twig/s, litres of soil, context type)	Date
270	Soil	T2 W Ext.	308	Soil sample baulk	27/07/2012
271	Phosphate	T2 W Ext.	309	Phosphate sample baulk	27/07/2012
272	Soil	T2 W Ext.	309	Soil sample baulk	27/07/2012
273	Phosphate	T2 W Ext.	822	Phosphate sample baulk	27/07/2012
274	Soil	T2 W Ext.	822	Soil sample baulk	27/07/2012
216*	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	608	Phosphate sample, taken with soil	18/07/2012
216*	Soil	T1 W Ext.	608	Soil sample from base of (608)	17/07/2012
221*	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	610	Phosphate sample from (610) [621]	19/07/2012
221*	Soil	T1 W Ext.	610	Soil sample from (610) [621]	19/07/2012
223*	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	618	Phosphate sample from (618) [619]	19/07/2012
223*	Soil	T1 W Ext.	618	Soil sample from (618) [619]	19/07/2012
259*	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	622	Phosphate sample from posthole [623]	25/07/2012
259*	Soil	T1 W Ext.	622	Soil sample from posthole [623]	25/07/2012
266*	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	645	Phosphate	26/07/2012
266*	Soil	T1 W Ext.	645	Soil sample	26/07/2012
268*	Phosphate	T1 W Ext.	635	Phosphate sample from under paving	26/07/2012
268*	Soil	T1 W Ext.	635	Soil sample from (635)	26/07/2012