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Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd.

Conwy Vicarage Gardens Archaeological Evaluation

I.P. Brooks

EAS Client report 2018/02

Conwy Vicarage Garden
Archaeological Evaluation

Project Commissioned
by
Donald Insall Associates

Fieldwork
by
I.P. Brooks
Engineering Archaeological Services Ltd.

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Introduction

Grid Reference:	**SH 78162 77488**
Scheduled Monument Status	**De-Scheduled in 1992**
Listed Building No.	**Not listed**
NPRN	
PRN	**2861, 2866, 2870, 42577**
Conversation area	**203 (Conwy)**
World Heritage Area	**374 (Conwy Castle and Town Walls)**

Location (Figures 1 and 2)

The current vicarage is on the southern side of the church yard associated with St Mary's Church and is bounded, to the south, by Rose Hill Street. To the west, the garden is bounded by The Town House and the Conwy Comrades Sport and Social Club and to the east by the lane between the Vicarage and the Tourist Information Office.

Background

It is intended to extend the current vicarage to provide a meeting room and toilet facilities and re-organise the vehicle access to the property so the it opens directly onto Rose Hill Street, rather than into the church yard of St Mary's Church. On the advice of the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service this evaluation has been commissioned in advance of submitting a planning permission application for the development.

The vicarage garden was subject to archaeological excavation prior to the building of the current vicarage in 1961 (Butler 1964). Before this point the vicarage was within the old Horse Mill Farm, on the opposite site of Rose Hill Street and the site of the current vicarage was a divorced garden. Plans to widen Rose Hill Street resulted in the demolition of the 17th Century farmhouse, that had been used as the vicarage since the 18th Century, and the construction of the current vicarage. The vicarage garden had been scheduled in 1959 with the thought that the monastic site of Aberconwy Abbey might extend into the area. The excavation was funded by the Ministry of Works, through the Ancient Monuments Board, however the excavator (Laurence Butler) was working for the Royal Commission on the Ancient Monument in Wales and Monmouthshire at the time. Butler was not the first choice to lead the excavation with Oswin Craster (Ancient Monuments Board) originally requesting the services of "Johns" (probably C. N Johns) from H. A. Hogg (RCAMWM).

The excavation would appear to have been underfunded with Butler's preferred option of a series of 10-foot square trenches in a Wheelerian box formation having been abandoned in the favour of a series of twenty linear trenches, each approximately 1.15 m wide (up to 4 ft) (Figure 3). Further restrictions were placed on the positioning of the trenches so that they should not interfere with the footing of the proposed vicarage. In the northern half of the garden a large stone wall

Aberconwy Abbey was founded by AD 1192 as a colony of monks from Strata Florida, via Rhedynog Felen, near Caernarfon (Burton and Stöber 2015, 32). The most significant benefactor was Llwelyn ab Iorwerth (d. AD1240) who was buried at the site as was, later, his sons Gruffudd (d 1244) and Dafydd (d. 1246) (Ashbee, 2007, 47). It was this close connection between the abbey and the House of Gwynedd probably lead to looting of the monastery by Henry III in AD1245. It was in the abbey of Aberconwy that Llwelyn ap Gruffudd surrendered to Edward I in AD1277 and in AD1283 (ibid 33). The abbey was used by Edward I as his headquarters in his final campaign in Wales and was adopted

as the site for his new Castle and borough at it conclusion. The monastery demolished in 1283-4, except the church, after the community was relocated to Maenan in *c.* AD 1283/4 (Burton and Stöber 2015, 33).

Butler (1964) thought that the walls recorded in the northern section of the vicarage garden were from a substantial building from early in the Edwardian phase of the town and Castle (Butler 1964, 110-111) possibly being one of the official lodgings thought to have been built near to the Mill Gate. Butler interpreted his results as suggesting that this building was destroyed and not re-built after the Glyndwr Revolt of 1401.

Summary

Two trenches were excavated in the garden of the Conwy Vicarage. The trench to the south of the vicarage had little archaeology apart from modern garden soils and the water pipe feeding the vicarage. The second trench was located to the north and west of the vicarage and was designed to sample two of the trenches from Butler's excavation in 1961 as well as investigate the stratigraphy in this part of the garden. Trench 2 had at least 1.75 m of stratigraphy in places with the top 0.85 m consisting of interleaved layers of soils and spreads of stone block. A series of probable post-medieval pits were located along the eastern side of the trench which were generally filled with loose stone fills. In the base of the trench a complex of masonry and packed clay deposits were located which can be related to Butler's Wall 22 (Butler 1964, Fig. 3. This may be a major boundary at least 2.7 m wide. In front of this feature was a quarry ditch, the top fill of which was dated suggesting twelfth, or early thirteenth, century date for the quarry and associated wall complex. This would indicate that these features are pre-Edwardian in date and possibly pre-date the construction of the Aberconwy Abbey about AD 1192.

An inspection of the archive associated with the 1961 excavation and the finds held by the Bangor Museum was made. Unfortunately, little more detail apart from that published was recovered from this exercise. The comparison between the current excavation and that carried out in 1961 suggests that the 1964 published report is inaccurate in many aspects.

Methodology

The Butler archive, held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales was inspected (Catalogue Number C424336 Accession Number NA/GEN/2007/019e) for records relevant to the 1961 excavation and the Historic Environment Record held by the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust consulted for comparable archaeological records within Conwy.

The position of the trenches was agreed with Ashley Batten, the Senior Planning Archaeologist of the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service which were laid out with reference to the existing vicarage and based on Plan 2000, prepared by Donald Insall Associates.

All excavation works were carried out by hand. All contexts were recorded with the appropriate written, drawn and photographic record and the contexts defined are summarised in Appendix 1. The photographs were taken with a Nikon D5300 Digital SLR Camera at a resolution of 24.2 MP with the photographs being taken in RAW (NEF) format. These photographs were converted into JPEG format for use as illustration in this report and TIFF for archiving. In addition, a series of overlapping digital photographs were taken, with a Panasonic Lumix DCM-TZ60 and processed using Agisoft Photoscan Standard V1.4.1, to produce a three-dimensional model from which the photogrammetric plans could be extracted.

Results

Archive Research

The archive now held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales ((Catalogue Number C424336 Accession Number NA/GEN/2007/019e) consists of two boxes containing a series of notes, drafts of the published papers, letters and a limited number of black and white contact prints together with their negatives. It is noticeable that there were no site drawings nor context records.

The majority of the letters were between Oswain Craster of the Ancient Monuments Board and H. A. Hogg (RCAMWM) organising who will carry out the excavation and the scale of the works. The initial proposal was set out in a letter from Craster, dated 27/1/61, who proposed a three-week excavation supervised by "Johns" (probably C. N Johns). In reply Hogg says that "Johns" is not available but suggesting that either Butler or Thomas might be able to do the work. By 1/2/61 a letter from Hogg suggests that Butler had volunteered and that Hogg would make it official. The final letter in the correspondence is dated 5/5/61 agreeing to a one-week extension to the excavation and also agreeing that the Royal Commission would pay Butlers expenses.

More informative, perhaps, is a letter from Butler to M. Dunning (who was studying the medieval pottery) in which he explained that "I was further limited since the area chosen for the new vicarage was excluded from the excavation and the existing garden wall was to remain intact." He also suggested that his preferred option was to use a grid of 10' square trenches, but there was not enough labour nor space for the spoil.

The photographs within the archive are a very mixed lot. They consist of a series of contact prints and negatives from a 120-roll film. Unfortunately, the vast majority of these are out of focus or show little more than the planks used to shore the trenches. Probably the most useful photographs are a few that have been taken from the top of the tower of St Mary's Church showing the excavation in progress. One of these (see below) shows Butler's Trench 16 under excavation

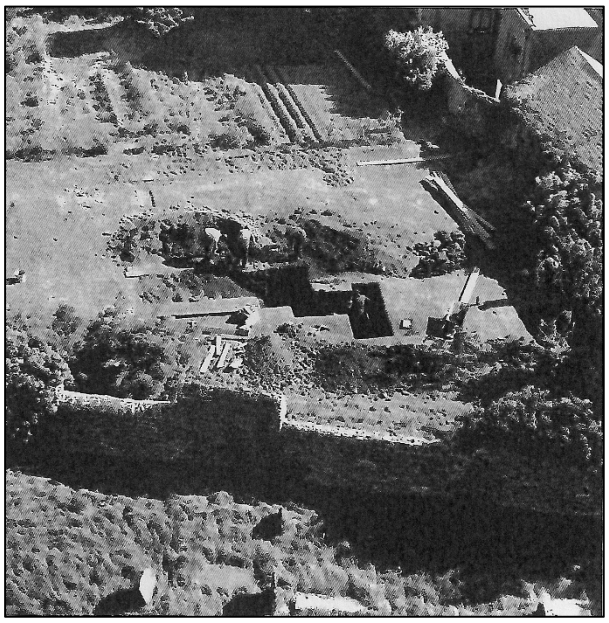

Plate 1: Photograph from Butler's Archive showing Trench 16 during excavation.

Trench 1

Trench 1 was 3 x 2 m in size and was located to the south of the current vicarage in the south eastern corner of the garden (Figure 2). This trench was designed to sample the line of the new possible access to the vicarage.

The stratigraphy within this trench was somewhat limited, even though the trench was dug to a maximum depth of 0.66 m (Figure 4). Below the turf was a thick layer of topsoil (Context 1) up to 0.4 m thick. Within this layer were three supports for a swing, set in concrete blocks. Below Context 1 was a lens of yellowish brown clayey silt, which although reaching a depth of 0.11 m at the southern end of the trench was somewhat patchy in the northern half of the trench. This layer appears to be a dump of material and may relate to a modern water pipe which ran along the western side of the trench (Figure 4, Plate 2). Below Context 2 was a layer of material, very similar to the topsoil (Context 3) (Plate 3). This layer was clearly modern as it contained a "Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd" beer bottle. Context 3 was up to 0.2 m thick and sat directly over the natural boulder clay.

The only feature (Context 4, Figure 5, Plate 4) cut into the top of the natural sub-soil was a single, small feature only 210 mm in diameter and 60 mm deep which may have been a small post-hole.

It is clear from the excavation of this trench that the area has been disturbed in recent times and that the depth of overburden in this area represents modern levelling within the garden.

Trench 2

Trench 2 was located to the north and west of the vicarage (Figure 2, Plate 5). It was designed not only to sample the archaeology in this part of the garden, but also to cross two of the trenches dug, by Butler, in 1961 thereby evaluating the previous excavation and the level of disturbance from the earlier work.

There was a linear mound, lined with broken concrete paving slabs crossing the trench, which when the turf (Context 7) had been removed resolved itself into a gravel path (Context 8, Plate 6) which separated two garden beds. There was also a modern feature in the north west corner of the trench (Context 12) which was filled with a dump of rusted tin cans, plastic wrappers and barely rotted fabric (Context 11) (Figure 15).

Within 200 mm of the turf a patch of irregular stone fragments was revealed (Context 10, Plate 7, Figure 6) which appeared to be sitting within a slight hollow. Although not obvious during the course of the excavation this layer sits in the top of the fill for Butler's TR 16 and is likely to be the result of filling a hollow formed by settling of the deposits in Butler's trench. The locations of Butler's trench became more apparent at a depth of approximately 300 mm where the positions of both Butler's trenches 11 and 16 became apparent (Figure 7, Plate 8). Also exposed at this level were three large stone slabs (Context 17) together with scatters of stone debris along the sides of the trench (Contexts 13 and 18). The removal of the surrounding matrix (Context 19) revealed a more constant layer of stone slabs over much of the extent of the trench (Figure 8, Plate 9) through which the Butler trenches had clearly been cut. The top of the layer is somewhat uneven and does not appear to have a worn surface. It therefore likely that this is a tip of stone designed to level this part of the garden. Siting above and partly within the western side of the this spread of stone was a dump of yellowish brown clayey silt (Context 21) which is presumably a deliberate dump of material.

The stones of Contexts 13, 17 and 18 sat above, and partly within a soily deposit (Context 23) which was up to 360 mm thick. This appears to have been a cultivated garden soil which seals another stone spread (Context 24, Figure 9, Plate 10). The stone within this layer was only loosely packed with many voids suggesting it was rapidly deposited, probably as a deliberate dump. It sits within a shallow hollow (Context 26, Figure 10) covering at least half of the trench. This feature was only

recognised because its edge ran through the trench, it is therefore possible that the other stony layers recorded in this trench were in similar shallow hollows. It was also at this level that the full extent of the Butler trenches became apparent.

The underlying soily layer (Context 25) was not only cut by Context 26, but also by a single stake hole (Context 27 (Figure 10, Plate 11)), and a series of at least four small pits along the eastern side of the trench (Contexts 28, 30, 32 and 36, Plates 12 - 14). These pits were between 0.8 and 1.3 m in diameter, between 200 and 300 mm deep and are typified by a loosely packed fills of angular stone chips and blocks (Contexts 29, 31, 33 and 35) some of which appear to have been carefully packed into the pits. The pits are not all contemporary as Context 32 cuts Context 30, however the similarity of their fills would suggest similar functions.

Context 25 was up to 0.28 m thick and appeared to be a cultivated soil which over laid a number of features (Figures 11 -14, Plate 15). Of particular interest is a complex of features in the northern half of the trench which relates to Butler's Wall 22. Although these features occupy the same space as Butler's Wall 22 it is difficult to directly relate this feature to that published in 1964 (Butler, 1964 Fig. 3). Indeed, Butler's Trench 16 cut into the top of the structure by approximately 0.25 m revealing some of the structure of this feature, an event that was not discussed in the report.

The feature (Context 42) occupies the northern 2.8 m of Tr 2 and consists of a series of layers forming bands running across the trench. The southern face of the "wall" (Context 40) consists of a well-built wall face of large slabs (Figure 16, Plates 16 and 17) aligned with the wall. The front face is battered to an angle of approximately 70° over the three courses of stonework exposed. This face also sat within a sharp cut (Context 48) which presumably represents the initial foundation cut for this feature. Where it was not cut by Butler's trench the top of Context 40 was covered by a mixed clayey layer (Context 37). The core of Context 42 consists of clayey layers with little or no stone content (Contexts 38, 49, 50, Plate 19) which appear to be packed in behind Context 40 and against a second possible wall face (Context 41, Figure 11, 13, 14 and 16, Plate 18). Context 38, however, merges with the stones at the back Context 40 suggesting these two layers may be contemporary. A sondage dug into the clay core (Contexts 38, 49 and 50) (Plate 19) showed the deposits to extend to at least 0.85 m below the top of the wall complex and the bottom of these deposits were not found even at this depth. In front (south) of Context 40 is a quarry hollow (Context 45, Plates 20, 21) which is assumed to be part of the construction phase of Context 42. It contained a layer of loose stone chips (Context 44) on its base which was sealed by Context 36, a yellowish/brown silty clay which contained many flecks and fragments of charcoal (Plate 22). This layer not only occupied the top of the quarry hollow (Context 45), but also is within the foundation cut for Context 42 (Context 48). It was therefore deposited at or shortly after the construction of the wall complex at the northern end of the trench (Context 42). Three samples from this charcoal were submitted to Beta Analytic Inc. for radiocarbon dating giving dates of 1028 – 1184 AD at 95.4% (Beta 496011), 1150 – 1256 AD at 83.5% (Beta 496012) and 1016 – 1154 AD at 95.4% (Beta 496013). This would indicate that the quarry hollow and the "wall" complex all date from the pre-Edwardian occupation of the site.

Context 41 (Plate 23, Figure 16) is a rough wall against which Contexts 38, 49 and 50 are packed. The rough form of this wall would suggest that it was not an external face. One possibility is that it is part of the construction of a single feature marking the back of a stone facing to the north. The other possibility is that the clay core and battered facing (Contexts 38, 40, 49 and 50) are a secondary feature built on the front of an earlier structure.

The clay footings of another wall (Context 47, Figure 14, Plate 21) runs south of and roughly parallel to Context 42 at a distance of 1.45 m. Cut by Butler's Tr 11, but not recognised by the previous excavators this footing is at least 0.38 m thick. It was also cut by the quarry hollow (Context 45) suggesting this is the earliest feature within the excavated area.

Radiocarbon Dating

Three samples from Context 36 were submitted to Beta Analytic Inc were submitted for radiocarbon dating analysis. These dates were:

Sample 1: 1028 – 1184 AD at 95.4% (Beta 496011)

Sample 2: 1150 – 1256 AD at 83.5% (Beta 496012)

Sample 3: 1016 – 1154 AD at 95.4% (Beta 496013)

The detailed radiocarbon reports are included as Appendix 2.

Finds (M. Jones)

The pottery assemblage recovered from the Conwy Vicarage Garden site consisted of a total of 131 sherds from 11 contexts. Within this assemblage were 10 sherds of Medieval date and 121 of Post Medieval (predominantly 19th century) date. In addition to the pottery assemblage items recovered from these deposits included 52 pieces of glass, 30 clay tobacco pipe fragments, 7 metal fragments and 11 tile sherds. All contexts from which material was recovered, including those containing Medieval pottery, appear to be either landfill or dumping layers.

Context 1

Context 1 (the topsoil in Tr), had a very mixed finds profile which ranged in date from the 13th to the 20th centuries. The artefact assemblage was predominantly of 19th to 20th Century date although some residual Medieval material was recovered.

The following assessment has been subdivided by material type for ease of interpretation.

Ceramic Assemblage

Medieval

A single green glaze Medieval jug handle (Plate 24) was recovered. The sherd was the uppermost part of strap/loop handle with a double strip applied decoration. A partial body connection was present below the rim part of a jug. The rim itself was inverted with a simple design. The sherd fabric was a light red/orange fabric with a mottled green glaze.

Similar examples were recorded from the Vicarage excavation conducted in 1961. Butler (1964: 120) identifies them as “local wares item 3/8” and suggested a late 13th to early 14th century date. The author is in agreement with this interpretation.

Plate 24: Green glazed jug handle from Context 1

Post Medieval

A total of 10 Post Medieval pottery sherds were recovered. The assemblage has been subdivided by type.

Slip Ware

One sherd of red fabric with a red brown internal and external glaze with a white slip decoration. Late 17th to early 18th century date although it must be noted that there was a revival in these styles during the mid to late 19th century.

Early Black Glaze Wares

One sherd of dark grey fabric with internal and external dark brown black glaze with external ribbed decortication. Dating from 18th century to early 19th century.

Black Glaze Wares

Two fragments of a red pink fabric with white grit temper with a dark brown black glaze with ribbed decoration. They are relative thick and could possibly come from large domestic storage vessels. Dating from the19th century.

Stoneware

One sherd of a stoneware preserve jar/pot. Late 19th to 20th century in date.

Plant Pot

Three sherds (one body sherd and two base sherds with attached body fragments) of a coarse red fabric. Late 19th to 20th century plant pots.

Blue and White Ware

One base sherd of a blue and white flat plate or charger. Late 19th to 20th century date.

Modern Slip Ware

One sherd of a white fabric with a white internal and external glaze. Blue striped slip externally. Part of small pot/jar. Late 19th to 20th century date.

Unidentified

Two sherds of earthen ware. One was heavily abraded with an orange brown fragmentary surviving glaze. The second was a cream-grey fabric with a brown internal and external glaze. Likely of late 19th to 20th century date.

Tiles

Four fragments of a coarse red fabric tile with coarse grit inclusions. The sides and tops of these pieces have been smoothed. One fragment represents a right-angled corner on the top face. It has a circular stamp with an unclear image inside. The same piece has the remains of a circular hole with an angled sloped designed. Likely to be part of a drainage cover of late 19th to 20th century date.

Clay Pipe

Single pipe bowl with a small surviving partial stem fragment. Foot and roulette decoration along the bowl edge. Dating from the mid-19th to early 20th century.

Part	Length	Bore	Diameter	Decoration
Stem	5 cm	2mm	6mm	no

Glass

Six fragments of glass from round or square bottles. Dating from the late 19th to 20th century.

Metal

A circular lead weight with a rough-cut hole inside. Use unknown. Likely to be of 19th to 20th century date.

Context 3

Context 3 (the lower layer in Tr 1) had a very mixed finds profile which ranged in date from the 13th to the 20th centuries. The artefact assemblage was predominantly of 19th to 20th Century date although some residual Medieval material was recovered.

The following assessment has been subdivided by material type for ease of interpretation.

Ceramic

Medieval

Two medieval sherds were identified from this context One body sherd and a single fragment of a cream fabric with white interior with a mottled green glaze (Plate 28). Similar fabric types were described as Group 4 in the Old Vicarage excavations (Butler and Evans 1976) and were comparable with similar finds from the Vicarage Gardens (Butler 1964: 120-121) and the old estate office in Conwy (Kelly 1979: 113). These examples were dated the late 13th to early 14th century. The author is in agreement with this interpretation for these sherds.

Post-Medieval

A total of 43 Post Medieval pottery sherds were recovered from this context. The assemblage has been subdivided by type.

Black Glaze Wares

Six body and one base with body sherds. Red-pink fabric with white grit temper. Dark brown/black glaze. The base fragment has a stepped square base. All fragments are likely to come from domestic storage vessels. Dating from the19th century.

Stoneware

Eighteen sherds of white glazed stoneware. Twelve were fragmentary and of mixed thickness. Pieces from cups and pots. At least one sherd has printed text.

Two bases were recorded with circular foot rings representing a tea cup and a plate or bowl. Two fragments were of a stoneware preserve jar/pot. A single fragment was of looped handle with the remains of a gold decoration. Late 19th to Early 20th century date.

A single sherd from a large stone mixing bowl with a light yellow external glaze and a white internal glaze. This style of bowl is still being manufactured and it is possible that this could date from the late 20th century.

A single thick stoneware rim from a large bowl with an internal green floral transfer decoration. Late 19th to 20th century.

Brown Glaze Wares

Three sherds of a light pink fabric with fine white grit inclusions. There are two body sherds with ribbed decoration and a small fragmentary rim with a rounded flat clubbed rim. Dating from 19th to 20th century.

Plant Pot

Seven fragments (four body sherds, two bases with body fragments and a small fragment of a squared rim) of a coarse red fabric. Late 19th to 20th century plant pot.

Blue and White Ware

Two body fragments and base of a blue and white ware. A late 19th to 20th century date is suggested.

Modern Slip Ware Decorated

Three sherds of modern slip ware decorated pottery were identified. One white fabric with a white internal and external glaze. Blue striped slip externally. Part of small pot/jar, similar to the fragment from (01).

Cream coloured fragment with camel colour glaze. White and dark brown banding.

Pinkish red fabric with a light brown glaze and light blue spots.

All sherds are likely to date from the late 19th to 20th century.

Brick

A single handmade brick in a red grey fabric. Length 14cm, width 10cm, thickness 6.5 cm. Brick was not mass produced in North Wales prior to the 1760's. The uneven texture of the brick and the absence

of a frog is consistent with them having been hand-made and fired in a clamp kiln. It is difficult to assign an exact date to the brick manufacture, but the likely range is from c.1760 – 1830.

Clay Pipes

One complete and one incomplete pipe bowl (Plate 25) were recovered from this context.

The complete bowl has a ridged decoration with a cut rim and remaining foot. Dating from the mid-19th to early 20th century.

The incomplete bowl with a surviving foot had a bull's eyes design on both sides and a flower and leaf design along the seam. Raised image of a sheep and the word Cymru visible on the surviving side.

Stems

Part	Length	Bore	Diameter	Decoration
Stem	2.5 cm	2mm	8mm	no
Stem	2.3 cm	2mm	4mm	Splashed Green Glaze

Plate 25: Clay pipe bowls from Context 3

Glass

One complete bottle and 10 bottle glass sherds were recovered

A complete bottle is an Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd green beer bottle. Allsopps merged with Ind Coope in 1935 to form Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd and the Allsopp name was dropped in the 1950's. This bottle can therefore be accurately dated to between 1935 and 1960.

Two base fragments a single bottle next fragment and seven fragments of green bottle glass. The bottle fragments are not really good enough for identification all dating from 19th to 20th century

Marble

A small white marble with a red swirl. Late19th to 20th century date.

Context 9

Context 9 is a layer of garden soil below the topsoil in Tr 2. There is the possibility that some of ceramic assemblage from this context is of a Late Medieval/ Early Post Medieval date although the three sherds noted are not necessarily conclusively diagnostic. All other finds are of a late19th to 20th century date.

Ceramic

Late Medieval/Early Post Medieval

Two sherds of coarse orange fabric with a light brown glaze and a single sherd of grey fabric with grey brown glaze. Similar examples were recorded in the Vicarage garden excavation (Butler and Evans 1979: 76) and were assigned a later 16th to 17th century date. It is possible that the three examples above are of a similar date although it must be noted that this is by no means certain as the sherds are not of conclusively diagnostic fabric or form.

Post Medieval

A total of 14 Post Medieval pottery sherds were recovered. The assemblage has been subdivided by type.

Black Glaze Wares

Five body sherds and a single rim sherd with a partial lug handle of a red pink fabric with white grit temper with a dark brown-black glaze.

A Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust report on the history of the Buckley potteries (Jones 2014) shows similar handles on a 19th century storage jar, and it's likely that it comes from a tall pot/milk pot. All fragments are from domestic storage vessels. Dating from the19th century.

Stoneware

Three white fabric and white glazed stoneware sherds. One large fragment of a straight sided decorative vessel with white glaze and a raised rib with a painted gold line. Flat rounded rim. Late 19th to 20th century in date.

Plant Pot

Two body sherds of a coarse red fabric. Late 19th to 20th century plant pot.

Blue and White Ware

One large body and base sherd of a blue and white ware flat based bowl. A late 19th to 20th century date is suggested.

Modern Slip Ware Decorated

Two fragments of a white fabric with a white internal and external glaze with a blue striped slip externally. Part of small pot/jar, similar to the fragment from (01). A small fragment of white fabric with white glaze and external dark brown and a light brown strip.

Clay Pipes

Part	Length	Bore	Diameter	Decoration
Stem	2.5 cm	2.5mm	8cm	no

Glass

Neck and bottle top with lip in light blue glass. Part of a square medicine bottle dating to the late 19th to early 20th century.

Slate Pen

Slate pen 30 mm long with a 6mm diameter. Dating to the late 19th to early 20th century.

Tobacco Tin

A circular tin with lettering on the lid. It reads LEADER, FLAKE, Rich Smooth, Tobacco. A direct example could not be found although a brand called Squadron Leader pipe tobacco was produced in the mid-20th century and was reissued in the 21st century. It could be that this tin could be a version of this product. A mid-20th century date.

Context 10

All finds within this context are of 19th to 20th Century date.

Ceramic

A total of 8 Post Medieval pottery sherds were recovered. The assemblage has been subdivided by type.

Slipware

A single rim sherd of red fabric with a yellow and brown stripe internal slip decoration. The rim has an impressed pie-crust decoration. Late 17th to early 18th century in style although it must be noted that there was a revival of this form/decoration from the mid to late 19th century.

Stoneware

Two white fabric and white glazed stoneware sherds. Single sherd of a straight sided preserve pot/jar. Three sherds of white fabric jug with an outer pink glaze. Late 19th to 20th century date.

Plant Pot

Four body sherds of a coarse red fabric. Late 19th to 20th century plant pot.

Blue and White Ware

One small rim sherd with a scalloped decoration of a blue and white ware plate. A late 19th to 20th century date is likely.

Glass

One single complete bottle and three sherds of a light green glass were recovered

The three sherds of glass were un-diagnostic. One of which is heavily abraded which could suggest some age, whilst the other two are clearly modern.

A complete modern clear glass bottle with a well-defined screw cap. A green-blue neck of a drinks bottle with a crown cap fitting which was patented in 1892. 20th century date.

Context 14

Context 14 was a patch of yellow clay within a stone spread (Context 13, 17 and 18). A single item was recovered from this context dating from the late 19th to early 20th century.

Glass

A single base and body of a square glass light blue medicine bottle. Moulded lettering on one of the faces partially survived. Reads in three separate lines “others,cent, aline. It couldn't be determined what these stood for. Late 19th to early 20th century date.

Context 15

Context 15 was the backfill from Butlers Tr 16 which contained material from the 16th to 20th century.

Ceramic

Medieval Ceramic

A single fragment of floor tile with an orange fabric. Traces of green glaze. Similar to floor tile found at the Conwy Public Library excavations (Butler 1979: 92). Believed to be of late Medieval (16th century) date.

Post -Medieval

A single sherd of a buff red fabric with a brown gloss internal and external glaze. No form could be determined from the sherd although similar fabric and glaze descriptions are noted in pottery reports from the Old Vicarage and Vicarage Gardens which assign this pottery type an early Post Medieval (17th century) date.

Glass

A single sherd of light green glass. 20th century date.

Context 16

Context 16 was an arc of yellowish orange clay below Context 9, which contained material from the 17th to 18th century through to the early 20th century.

Post-Medieval

A total of 2 Post Medieval ceramic sherds were recovered. The assemblage has been subdivided by type.

A single body sherd with an orange fabric and a rib internal decoration. Brown glaze internally and externally. 17th to 18th century in date.

Part of a ceramic pipe in a dark orange fabric inscribed with the letter’s 'BULWEL' - likely to be Bulwell, a town near Nottingham. This area was well known for Brick and pottery manufacture and there was a Bulwell Brick Factory listed between 1876 and the 1940's (www.eastmidlandsnamed.blogspot.co.uk). Late 19th to mid-20th century in date.

Glass

A single neck and head of a Codd bottle. The Codd designed was introduced in 1872 and it was in use into the early 20th century.

Metal

A single cooper alloy pin attachment with a cooper alloy fitting possibly to used for a medal or ribbon. Presumably 19th - 20th century in date.

Context 17

Context 17 was a group of large stone slabs which extended into Context 13, 14 and 18, which had a very mixed finds profile which ranged in date from the 13th to the 20th centuries. The artefact assemblage was predominantly of 19th to 20th century date although some residual Medieval material was recovered.

Medieval

A single body sherd of orange outer fabric and cream coloured inner with a brown green interior and exterior glaze. Possible a type of Rhuddlan ware some examples were recovered from the Old Vicarage excavations (Butler,1979.28) in a late 13th century context. Late 13th century.

Post-Medieval

A total of 13 Post Medieval (19th – 20th century date) pottery sherds were recovered. The assemblage has been subdivided by type.

Buckley

A single chunky rim sherd of a red fabric with an internal black gloss glaze. Part of a large bowl. 19th century in date.

Brown Glazed Earthern ware

A single thick base of orange-red fabric with small white grit and larger black grit inclusions. Brown internal glaze. Late 19th century in date.

Stoneware

Three white fabric and white glazed sherds. A complete base of 9cm diameter. A straight sided preserve pot/jar and three small sherds of similar material. Late 19th to 20th century date.

Plant Pot/Ceramic pipe

Eight body sherds of a coarse red fabric. Late 19th to 20th century date.

Clay Pipes

Stems

Part	Length	Bore	Diameter	Decoration
Stem	2.5 cm	2.5mm	6cm	no
Stem	3.5cm	1.5mm	1.1cm	no
Stem	4cm	1mm	1.1cm	no
Stem	4.3cm	1.5mm	5mm	no

Glass

A total of 14 glass fragments was recovered

The base and body sherd of a green glass bottle with the partial lettering CONW. The design compares with a A J Ley design (personal collection). Ley was a Conwy bottler who had a bottling stores on the Conwy quay in 1889 (Davidson, Jones and Roberts 2009).

Seven sherds of clear window glass.

Three bases of green bottle glass.

A single clear glass base of a medicine bottle.

A single blue glass body fragment of a medicine bottle.

A fragment of a torpedo bottle with the letter *ER* probably the last letters of the word water. Late 19th to 20th century.

Context 19

Context 19 was soily layer below the stony layer (Contexts 9, 13, 14, and 18). It contained a single sherd of 18th to 19th century glass and a mid-19th to early 20th century clay pipe stem.

Clay Pipe

Stems

Part	Length	Bore	Diameter	Decoration
Stem	4 cm	1.5mm	6mm	no

Glass

A single sherd of thick, curved green glass. Possibly from an early medicine bottle or wine bottle. 18th to 19th century date.

Context 22

Context 22 was a levelling layer, within Tr 2, which contained a single sherd of 19th to 20th century stone ware pottery and two fragments of 19th to 20th century glass.

Ceramic

Stoneware

A single fragment of white fabric stoneware with a white glaze. 19th to early 20th century in date.

Glass

Two sherds of clear bottle glass. 19th to early 20th century in date.

Context 23

Context 23 was a soily layer below Context 22. It contained a single sherd of 15th to 17th century pottery with two fragments of a possibly early slip ware the majority of the ceramic came for a later post medieval date, the 19th to 20th century the glass also came from the 19th t0 20th century. There was a single early clay tobacco pipe bowl from the 17th century with a Chester makers mark.

Ceramic

Late Medieval/Early Post Medieval

A single body sherd of a coarse orange fabric with external mottled green glaze. A reddish brown internal colour with a light brown glaze. Ribbed interior. 15th to 17th century in date.

Slip Ware

Two fragments of early slip ware fragment of red fabric with a red brown internal and external glaze with a yellow slip decoration and a small fragment of the yellow cream fabric rim with scalloped decoration and an internal brown and yellow glaze. Late 17th to early 18th century although it must be noted that there was a revival in these styles from the mid to late 19th century.

Post medieval

A total of 31 Post Medieval pottery sherds were recovered. The assemblage has been subdivided by type.

Black Glaze Wares

Five body and one rounded base of a red pink fabric with white grit temper. Dark brown-black glaze. Dating from the 19th century.

Stoneware

Ten sherds of white glaze stoneware, one base of a plate was recorded with a circular foot ring. A fragment of a jar with a brown external and internal glaze. Late 19th to early 20th century date.

Brown Glaze Wares

Two fragments of a light pink material with fine white grit inclusions. Dating from 19th to 20th century.

Plant Pot

Four fragments (two body sherds, one base with body fragment and a small clubbed rim) of a coarse red fabric. Late 19th to 20th Century plant pot.

Blue and White Ware

Two rims sherds both with transfer decoration. One of the rims has a scalloped decoration on its rim. A single base and a single body sherd were also identified All sherds appear to come from four separate plates, as decorative pattern did not match. Late 19th to 20th Century date is suggested.

There were also five small fragments of blue and white ware whose form could not be identified

Modern Slip Ware

A single sherd of a white fabric with a white internal glaze. External glaze has a blue striped slip. Part of small pot/jar. A late 19th to 20th century date is suggested.

Brick

Two fragments of a coarse orange fabric with black and white grits, evidence of being handmade so possibly come from an early18th - 19th century date.

Ceramic Pipe

A ceramic drainage pipe. Coarse light yellow fabric with light brown glaze. 20th century.

Clay Pipe

Bowl and base of a heel pipe, with a relief stamp mark reading IC (Plate 26). Flower and dot decorations in a double ringed circle. Similar style/design has been excavated in Chester and dated to 1610-40 (Garner 2008: 261).

Stems

Part	Length	Bore	Diameter	Decoration
Stem	5cm	2mm	5mm	no
Stem	4.1cm	2mm	7mm	no
Stem	4cm	2mm	7mm	no
Stem	4cm	2mm	6mm	no
Stem	3.5cm	3mm	7mm	no
Stem	3cm	2.5mm	7mm	no
Stem	3cm	1.5mm	4mm	Splashed green glaze
Stem	2.8cm	1mm	5mm	no
Stem	2.8cm	2mm	6mm	no
Stem	2.8mm	2mm	7mm	no
Stem	2.6cm	2mm	7mm	no
Stem	2.4cm	2.5mm	8mm	no
Stem	2.1cm	2mm	8mm	no
Stem	2.1cm	2mm	6mm	no
Stem	1.8cm	1mm	6mm	no
Stem	1.7cm	4mm	6mm	no

Plate 26: Stamp on base of clay pipe

Glass

A total of 12 glass fragments were recovered

The body of an Ind Coope and Co Ltd green glass bottle. The bottle has raised lettering IMPERIAL along the shoulder in a convex arch. Ind Coope and Co Ltd, below BREWERS below in a concave arch BURTON ON TRENT. The back of the bottle is marked with ½ PINT (Plate 27).

Ind Coope first moved to Burton on Trent in the 1850s (Webster 2015: 36). The word Imperial was used throughout the 1800 for beers which were transported to the Russia court and later used to indicate a high-quality drink. Late 19th century in date.

Plate 27: Ind Coope bottle

Eleven sherds of dark green, clear and blue glass, a single green glass base. A broken neck of a Codd bottle.

Metal

Heavily corroded iron object - unclear form or function.

Square nail with a square raised head. Uniformity suggests a modern date.

Context 24

Context 24 was a loose spread of sub-angular stone fragments within a shallow feature, which contained 4 sherds of 13th to 15th century pottery, with two small post medieval pottery fragments and a post medieval roof tile.

Ceramic

Medieval

A total of 4 medieval pottery sherds were recovered (Plate 28)

A single small fine white fabric sherd with a green exterior glaze.

A handle of a light red fabric with dark grey and quart grits. The outer surface is a light brown with a tan glaze.

A single body sherd of a grey fabric with a green and brown glaze. Body sherd of a grey fabric with a brown glaze.

Similar fabric descriptions were recovered from the Old Vicarage and Vicarage Gardens although there no direct comparisons could be made. They were all considered to be a late 13th to 15th century date.

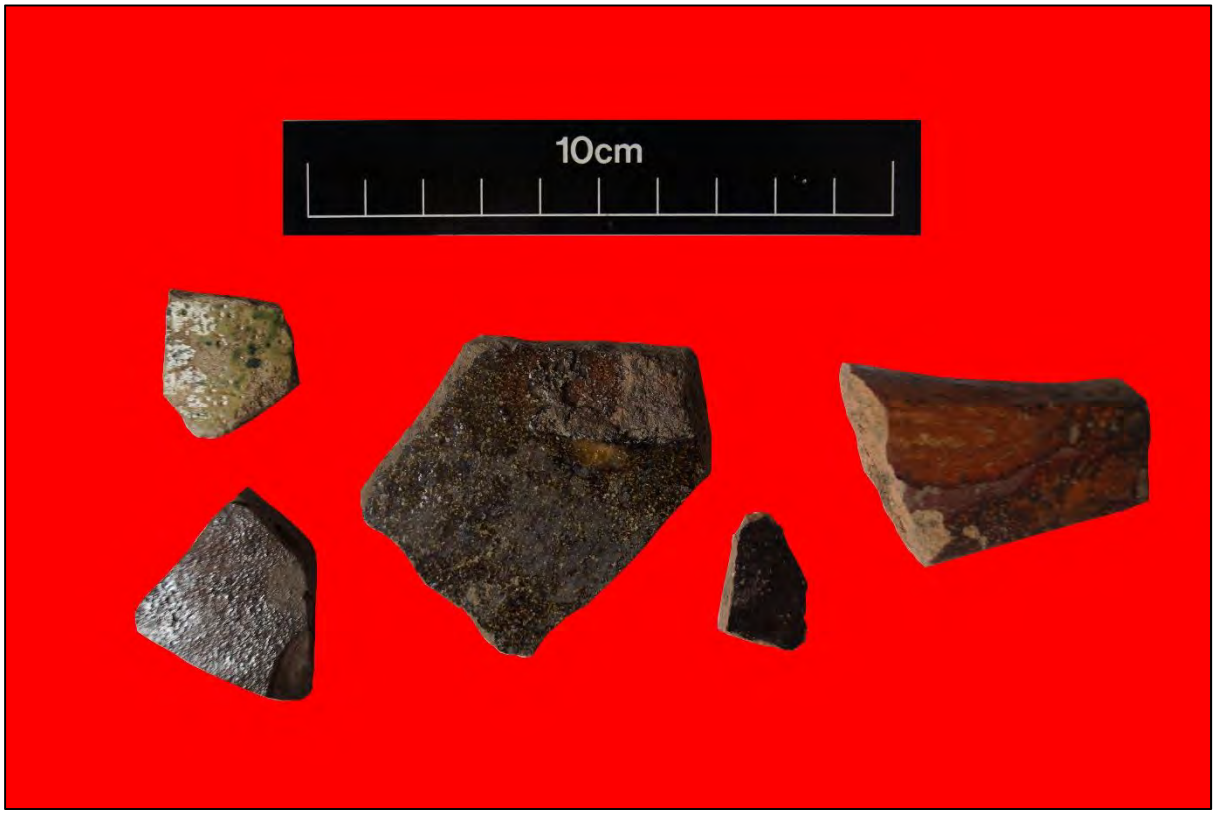

Plate 28: Selection of medieval pottery sherds, largely from Context 24.

Post Medieval

Two small fragments of coarse red and cream fabric with a brown glaze. 19th century in date.

Slate

Fragment of roof slate with a drilled attachment hole. Late 19th to 20th century date

Metal

Four heavily corroded iron fragments.

Context 37

Context 37 was a mixed clay layer immediately above Context 40. It contained two plaster fragments

Plaster

Two white plaster fragments. Uncertain date. No decoration.

Back fill of Butlers Trench 11

This deposit had been identified as an area disturbed in the early excavations carried out at the site. All the artefacts are glass drinks bottles and appear to date from the very late 19th century or very early 20th century.

Glass

Thirteen sherds of modern green bottle glass. A large sherd and base. The large sherd has raised lettering with ALLSOPPS LTD and the distinctive hand symbol. There was fragment of neck with a screw bottle top and it is likely that all these sherds belong to the same come from the same bottle.

The legend on the top reads ALLSOPPS, BURTON ON TRENT. Allsopps merged with Ind Coope in 1935 to form Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. The Allsopp name was dropped in the 1950's. Date range 1900-1950's (Webster 2015: 24-34)

A single base and partial body of a Green glass bottle with raised lettering reading in a concave arch RO.....KAY, central WASHINGTON HOTEL and in the lower convex arch reading LLANDUDNO. The lettering is likely to stand for Robinson Kay and the bottle is likely to post date1895.

The Weekly News and Visitors Chronicle records the license for the Washington going to an Elizabeth Key in November 1895. Robinson Kay is noted as the proprietor of the Washington in a speeding conviction in 1899. An Elizabeth Key is noted as being changed with serving drunks and the promotion of drunkenness in the Washington Hotel in 1899 and 1906.The Llandudno court petty sessions listed in The Weekly News and Visitors Chronicle ran a story about the transfer of the licence of the Washington Hotel from a Mrs Keye to Mr Stanley Row in 1907. The bottle production would therefore have fallen within this 12-year period.

Butlers Trench 16

This deposit had been identified as an area disturbed in the early excavations carried out at the site. This deposit largely contained material from the late 19th to 20th century.

Ceramic

Post-Medieval

A total of 3 Post Medieval pottery sherds were recovered. The assemblage has been subdivided by type.

Earthen Ware

A single small earthen ware jug with a mid-brown glaze. Approximately 10cm in height with a broken handle. Late 19th to early 20th century in date

A single sherd of a hollow handle with dark brown glaze and cream fabric.

Plant Pot

One body fragment of coarse red fabric plant pot. Late 19th to 20th century plant pot.

Clay Pipe

Stems

Part	Length	Bore	Diameter	Decoration
Stem	5.1cm	1.5mm	4mm	no

Glass

A complete brown glass bottle with raised lettering reading in convex arch Ind COOPE and Co Ltd. There is a central image of Britannia Trade Mark (written underneath) with a convex arch reading BURTON on TRENT. The Britannia Brand trade mark was first registered in 1876 and was accompanied with the image of Britannia (Webster 2015: 35-39). Ind Coope merged with Allsop brewery in 1935 and took the name Ind Coope and Allsopp Ltd. This bottle came from this 59-year period.

Conclusion

The Medieval pottery is typical of that reaching Conwy during the late 13th and 14th centuries and is similar to examples which have been recovered from the previous Vicarage and Vicarage Garden excavations (Butler 1964 and 1979). Other comparable assemblages have been recovered from smaller sites from within Conwy (Owen 2002). None of the Medieval pottery was from secure contexts and all finds are considered residual. They are, however, all from Context 24 or above and it is noticeable that none of the contexts below this level contains contain any post-medieval materials.

The Post Medieval pottery largely consists of earthen ware from the 19th century although there are a few examples of possible 18th century date. The other artefacts all come from the mid-19th - 20th century with the most securely dated material being glass beer bottles. These bottles have come from local manufacturers and from Burton on Trent.

Apart from context 24 were there was a very small amount of post medieval material compare to the broadly medieval pottery. No one type of material fabric or date was dominant within their context which would suggest that there was considerable disturbance within contexts. It is unknown how much movement and landscaping was involved with the 1960 house construction and this mixing could represent this.

Discussion

The evaluation in the gardens of the Conwy Vicarage have confirmed the presence of highly significant archaeological deposits, particularly to the north and west of the current vicarage. It should be stressed however that only relatively small areas have been investigated which can never answer all of the potential questions which could be asked of the archaeological record.

To the south of the vicarage, Trench 1 suggests that the area has already been disturbed with relatively modern deposits siting directly on the glacial deposits which underlie this part of the site. No sign of the buildings shown on the 1870 sales catalogue (Gwynedd Archives XD2/14362) in this corner of the garden was recorded. This would suggest that there has been a major clearing of this corner of the plot, possibly associated with the construction of the current vicarage in the early 1960's. What is noticeable is the difference in the depth of the deposits between the two excavated trenches with a maximum depth of 0.66 m in Tr 1 compared with in excess of 1.9 m in Tr 2. It is not known whether this is a result of the natural underlying slope, or the deliberate terracing of the site. One possibility is that Aberconwy Abbey was built on a deliberate terrace and that Tr 2 has the edge of this terrace running through it. Without more extensive excavation, however this is purely speculative.

Tr 2 proved to be deeply stratified which can be divided into six broad phases of activity.

1. Modern garden activities (Post 1961). This includes the garden soils at the top of the sequence (Context 9), the disused garden path (Contexts 7 and 8) and the modern feature in the north western corner of the trench (Context 12)

2. Butler's excavation (1961).

3. Interleaving deposits of stone spreads and soil layers (18^{th}-19^{th} century). Three cycles of dumps of stones followed by soil layers were found. (Contexts 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23 and 24). This appears to be the systematic levelling of the garden. Whether this took place in a single phase of activity or several distinct phases is uncertain.

4. Series of post-medieval pits filled with loose stones (Contexts 28, 30, 32 and 34). The character of these pits would suggest a similar function, possibly as soakaways

5. Soil layer forming above the medieval deposits, but cut by the pits, probably Early post-medieval in date.

6. Major boundary/wall(s) Context 42 together with quarry hollow (Context 45) (Medieval, probably 12^{th}/13^{th} century)

7. Wall footing Context 47 (Medieval, but earlier than Context 42).

The Phase 1 activity is confined to modern (post-1961) gardening and rubbish disposal. The garden path (Contexts 7 and 8) was constructed of compacted gravel and lined with broken concrete paving slabs. It is noticeable that the depth of soil on either side of this feature is different with a greater depth to the south. Probably the southern side was used as a vegetable patch and was therefore more intensively cultivated. The feature in the north-west corner (Context 12) shows a level of rubbish disposal in the garden.

Phase 2 consists of the two trenches dug by Butler in 1961. Trench 11 was in the southern end of the current trench and it was located high in the sequence. It is noticeable that it had been over-cut by approximately 0.25 m and that the rammed clay footing for a wall (Context 47) had not been recognised. This is not totally unexpected as Context 47 ran along the northern side of Trench 11 and its texture was similar to the surrounding till. The edge of Butler's pit 26 (Figure 3) was located adjacent to the western section of the current trench.

Butler's Trench 16/18 was less clear at a high level in the excavation but became clear at a depth of approximately 0.40 m below the current ground level. The correlation between the archaeology within this trench and that reported on by Butler (1964) is not as good as it might be. This trench has cut into the top of the wall complex (Context 42) by approximately 0.25 m revealing the facing (Context 40), the core of this feature (Context 38) and the secondary wall (Context 41). This wall complex is Butler's W22, however, Butler failed to report the internal structure and also his drawing (1964, Figure 3) has the facing stones orientated in the wrong direction. He also failed to report on the battered nature of the wall facings. It is unfortunate that the site drawings could not be located as the published drawings are somewhat schematic and have clearly been refined for publication. This is particularly so with the stratigraphy reported which could not easily be related to that encountered in the current excavation. Probably the best correlation is between Butler's layer "D" and Context 25, but, this correlation being solely based on the relationship between the walls and this layer. No sign of the destruction layer (F), which Butler describes as "A well-defined charcoal layer (F) could be traced throughout the main area, thickest in the central area, slighter on the south and west and with a scatter north of wall 21" (109) was found in the current trench. The general layout of the trenches appears to be roughly correct in the published drawings with any discrepancy being explained by scaling from the relatively small published drawings.

Phase 3 consists of repeated sub-phases of soil layers and stone spreads. It would seem likely that these are an attempt to level the garden. The finds suggest that all of this activity takes place in the 18th and 19th century and are probably related to the phase when the vicarage occupied the Horse Mill Farm on the opposite site of Rose Hill Street.

The pits of Phase 4 were not recognised in the previous excavation but appear to have all been dug from a single horizon and are therefore roughly contemporary. They also share similar fills with many, loosely packed stones with little matrix. The function of these pits is uncertain; but given their fill it is possible that they were soakaways, although why this level of drainage was needed is uncertain. Another possibility is that these stone filled features were the bases for garden features, although this remains highly speculative. All of these pits were cut through a soil layer (Context 25) which is probably reflect the post-medieval activity within the garden (Phase 5).

The medieval activity within the trench can be divided into two phases. Phase 6 consist of the wall complex (Context 42) and the quarry hollow (Context 45) to the south of this feature. The interpretation of the wall complex (Context 42) is open to debate. It is uncertain whether these are parts of a single feature or a series of walls built within a sequence. It is fairly clear that the battered wall face (Context 40) and the clay fills behind (Contexts 38, 49 and 50) are contemporary, however, it is uncertain whether the rough wall Context 41 marks the southern face of a wall which was widened at a later date. If these contexts are a single feature it would appear to have been a very wide (approximately 2.7 m wide) wall with stone faces and a clay core. The battered nature of the southern face (Context 40) may suggest this was similar in appearance to the *clawdd* walls, common as field boundaries, particularly on the Llyn peninsular to the west. In this interpretation, the quarry hollow to the south (Context 45) would have provided, at least, some of the clay used as core of the feature. The dating of this feature complex is suggested by the radio carbon samples from the top fill of the quarry hollow (Context 36). This layer not only occupied the quarry hollow but also filled the foundation cut (Context 48) for the Context 40 and therefore is likely to be associated with levelling of the site as a final stage in the construction of the wall. All of the dates show that Contexts 42 and 45 are from before the mid thirteenth century and therefore pre-date the Edwardian construction of the town and castle starting in AD 1283-4. The dates are not clear enough, however, to discriminate whether Context 43 relates to part of the Aberconwy Abbey, started by AD 1192, (Burton and Stöber 2015, 32) or from whatever previous activity took place on the site. One possible interpretation is that Context 42 may be the southern boundary of the abbey precinct, although major excavation would be needed to confirm this interpretation. Pre-dating Context 42 is the clay footings of a wall (Context 47) which is the earliest of the feature recorded (Phase 7). The small size of the trench means that the extent and function of this feature is unknown.

Butler's interpretation of his excavation in the vicarage garden (1964, 110 – 11), that all of the walls encountered were from a single phase of activity relating to the early Edwardian occupation of the town, has proved to be misguided. At least his Wall 22 relates to an earlier occupation of the site and may well be part of the abbey precinct which was part of the initial aim for the 1961 excavation (1964, 97). The only dating evidence used by Butler was from the pottery found on the site, however the use of modern scientific techniques has resulted in a re-assessment of the archaeology. The relationship between this feature and the other walls recorded is unknown and cannot easily be re-assessed because of the poor survival of any site records. A visit to Bangor Museum to inspect the finds from the 1961 excavation suggests that it would not be possible to refine the dating within the site as the majority of the finds do not have and any contextual information.

There is little information available on the pre-Edwardian activity within Conwy. Williams (1835, 23) suggested there may have been a fortress called Caer Gyffin built by Maelgwn Gwynedd in the sixth century and that the town was also called Aberconwy, however the source of this assertion is unknown. The Gwynedd Historic Environment Record does record the finding of a bronze cup (PRN

2016), from somewhere near Conwy Castle, in the mid 1800's, which was thought to be Early Medieval in date. It was recorded as being held “at Bangor listed under 'Medieval and Miscellaneous’” but it appears to have been lost by the 1940's when artefacts were transferred to the Bangor University Museum (Jones and Rees 2016).

The foundation of the Aberconwy Abbey in AD 1186 at Rhedynog Felen, near Caernarfon was as a colony from Strata Florida (Burton and Stöber 2015, 32), however, by AD 1192 the monastery had been moved to Conwy. The Abbey had close associations with the house of Gwynedd, with Llywelyn ab Iorwerth and his sons Dafydd and Gruffudd all being buried in the Abbey and it is assumed that the abbey was founded on lands already owned by the house of Gwynedd. Whether this land was already developed is not known, but although there is no evidence for Aberconwy a number of Cistercian houses were located on sites that may already have had an earlier church on them (Petts 2009, 193). Indeed, Gresham suggests that the similarity in the boundaries of townships found in the Aberconwy and Cymer charters with the boundaries of the Parochial network in the same area, that both may have been laid out by the Kings of Gwynedd. He argued that this had been completed by the 1170’s. (Petts 2009, 189).

In all, the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record records 119 archaeological interventions with the walls of Conwy, however the vast majority were either small excavations or archaeological watching brief with limited or no results. Only five excavations covered any significant areas these were the excavations carried out by Butler in the Vicarage Gardens themselves (Butler 1964), the Old Vicarage site on the other side of Rose Hill Street (Butler 1965, Butler and Evans 1979), The Old Estate Office Excavations on the corner of Lancaster Square and High Street (Kelley 1979), The Old Station Site (Kelley 1979) and Llywelyn’s Hall (Mason 1995). Of these only the Llyweln’s Hall excavation has produce structural evidence for pre-Edwardian structures. A single wall, running at right angles to the Town Walls (Mason, 1995, 29) formed the evidence for the first phase of activity which was later incorporated into a building with at least two phase of activity, the second, stone-built phase of which is thought to date from AD 1285-6 (Mason 1984, 30). Three other excavations, however, have produced limited quantities of pottery which is possibly of pre-Edwardian date. Butler (Butler and Evans 1979, 62) found a few sherds of pottery dating from *ca* AD 1190 -1283 as residual material in Quarry 2 of Old Vicarage excavation. Similarly, Kelley (1979, 112) recovered a limited amount of 13th century pottery from the Old Station Site and Brooks (2012) had a single sherd of mid to late 13th century pottery from the excavation within 11 Castle Street (Edwards in Brooks 2012).

One unusual aspect of the excavation within the Vicarage Garden is the deep stratigraphy encountered in Trench 2. The difference in relative levels between the two trenches may suggest that there is terracing within the gardens, possibly related to the construction of the abbey precinct. It is still, however, unusual to have deeply stratified deposits in North Wales, in this Conwy would appear to a special case. A series of stratified sites having been recorded, particularly from the southern half of the town. Of particular interest are the evaluation excavations and watching brief carried out by Gifford’s in 2002 on the former TA centre off Berry Street (Owen 2002, Martin 2002). Here a series of clay surfaces with remains of several hearths or ovens, dating from between the late 13th to early 15th century, were recorded. It was also noted that there was a considerable build-up of 19th and 20th century material adjacent to the interior of the town walls, a pattern that is replicated behind 11 Castle Street (Brooks 2012). Other excavations, also by Gifford’s, document approximately 1 m of 18th and 19th century deposits from 31/33 High Street (Webster 2006). This excavation was undertaken because earlier excavations in 1975 on the site of the Old Estate Office recorded the truncated remains of medieval pits to a depth of 1.2 – 1.5 m below the ground level (Webster 2009, 13).

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Figure 1: Location
Scale 1:25,000

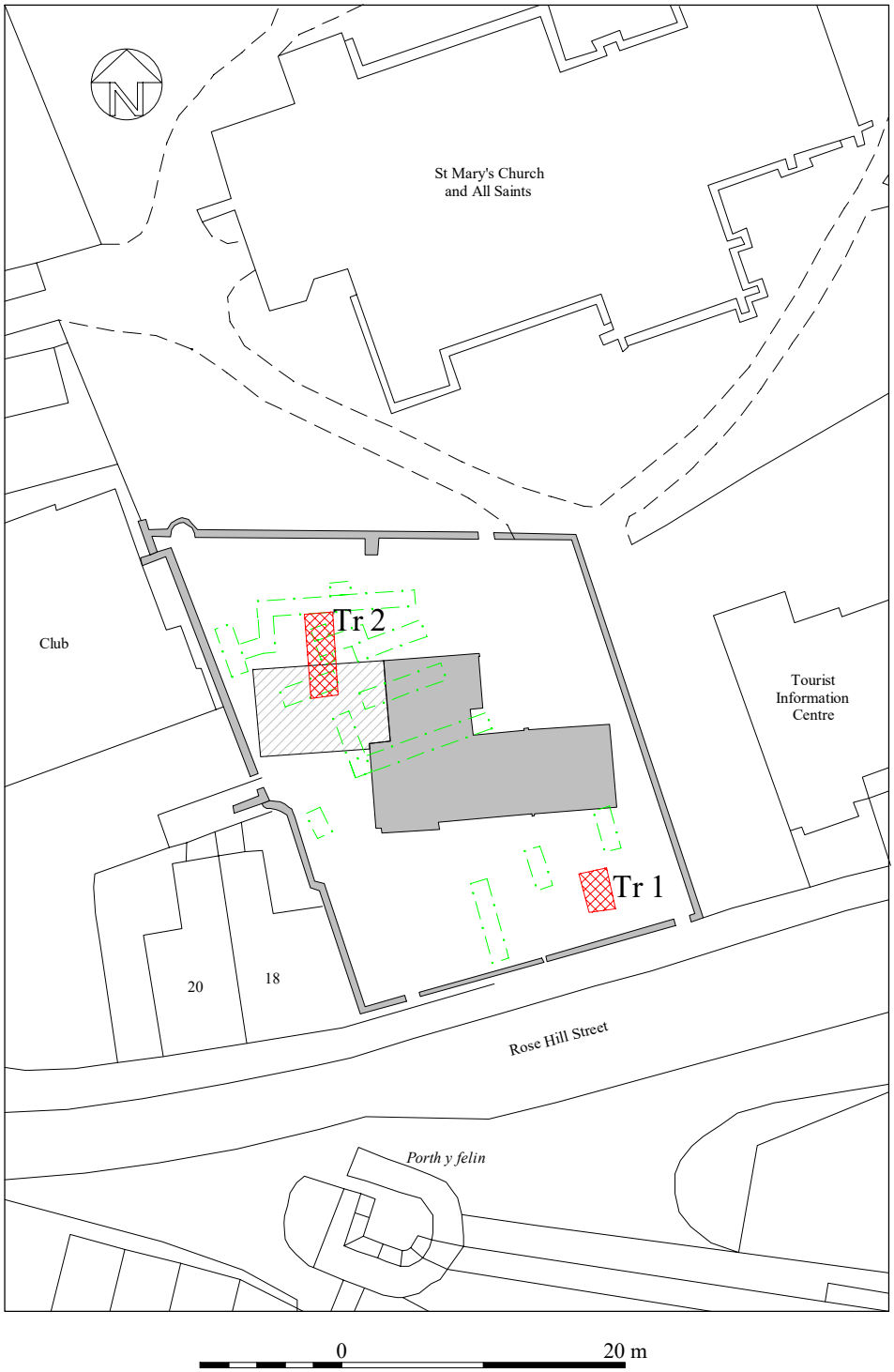

Figure 2: Location of the Trenches
Scale 1:500
Approximate position of Butler's Trenches shown in green

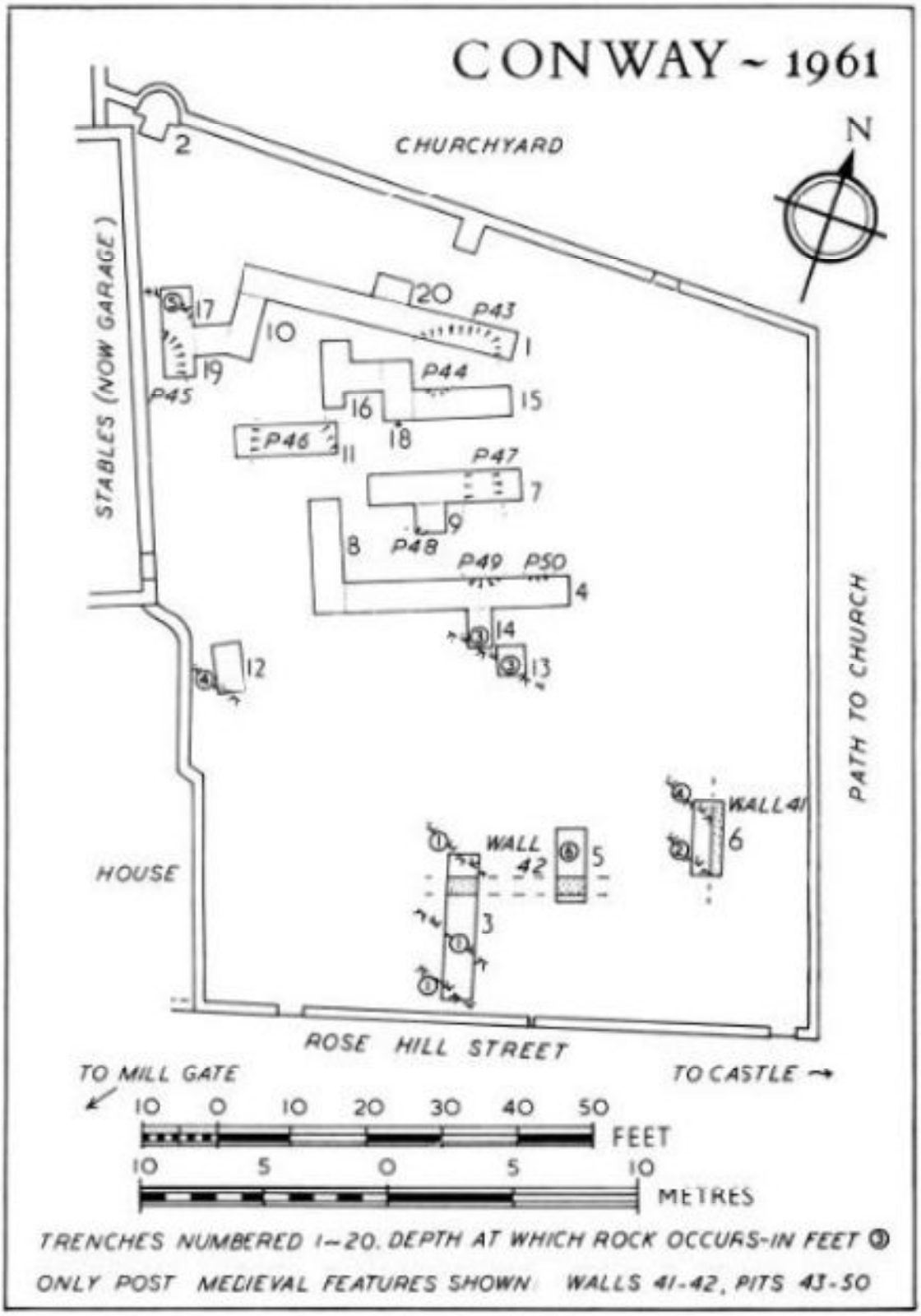

Figure 3: Location of Butler's Trenches
From Butler 1964, Figure 2
Re scaled to approximatley 1:250

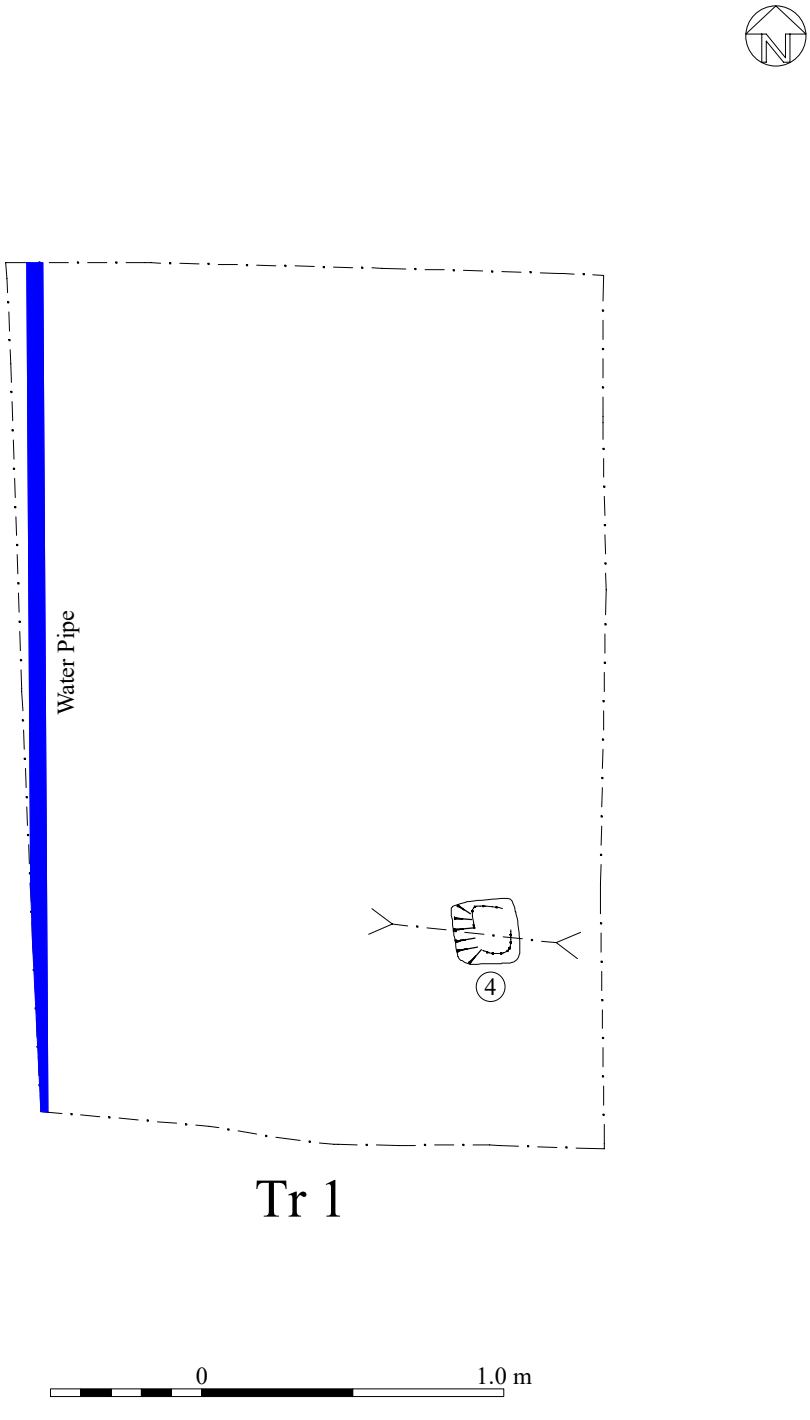

Figure 4: Trench 1, Plan
Scale 1:25

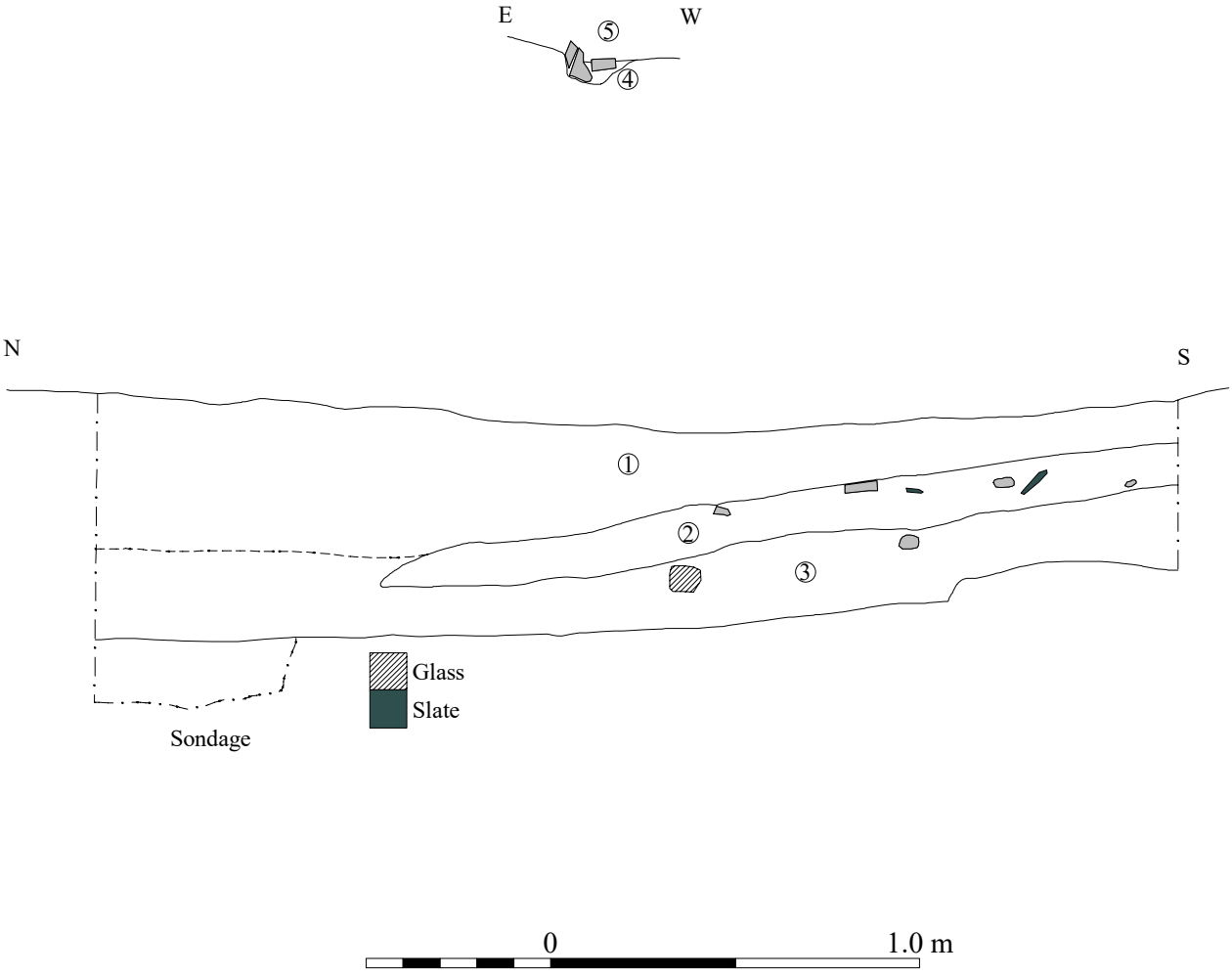

Figure 5: Trench 1 Sections
Scale 1:20

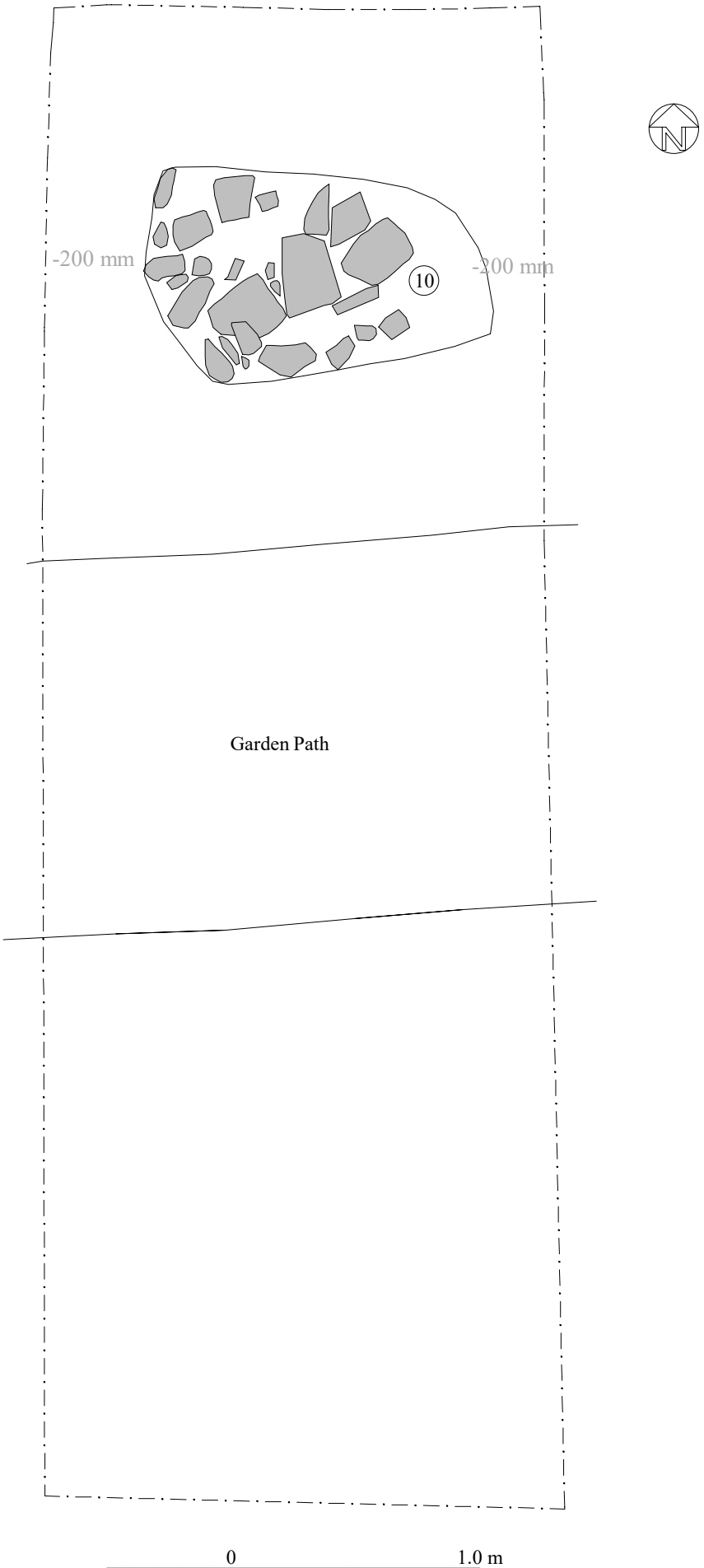

Figure 6: Tr 2,
Depth of c. 200 mm
Scale 1:25

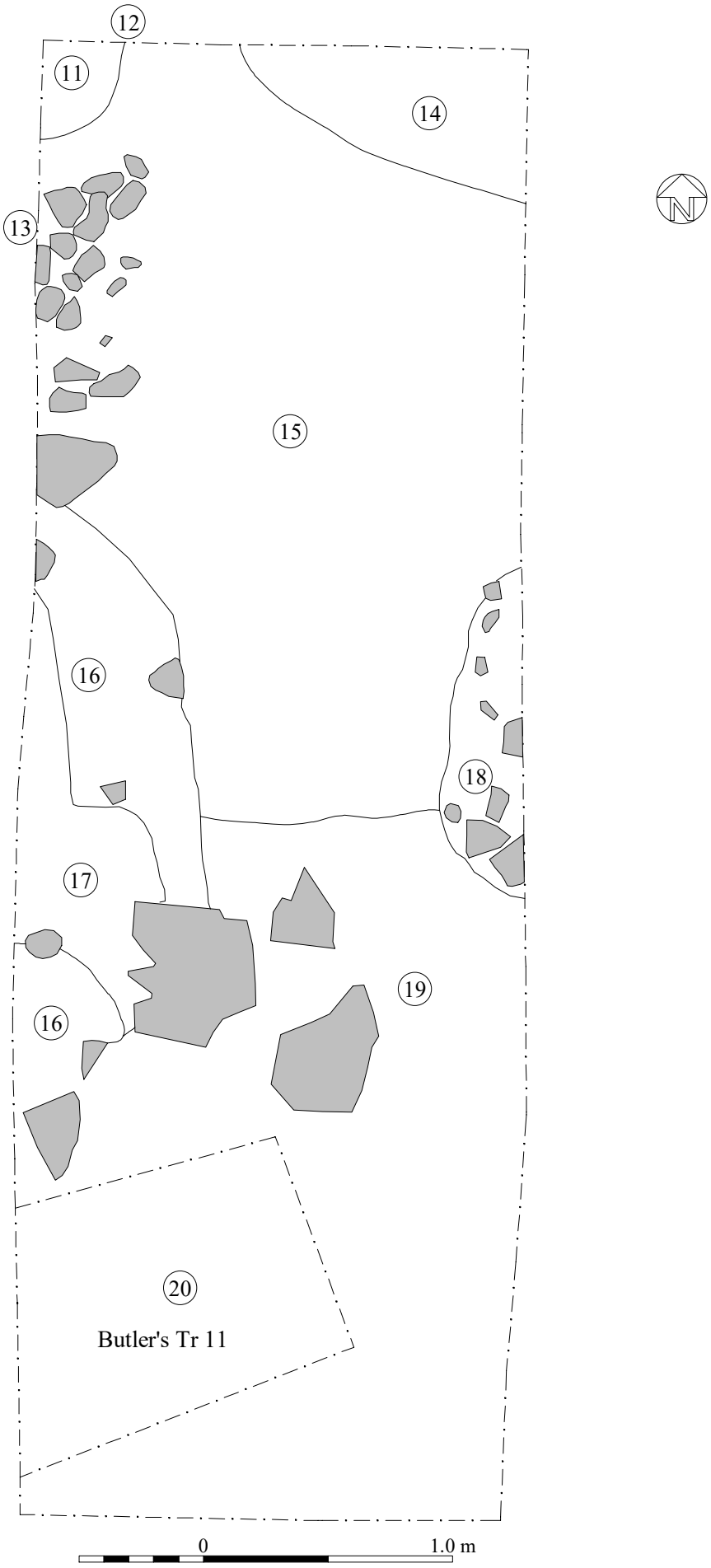

Figure 7: Tr 2
Depth of c. 300 mm
Scale 1:25

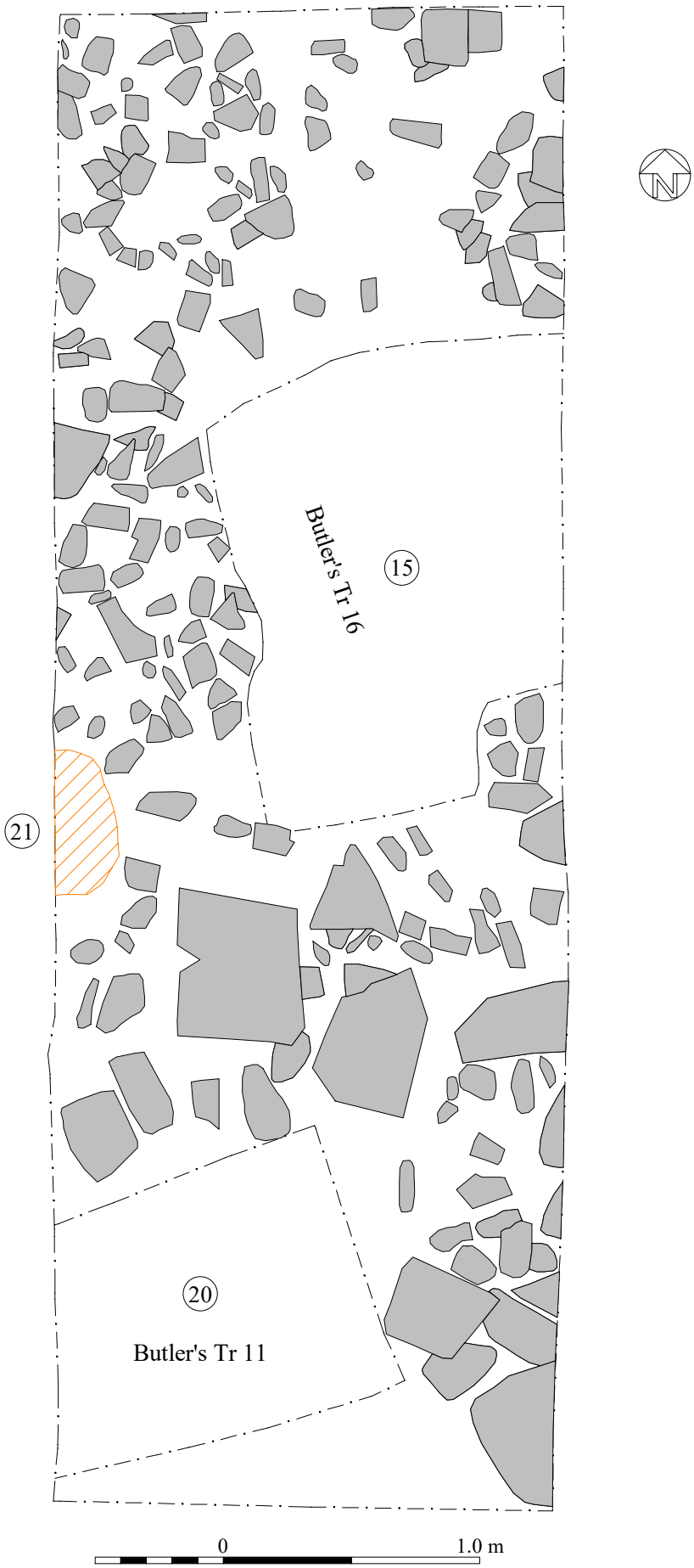

Figure 8: Tr 2,
Depth of c.400 mm
Scale 1:25

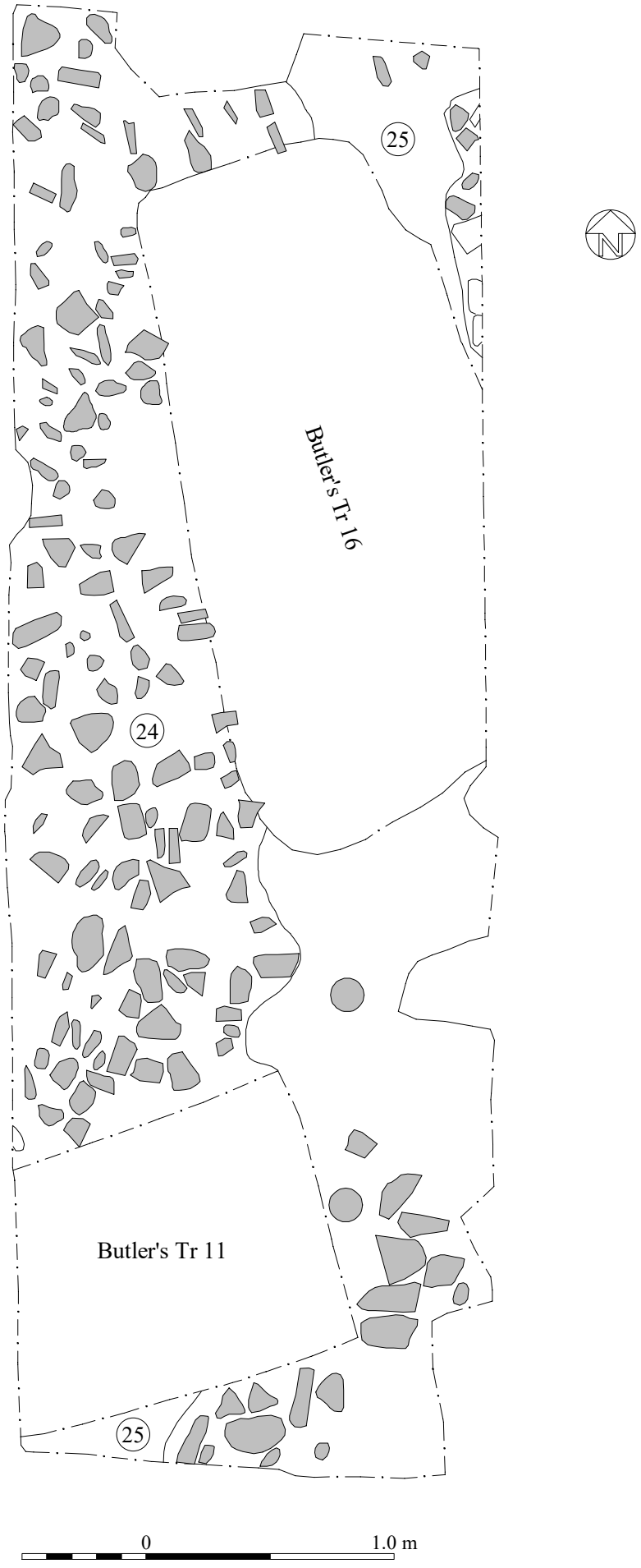

Figure 9: Tr 2 After removal of Context 23
at depth of c. 700 mm
Scale 1:25

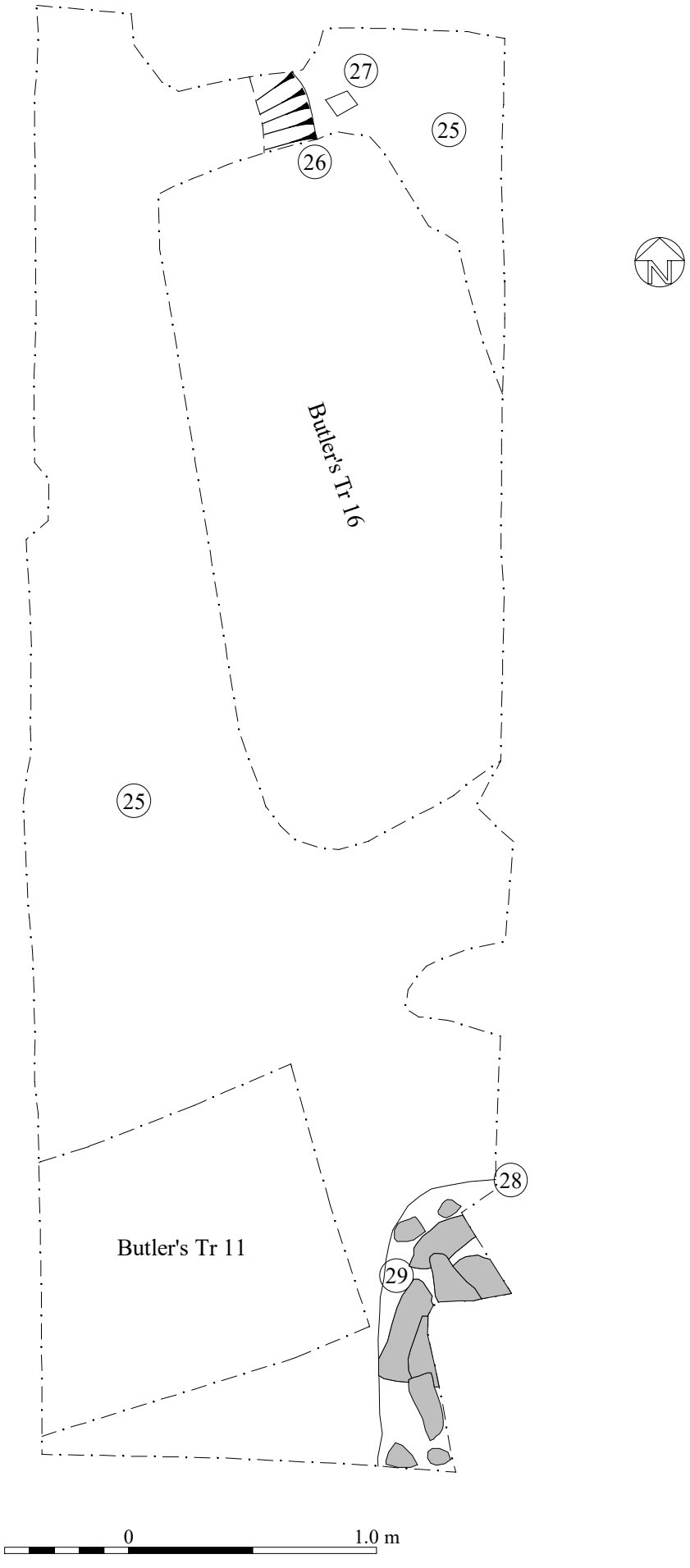

Figure 10: Tr 2, After removal of Context 24
Scale 1:25

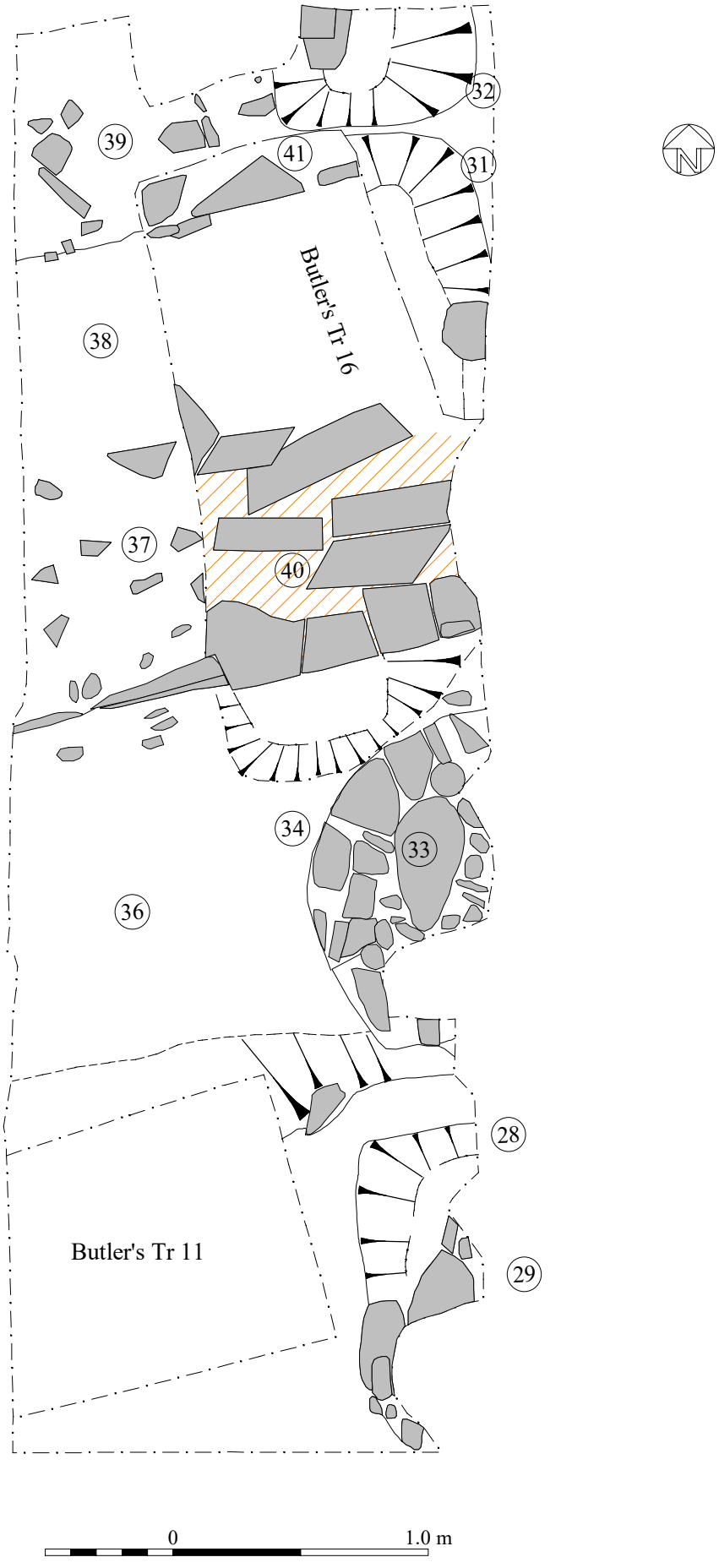

Figure 11: Tr 2, After removal of Context 25
Scale 1:25

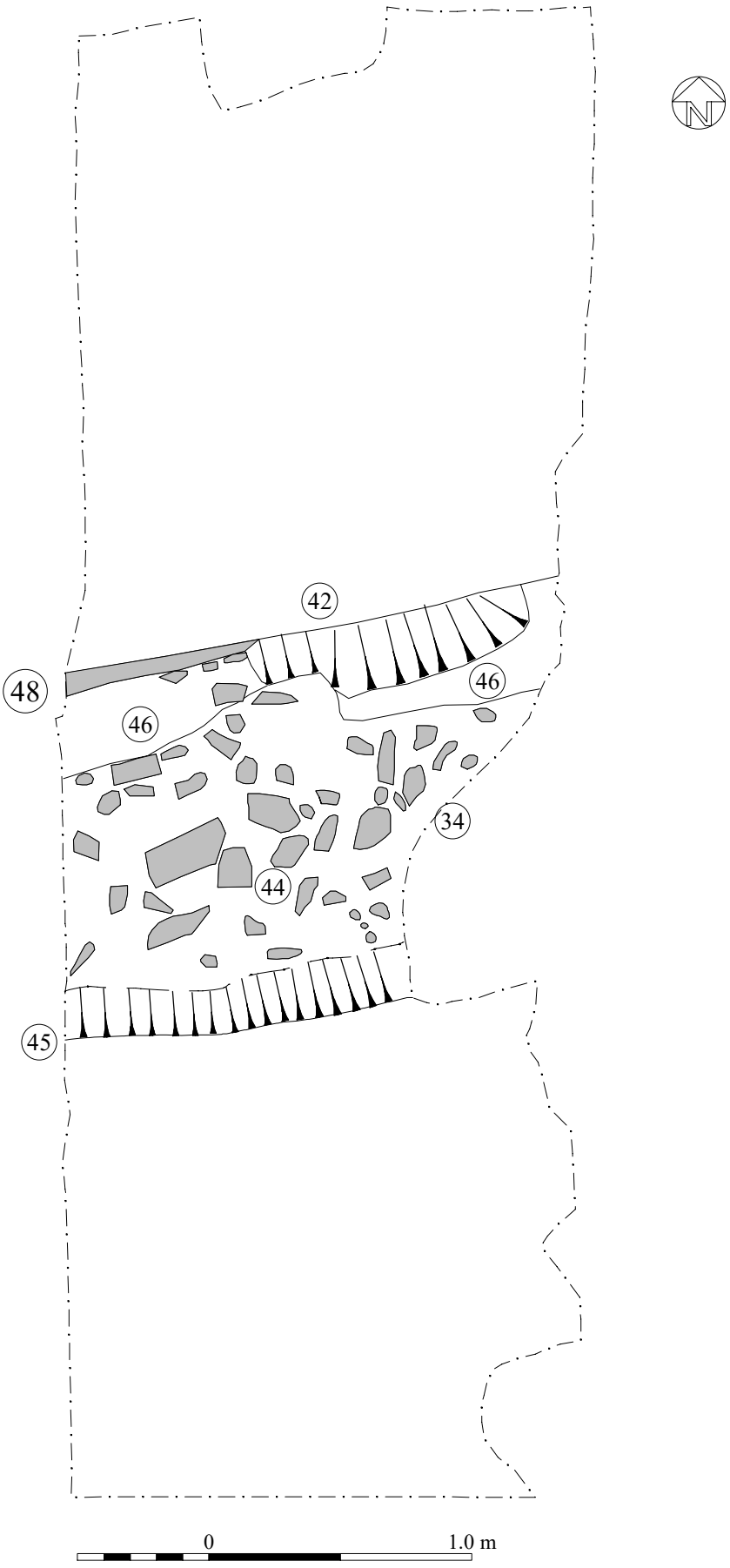

Figure 12: Tr 2, After removal of Context 36
1.2 m below turf
Scale 1:25

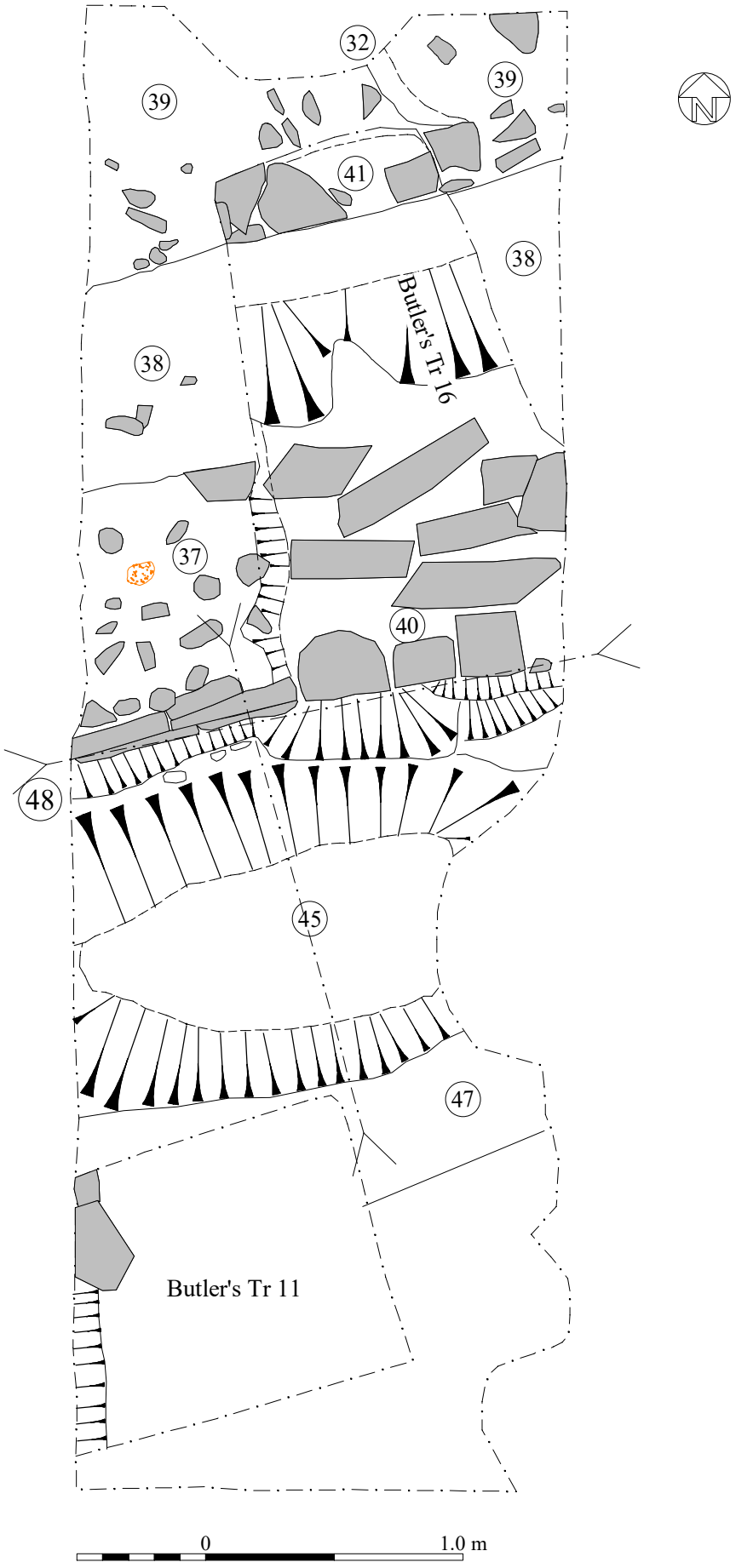

Figure 13: Tr 2, after the removal of Context 44
Scale 1:25

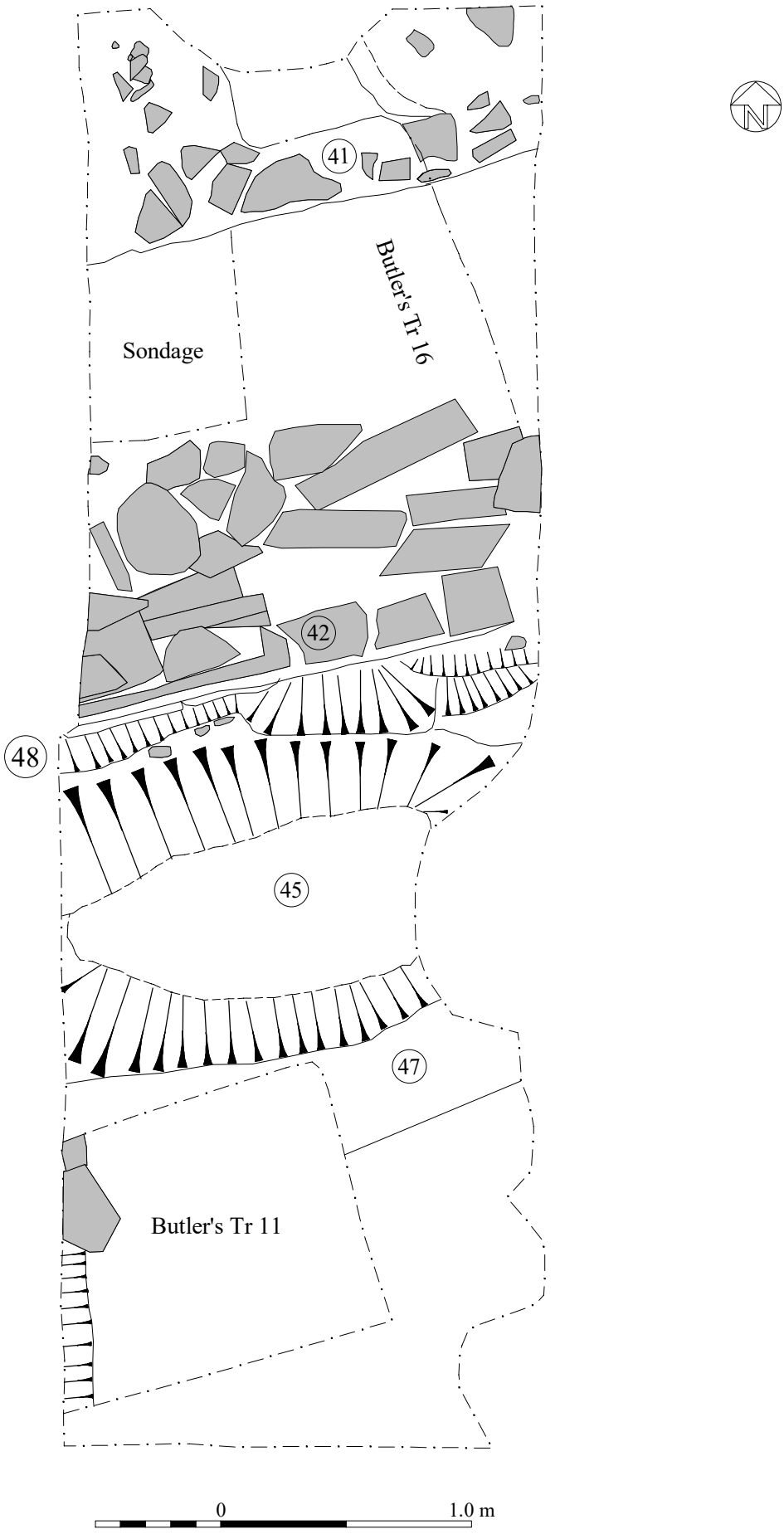

Figure 14: Plan of Tr 2
After the removal of Context 37
Scale 1:25

Figure 15: Tr 2 Section
Scale 1:20

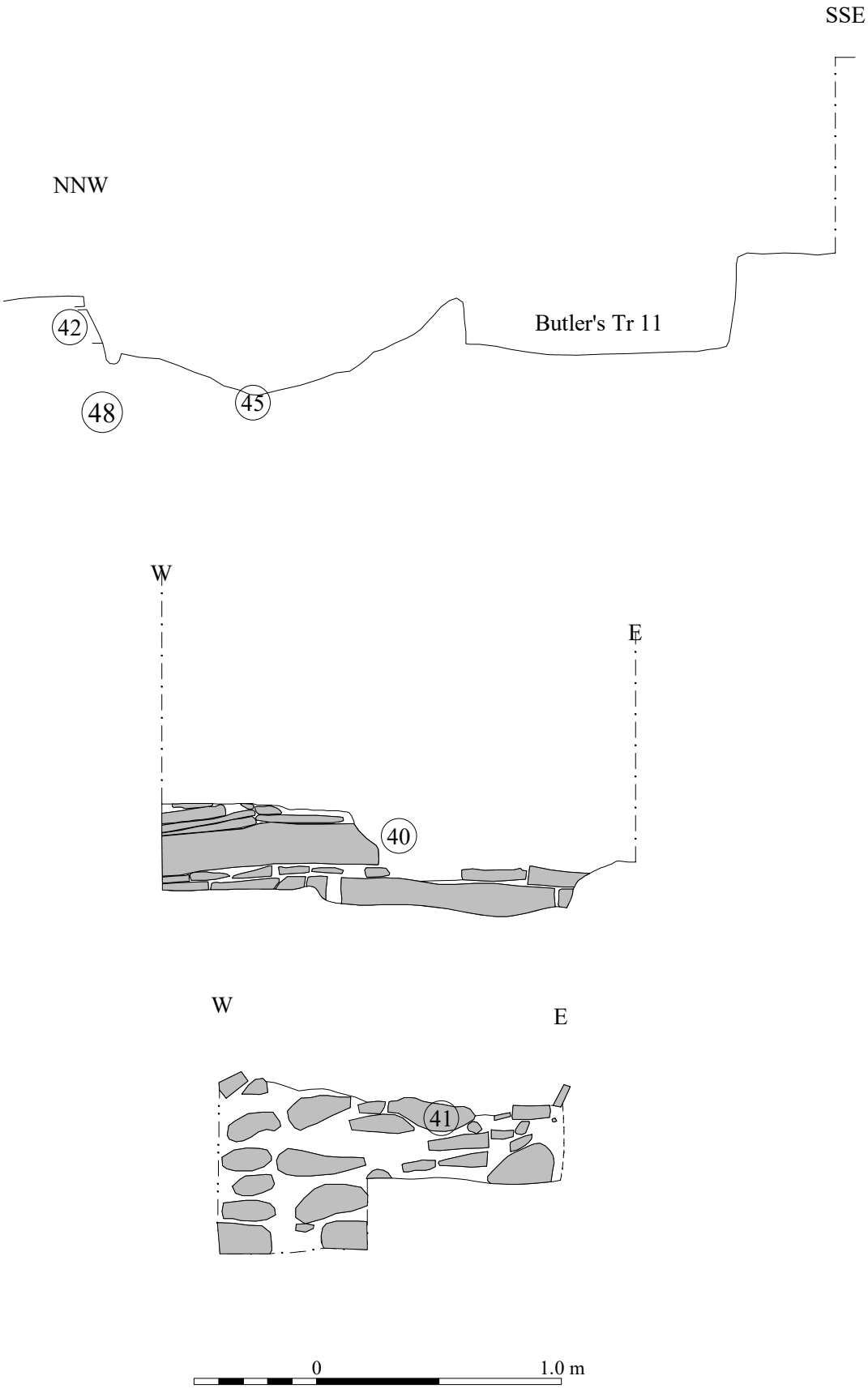

Figure 16: Tr 2, Sections
Scale 1:25

Plate 2: Trench 1, looking south

Plate 3: Trench 1, looking east

Plate 4: Possible post-hole (Context 4) looking south

Plate 5: Location of Trench 2

Plate 6: Tr 2 after the removal of the turf, looking south

Plate 7: Context 10, looking west

Plate 8: Tr 2 at approximately 300 mm depth

Plate 9: Tr 2 after the removal of Context 19 (c. 400 mm deep)

Plate 10: Tr 2, Context 24

Plate 11: Stake-hole (Context 27)

Plate 12: Pit (Context 28)

Plate 13: Pit (Context 32)

Plate 14: Pit (Context 33) cutting through Context 36

Plate 15: Tr 2 after the removal of Context 25

Plate 16: Face (Context 40) of feature complex (42)

Plate 17: Context 40 from above

Plate 18: Contexts 37 and 38

Plate 19: Context 38, 49 and 50

Plate 20: Context 44 within the quarry hollow Context 45

Plate 21: Context 47 in the foreground

Plate 22: Top fill (Context 36) of the Quarry Hollow (Context 45) in front of Context 40

Plate 23: Rough wall, Context 41

Appendix 1: Conwy Vicarage Garden Context Summary

Context	Location	Description	Relationships
1	Tr 1	Topsoil and turf. Very dark grey/brown, slightly clayey soil forming the top 200 mm of Tr 1. Slightly disturbed by roots and containing three concrete supports for a swing	Above: 2
2	Tr 1	Yellowish brown clayey silt forming a discontinuous layer across the trench at a depth of approximately 200 mm. Reaching a maximum depth of 100 mm, the top of this layer appeared to have features cut through it, but on investigation these proved to be thin spots in the layer with Context 3 showing through. [Dumped layer, possibly associated with the water pipe on the western side of the trench].	Below: 1 Above: 3
3	Tr 1	Thick layer, up to 220 mm thick of very dark grey/brown garden soil in the form of a silty loam. This is clearly 20th century in date as it included a complete beer bottle stamped "IND COOPE & ALLSOPP LTD" and decayed battery fragments.	Below: 2 Above 4 and 5
4	Tr 1	Small roughly circular feature, approximately 210 mm in diameter and 60 mm deep. The feature has near vertical sides to the north and east, but a shallow sloping side to the west.	Below: 3 Cuts: 6 Contains 5
5	Tr 1	Mid grey brown silty loam with three moderate sized (up to 80 x 90 x 30 mm) sub-angular stone fragments probably limestone. Possible fill of a post hole	Below: 3 Within: 4
6	Tr 1	Yellowish brown clayey silt with a moderate quantity of medium to large (60 - 200 mm) angular and sub-angular stones. Natural subsoil.	Below: 3 Cut by: 4
7	Tr2	Turf and mid grey brown soil up to 100 mm thick covering the whole of the trench	Above 8 and 9
8	Tr2	Gravel path flanked by concrete slab fragments. Layer of pinkish grey gravel up to 100 mm thick flanked by broken concrete slabs to form a raised path crossing the trench.	Below: 7 Above 9
9	Tr2	Dark grey brown soil disturbed garden soil over most of the trench, although becoming more compact towards the northern end of the trench, particularly as it nears the stone pile, context 10	Below 7 and 8 Above 13

Context	Location	Description	Relationships
10	Tr2	Group of stones probably siting in the top of one of Butler's trenches. Only at a depth of 200 mm distinct group of stones with a mottled yellow/brown clayey matrix. The clayey matrix developed into the more extensive Context 15 suggesting the stones were sitting in a hollow.	Below: 7 Above: 15 Cuts 14 Cut by: 12
11	Tr2	Very modern fill of a small pit in the north western corner of the trench. Mid grey brown slightly clayey soil with modern debris in the form of rusted cans, plastic wrappers and barely rotted fabric	Below 7 Contains 12 Cuts 9
12	Tr2	Small modern pit in the north western corner of the trench, extending out it the trench in two direction, but at least 400 mm in diameter and 200 mm deep.	Below 7 Within 11 Cuts 13 and 15
13	Tr2	Linear patch of closely packed stones forming an area 1400 x 400 mm in size. The largest stone is at the south western end of this layer and is 250 x 220 mm in size. The other slabs are more typically 180 x 150 mm in size. All are relatively angular in character. The layer also contains a few large oyster shells. On further examination the layer extended to join Context 17. Notable number of oyster shells in this deposit. Were	Below 9 Above 15 Cut by 12 Equivalent to 14, 17 and 18
14	Tr2	Roughly triangular patch of bright yellow clay with a moderate number of medium sized, sub-angular stone blocks up to 200 x 100 mm in size. Possibly undisturbed fill in NE corner of trench	Below B Above 15 Possibly the same as 13, 17 and 18
15	Tr2	Disturbed, mottled layer, probably the backfill from one of Butler's trenches. Very compacted motels of yellow clay and mid brown soil with many small (up to 20 mm) sub-angular stones and angular stone chip. The layer also contains a few larger stones up to 150 x 80 mm in size. Fill of Butler's Trench 16	Below 10 Cut by 12 Possibly cuts 13, 14, 16, 18 and 19
16	Tr2	Arc of yellowish orange clay with flecks of lime mortar and a moderate quantity of small, sub-rounded stone within this reasonably compact matrix. The layer also contains the rare larger, angular stone block, up to 130 x 120 mm in size. Probably cut by 15, the relationship with Context 21 is not certain, but Context 16, appears to define the extent of Context 21.	Below 9 Above 21 Probably cuts 15 Abuts 21
17	Tr2	Group of three large stone slabs in a matrix similar to Context 19. The largest slab is 560 x 480 x 70 mm in size. It is not certain how these slabs relate to another group of stone slabs only 500 mm to the north east.	Below 9 Above 16 Uncertain with 19 Equivalent to 13, 14 and 18

Context	Location	Description	Relationships
18	Tr2	Group of four stone slabs defining an area 700 x 300 mm in size against the eastern side of the trench. This group is only 500 mm to the north east of Context 17. The stone slabs are up to 200 x 200 x 50 mm in size and are surrounded by a matrix which is similar to Context 19	Below 9 Above 19 Equivalent to 13, 14 and 17
19	Tr2	Yellowish brown, with a slight gingerish hue clayey silt with few small stone and the rare fleck of charcoal. The relationship of this layer to Contexts 17 and 18 is uncertain as the same material appears to form the matrix of these two groups of stone slabs.	Below 9, 13, 14, and 18 Above Cut by 20 Uncertain with 17
20	Tr2	Backfill in one of Butler's trenches. Bright yellow clay and mid brown soil forming an area 1400 x 900 mm in size extending out of the western side of the trench. Fill of Butler's Trench 11	Below 7 Cuts 19
21	Tr2	"D" shaped area of similar soil to Context 19, approximately 700 x 200 mm in size and extending beyond the western side of the trench. The eastern side of this layer is defined by Context 16.	Below 9 Abuts 16
22	Tr2	Tip of yellow/buff clay with a moderate density of angular stone fragments up to 150 mm in size and the rare larger block up to 700 x 400 mm in size. The deposit is only moderately compacted. Probably the basal layer of a levelling of this part of the garden forming a wedge of deposits up to 150 mm thick and extending into the northern end of the trench by 1500 mm	Below 17 Above Cut by 15
23	Tr2	Mid greyish brown soil with a slight gingerish tint. Silty clay soil with a few small (up to 50 mm sub-angular stone fragments together with the occasional fleck of coal. Moderately disturbed by roots in places. The layer also contained a large stone block 500 x 450 x 140 mm I size, which might relate to the overlying layer. Layer up to 150 mm thick although tending to thin towards the north.	Below 22 Above 24 Cut by Butler's Trenches
24	Tr2	Loose spread of sub-angular stone fragments up to 230 x 160 mm in size, but more typically 150 x 100 mm. Although there is some matrix in the form of a slightly clayey mid grey brown silt, there are also voids within this layer. Very rapidly deposited.	Below 23 Above 25 Within 26 Cut by Butler's Trenches
25	Tr2	Yellowish brown clayey silt, slightly gritty in texture with the occasional angular stone fragment up to 100 mm in size.	Below 24 Above 24

Context	Location	Description	Relationships
26	Tr2	Large shallow cut at least 4.4 m long and 1.0 m wide, although extending outside the trench to the north and west. Only 150 mm deep with the surviving edge sloping gently to a flat base. Filled with Context 24.	Below 23 Cuts 25 Contains 24
27	Tr2	Empty stake hole 80 m square in plan and 120 mm deep with a pointed base. [possibly Butler's grid point?]	Below 23 Cuts 25
28	Tr2	Sub-rectangular cut in the south-east corner of the trench, extending out of the trench to the south and east. At least 1200 x 500 mm in size. Possibly cut for drain just outside the trench, however this cut can only be seen at a depth of 800 mm below the turf line and appears to be sealed with Context 23. 220 mm deep.	Below 23 Cuts 25 Contains 29
29	Tr2	Very loosely packed angular stone slabs up to 300 x 150 mm in size. What little matrix is mid grey brown slightly clayey silt, although there are many voids between the stones.	Below 23 Cuts 25 Within 28
30	Tr2	Pit of uncertain form, at least 1000 mm long and 300 mm wide, only the northern and eastern side of this feature survives. It is 300 mm deep with sloping sides and a flat base.	Below 24 Cuts 25 and 32 Contains 31
31	Tr2	Fill of 30. Mid yellowish brown clayey silt with a series of large (up to 250 mm) angular and rounded stone blocks.	Below 24 Within 30
32	Tr2	Probably circular or near circular pit extending out of the northern section of the trench. 800 mm in diameter and 350 mm deep this feature has sloping sides and a rounded base.	Below 24 Cuts 25 Cut by 30 Contains 33
33	Tr2	Loosely packed stone slabs up to 300 mm in size which tend to tip down towards the east. Very little or no matrix and many voids in this layer.	Below 24 Within 32 Cut by 30
34	Tr2	Probably circular pit, approximately 1.3 m in diameter in the middle of the eastern section.	Below 25 Cuts 35 Cut by Butler's Tr18 Contains 34
35	Tr2	Well packed large angular and sub-rounded stone blocks up to 400 x 200 mm in size, but more typically 250 x 150 mm arranged within a possible pit. Possibly the end of one of Butler's walls, but uncertain at the moment. Yellowish/brown clayey silt matrix	Below 25 Cut by Butler's Tr 18 Within 34

Context	Location	Description	Relationships
36	Tr2	Yellowish/brown silty clay with a moderate density of charcoal flecks and small fragments up to 10 mm in size. The layer also contains a few, small (up to 200 mm) sub-angular pebbles and the rare angular stone block up to 100 mm in size. The layer appears to occupy a linear hollow in front of the southern face of Butler's W23 (Context 42)	Below 25 Above Abuts 42 Cut by 34
37	Tr2	Yellowish/brown silty clay with patches of crushed lime mortar and the occasional angular stone block up to 100 mm in size. There is a larger block (300 x 150 mm) on the northern edge of this context which might represent the position of a rear wall facing. This layer appears to be part of the southern retaining stone face of Wall 42. The layer is 900 mm wide.	Below 25 Above 40 Abuts 38 Part of 42
38	Tr2	Band of orange/brown clay 850 mm wide between Contexts 37 and 39. Part of the make-up of Wall 42. The layer is well packed and contains only a few angular stone fragments up to 160 mm in size.	Below 25 Abuts 37 and 39 Part of 42
39	Tr2	Similar consistency to Context 37, but over the assumed northern position of the stone facing for Wall 42. The band is at least 900 mm wide, extending beyond the extent of the trench	Below 25 Above 41 Abuts 38 Part of 42
40	Tr2	The southern face of Wall 42. Large angular stone slabs, up to 660 x 160 x 100 mm in size arranged parallel with the line of the wall. Three lines of stones form a band approximately 800 mm wide. Between the stone is a yellow clay bonding with similar characteristics to the matrix of Context 37	Below 37 Part of 42
41	Tr2	Possible wall face forming the southern side of the northern reverting wall of Wall 42. Angular stone blocks up to 400 x 200 100 mm in size in a yellow clay bonding.	Below 39 Abuts 39
42	Tr2	Butler's Wall 23	Consists of 37, 38, 39 and 40
43	Tr2	Layer of loosely packed angular stone fragments up to 300 mm in size with some gaps and voids between the blocks. Otherwise the matrix is a yellow/buff clay which appears to be largely derived from the overlying layer (Context 44). The blocks are randomly orientated.	Below 44 Abuts 45 Within 46
44	Tr2	Very compact yellow/buff clay with the occasional sub-angular stone block up to 150 mm in size, randomly orientated. This layer is similar to Context 36 above, but lacks the charcoal fragments.	Below 36 Above 43 and 46 Within 46

Context	Location	Description	Relationships
45	Tr2	Possible foundation cut for Wall 42	Below 25 Contains 36, 43, 44 and 46
46	Tr2	Band approximately 300 m wide running parallel to Wall 42. Gritty, yellowish brown slightly silty clay with a few medium/small (20 - 150 mm) angular stone fragments. The northern side of this layer is separated from the south face of Wall 42 by approximately 70 mm, possibly marking the edge of the foundation cut for the wall.	Below 36 Within 45
47	Tr2	Strip of pale yellow clay with the occasional angular stone block up to 200 mm in size. The strip is 700 mm wide, but only 100 mm deep, running parallel to Context 42 at a distance of 1.40 m. Cut by Butler's Tr 11, but unrecognised. The feature became clearer after a week's weathering	Below 24 Cut by 45, 34, 28 and Butler's Tr 11
48	Tr2	Cut for Context 42, narrow slot along the front face of Context 40.	Contains 36 Below 25
49	Tr2	Slightly pink layer of clean clayey silt	Below 38 Above 50
50	Tr2	Very similar layer to Context 38	Below 49

Appendix 2: Radiocarbon dating results

Beta Analytic Inc
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President

Mr. Ronald Hatfield
Mr. Christopher Patrick
Deputy Directors

Beta Analytic
RADIOCARBON DATING

ISO/IEC 2005:17025-Accredited Testing Laboratory

REPORT OF RADIOCARBON DATING ANALYSES

Ian P. Brooks

Engineering Archaeological Services

Report Date: June 22, 2018

Material Received: June 04, 2018

Laboratory Number	Sample Code Number	Conventional Radiocarbon Age (BP) or Percent Modern Carbon (pMC) & Stable Isotopes Calendar Calibrated Results: 95.4 % Probability High Probability Density Range Method (HPD)	
Beta - 496011	**CV2018 Context 38 Sample1**	**920 +/- 30 BP**	IRMS δ13C: -24.6 o/oo

(95.4%) 1028 - 1184 cal AD (922 - 766 cal BP)

Submitter Material: Charcoal
Pretreatment: (charred material) acid/alkali/acid
Analyzed Material: Charred material
Analysis Service: AMS-Standard delivery
Percent Modern Carbon: 89.18 +/- 0.33 pMC
Fraction Modern Carbon: 0.8918 +/- 0.0033
D14C: -108.21 +/- 3.33 o/oo
Δ14C: -115.52 +/- 3.33 o/oo(1950:2,018.00)
Measured Radiocarbon Age: (without d13C correction): 910 +/- 30 BP
Calibration: BetaCal3.21: HPD method: INTCAL13

Results are ISO/IEC-17025:2005 accredited. No sub-contracting or student labor was used in the analyses. All work was done at Beta in 4 in-house NEC accelerator mass spectrometers and 4 Thermo IRMSs. The "Conventional Radiocarbon Age" was calculated using the Libby half-life (5568 years), is corrected for total isotopic fraction and was used for calendar calibration where applicable. The Age is rounded to the nearest 10 years and is reported as radiocarbon years before present (BP), "present" = AD 1950. Results greater than the modern reference are reported as percent modern carbon (pMC). The modern reference standard was 95% the 14C signature of NIST SRM-4990C (oxalic acid). Quoted errors are 1 sigma counting statistics. Calculated sigmas less than 30 BP on the Conventional Radiocarbon Age are conservatively rounded up to 30. d13C values are on the material itself (not the AMS d13C). d13C and d15N values are relative to VPDB-1. References for calendar calibrations are cited at the bottom of calibration graph pages.

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Laboratory Number	Sample Code Number	Conventional Radiocarbon Age (BP) or Percent Modern Carbon (pMC) & Stable Isotopes Calendar Calibrated Results: 95.4 % Probability High Probability Density Range Method (HPD)	
Beta - 496012	**CV2018 Context 38 Sample 2**	**860 +/- 30 BP**	IRMS δ13C: -25.2 o/oo
(83.5%)	**1150 - 1256 cal AD**	**(800 - 694 cal BP)**	
(9.9%)	**1049 - 1084 cal AD**	**(901 - 866 cal BP)**	
(2.0%)	**1124 - 1136 cal AD**	**(826 - 814 cal BP)**	

Submitter Material: Charcoal
Pretreatment: (charred material) acid/alkali/acid
Analyzed Material: Charred material
Analysis Service: AMS-Standard delivery
Percent Modern Carbon: 89.85 +/- 0.34 pMC
Fraction Modern Carbon: 0.8985 +/- 0.0034
D14C: -101.53 +/- 3.36 o/oo
Δ14C: -108.89 +/- 3.36 o/oo(1950:2,018.00)
Measured Radiocarbon Age: (without d13C correction): 860 +/- 30 BP
Calibration: BetaCal3.21: HPD method: INTCAL13

Results are ISO/IEC-17025:2005 accredited. No sub-contracting or student labor was used in the analyses. All work was done at Beta in 4 in-house NEC accelerator mass spectrometers and 4 Thermo IRMSs. The "Conventional Radiocarbon Age" was calculated using the Libby half-life (5568 years). Is corrected for total isotopic fraction and was used for calendar calibration where applicable. The Age is rounded to the nearest 10 years and is reported as radiocarbon years before present (BP), "present" = AD 1950. Results greater than the modern reference are reported as percent modern carbon (pMC). The modern reference standard was 95% the 14C signature of NIST SRM-4990C (oxalic acid). Quoted errors are 1 sigma counting statistics. Calculated sigmas less than 30 BP on the Conventional Radiocarbon Age are conservatively rounded up to 30. d13C values are on the material itself (not the AMS d13C). d13C and d15N values are relative to VPDB-1. References for calendar calibrations are cited at the bottom of calibration graph pages.

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Ian P. Brooks

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Report Date: June 22, 2018

Material Received: June 04, 2018

Laboratory Number	Sample Code Number	Conventional Radiocarbon Age (BP) or Percent Modern Carbon (pMC) & Stable Isotopes Calendar Calibrated Results: 95.4 % Probability High Probability Density Range Method (HPD)	
Beta - 496013	**CV2018 Context 38 Sample 3**	**970 +/- 30 BP**	IRMS δ13C: -25.8 o/oo

(95.4%) 1016 - 1154 cal AD (934 - 796 cal BP)

Submitter Material: Charcoal
Pretreatment: (charred material) acid/alkali/acid
Analyzed Material: Charred material
Analysis Service: AMS-Standard delivery
Percent Modern Carbon: 88.63 +/- 0.33 pMC
Fraction Modern Carbon: 0.8863 +/- 0.0033
D14C: -113.75 +/- 3.31 o/oo
Δ14C: -121.01 +/- 3.31 o/oo(1950:2,018.00)
Measured Radiocarbon Age: (without d13C correction): 980 +/- 30 BP
Calibration: BetaCal3.21: HPD method: INTCAL13

Results are ISO/IEC-17025:2005 accredited. No sub-contracting or student labor was used in the analyses. All work was done at Beta in 4 in-house NEC accelerator mass spectrometers and 4 Thermo IRMGs. The "Conventional Radiocarbon Age" was calculated using the Libby half-life (5568 years), is corrected for total isotopic fraction and was used for calendar calibration where applicable. The Age is rounded to the nearest 10 years and is reported as radiocarbon years before present (BP), "present" = AD 1950. Results greater than the modern reference are reported as percent modern carbon (pMC). The modern reference standard was 95% the 14C signature of NIST SRM-4990C (oxalic acid). Quoted errors are 1 sigma counting statistics. Calculated sigmas less than 30 BP on the Conventional Radiocarbon Age are conservatively rounded up to 30. d13C values are on the material itself (not the AMS d13C). d13C and d15N values are relative to VPDB-1. References for calendar calibrations are cited at the bottom of calibration graph pages.

BetaCal 3.21

Calibration of Radiocarbon Age to Calendar Years

(High Probability Density Range Method (HPD): INTCAL13)

(Variables: d13C = -24.6 o/oo)

Laboratory number **Beta-496011**

Conventional radiocarbon age **920 ± 30 BP**

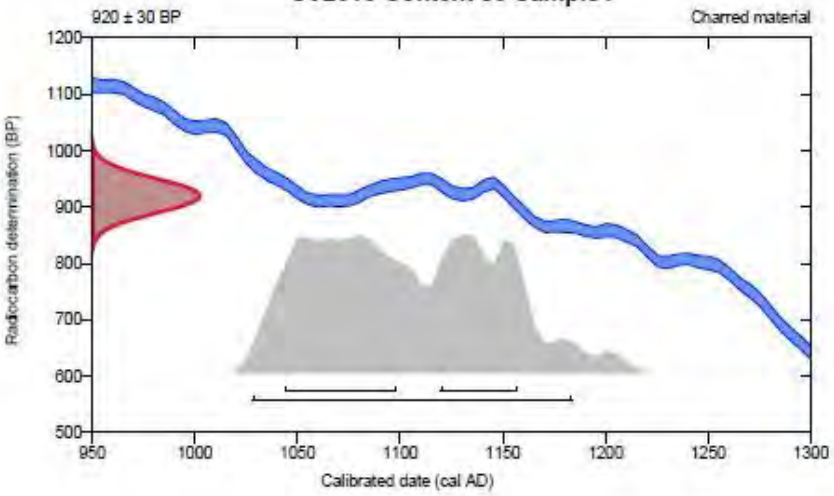
95.4% probability

(95.4%) 1028 - 1184 cal AD (922 - 766 cal BP)

68.2% probability

(41.9%) 1044 - 1098 cal AD (906 - 852 cal BP)
(26.3%) 1120 - 1157 cal AD (830 - 793 cal BP)

CV2018 Context 38 Sample1



Database used

INTCAL13

References

References to Probability Method

Bronk Ramsey, C. (2009). Bayesian analysis of radiocarbon dates. Radiocarbon, 51(1), 337-360.

References to Database INTCAL13

Reimer, et.al., 2013, Radiocarbon55(4).

Beta Analytic Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory

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BetaCal 3.21

Calibration of Radiocarbon Age to Calendar Years

(High Probability Density Range Method (HPD): INTCAL13)

(Variables: d13C = -25.2 o/oo)

Laboratory number **Beta-496012**

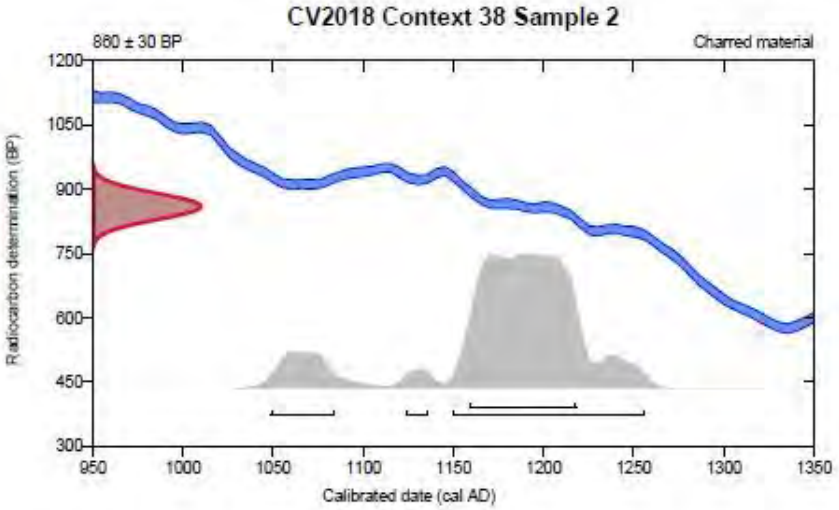
Conventional radiocarbon age **860 ± 30 BP**

95.4% probability

(83.5%)	1150 - 1256 cal AD	(800 - 694 cal BP)
(9.9%)	1049 - 1084 cal AD	(901 - 866 cal BP)
(2%)	1124 - 1136 cal AD	(826 - 814 cal BP)

68.2% probability

(68.2%)	1159 - 1218 cal AD	(791 - 732 cal BP)



Database used

INTCAL13

References

References to Probability Method

Bronk Ramsey, C. (2009). Bayesian analysis of radiocarbon dates. Radiocarbon, 51(1), 337-360.

References to Database INTCAL13

Reimer, et.al., 2013, Radiocarbon55(4).

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BetaCal 3.21

Calibration of Radiocarbon Age to Calendar Years

(High Probability Density Range Method (HPD): INTCAL13)

(Variables: d13C = -25.8 o/oo)

Laboratory number **Beta-496013**

Conventional radiocarbon age **970 ± 30 BP**

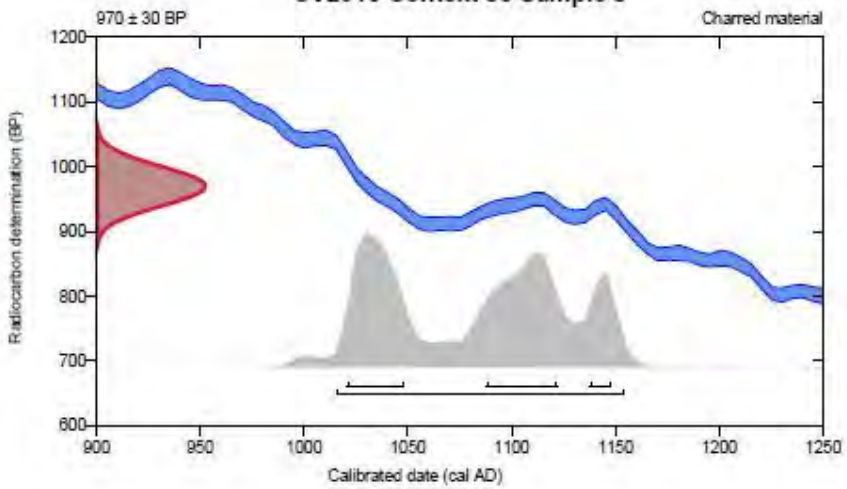
95.4% probability

(95.4%)	1016 - 1154 cal AD	(934 - 796 cal BP)

68.2% probability

(31.4%)	1088 - 1122 cal AD	(862 - 828 cal BP)
(28.3%)	1021 - 1048 cal AD	(929 - 902 cal BP)
(8.4%)	1138 - 1148 cal AD	(812 - 802 cal BP)

CV2018 Context 38 Sample 3



Database used

INTCAL13

References

References to Probability Method

Bronk Ramsey, C. (2009). Bayesian analysis of radiocarbon dates. Radiocarbon, 51(1), 337-360.

References to Database INTCAL13

Reimer, et.al., 2013, Radiocarbon55(4).

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ISO/IEC 2005:17025-Accredited Testing Laboratory

Quality Assurance Report

This report provides the results of reference materials used to validate radiocarbon analyses prior to reporting. Known-value reference materials were analyzed quasi-simultaneously with the unknowns. Results are reported as expected values vs measured values. Reported values are calculated relative to NIST SRM-4990B and corrected for isotopic fractionation. Results are reported using the direct analytical measure percent modern carbon (pMC) with one relative standard deviation. Agreement between expected and measured values is taken as being within 2 sigma agreement (error x 2) to account for total laboratory error.

Report Date: June 25, 2018
Submitter: Dr. Ian P. Brooks

QA MEASUREMENTS

Reference 1	
Expected Value:	0.49 +/- 0.10 pMC
Measured Value:	0.50 +/- 0.03 pMC
Agreement:	Accepted
Reference 2	
Expected Value:	96.69 +/- 0.50 pMC
Measured Value:	97.36 +/- 0.30 pMC
Agreement:	Accepted
Reference 3	
Expected Value:	129.41 +/- 0.06 pMC
Measured Value:	129.68 +/- 0.37 pMC
Agreement:	Accepted

COMMENT: All measurements passed acceptance tests.

Validation: Darden Hood Date: June 25, 2018

Appendix 3: Specification for the Archaeological Investigation of the Vicarage Gardens, Conwy

Specification written by I.P. Brooks 30/01/2018

1. Background

1.1. It is intended to extend the vicarage in Conwy and to create a new vehicular access onto Rosehill Street (Fig. 1).

1.2. Prior to the construction of the current vicarage building an archaeological excavation was undertaken by Butler (*Archaeologia Cambrensis* 1964) which recorded the presence of a significant structure thought to be medieval building, probably of raised-cruck type, dating to the early years of the Edwardian conquest. It also identified well-preserved medieval deposits even where they had been truncated by later activity. There was also a clear destruction phase which was thought to date to the Glyndwr revolt.

1.3. Donald Insall Associates have been commissioned to prepare a proposal for the extension and they, on advice of Ashley Batten of the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service, have decided to commission a programme of archaeological evaluation

2. Aims

2.1. To assess the survival and character of the archaeological record previously described by Butler

2.2. To re-evaluate the significance of the deposits in light of modern archaeological thinking

3. Assessment Programme

3.1. Reassessment of the findings of the L. Butler excavations

3.2. Excavation of two trenches

3.3. Analysis and report preparation

4. Methodology

4.1. ***Reassessment of the 1961 excavation***

4.1.1. The archive held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales will be inspected and reassessed

4.1.2. The Historic Environment Record held by the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust will be consulted for relevant records in order to place the excavations in the Vicarage Garden in the context of the archaeological record of Conwy

4.2. ***Excavation of New Trenches***

4.3. Two trenches will be excavated, by hand, one to the south of the existing vicarage on the line of the proposed new access and the other to the north and west of the vicarage.

4.4. The trench to the south of the vicarage will be 2 x 3 m in size

4.5. The trench to the north of the vicarage will be 6 x 2 m in size and will be located to straddle the location of some of Butlers 1961 trenches.

4.6. The final location of the trenches will be dependant on the results of the assessment of archives and on the layout of the proposed development.

4.6.1. The final position of the trenches will be agreed with the Client and the Development Control Archaeologist

4.7. All works undertake will be carried out by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

4.8. All features or archaeologically significant deposits revealed by the ground works will be fully recorded including:

4.8.1. A written description of deposit: type, components etc.

4.8.2. Drawn plans and sections at suitable scales

4.8.3. Photographs will be taken with Nikon D5300 Digital SLR Camera at a resolution of 24.2 MP

4.8.4. Plan drawing showing extent of deposit.

4.8.5. Section drawing of any feature recorded to record vertical stratigraphy

4.8.6. The client and The Gwynedd Archaeological Planning service will be notified immediately if significant archaeological deposits, features or artefacts are located.

4.8.7. The photographs will include metric scales

4.8.8. The site will be planned by hand and as a composite photographic image.

4.9. All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded by context.

4.10. Each deposit, feature or layer will be identified by a unique context number to which all other records will be related

4.11. Where possible, features will be sampled to obtain dating and functional evidence.

4.12. Where possible, elevation drawings of feature half sections to record vertical stratigraphy.

4.13. Where appropriate, deposits will be sampled for environmental, dating or technological evidence. Samples will be fully recorded and packed appropriately for future analysis.

4.13.1. Sampling will be carried out in accordance with the procedures outlined in English Heritage. 2011. Environmental Archaeology. A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation.

4.14. If human remains are encountered all works will stop until the appropriate permissions have been obtained.

4.15. ***Finds***

4.15.1. Post medieval finds will be recorded by M. Jones of CR Archaeology.

4.15.2. If any other finds are recovered they will be studies by an appropriate specialist. The selection of the specialist will be made in consultation with the Development Control Archaeologist

4.15.3. Any metal or other special finds will be studied by an appropriate specialist to be agreed in consultation with the Development Control Archaeologist

4.15.4. All ceramic, bone and stone artefacts will be cleaned and processed immediately following the watching brief.

4.15.5. Metal artefacts will be stored and managed on site according to the UK Institute of Conservation Guidelines.

4.15.6. Any samples taken for environmental analysis will be assessed and studied by an appropriate specialist to be agreed in consultation with the Development Control Archaeologist.

4.15.7. All finds will be bagged by context with the exception of closely datable or "special" finds which will be recorded with a 3 D position and will be bagged separately

4.15.8. The requirement for specialist archaeological reports will be discussed with the Client and the Development Control Archaeologist. The extent and cost of any such report will be discussed with the client and a suitable level of response formulated in discussion between the Archaeologist, Client and the Curatorial Archaeologist.

4.15.9. If suitable deposits for C14 dating are encountered, these will be sampled and the samples packed in a suitable manner for later analysis and an appropriate laboratory.

4.16. ***Archive Preparation and Report Preparation***

4.16.1. On competition of fieldwork an archive of the results will be prepared.

4.16.2. The digital records will be archived with the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales

4.16.3. The digital archive will be prepared in line with Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales. 2015. Guidelines for digital archives

4.16.4. The deposition of any find with a local museum will be discussed with Cadw and the development control archaeologist with a strong recommendation that any finds are deposited in a suitable local museum.

4.17. A summary report on the findings of the investigations will be prepared and completed within four weeks from completion of the project. This will summarise the results of the project including;

4.17.1. A site location plan

4.17.2. A plan of the site locating any features or archaeological deposits located.

4.17.3. An outline methodology

4.17.4. The results excavations.

4.17.5. The result of the inspection of the Butler Archive

4.17.6. An assessment of the importance of the deposits and their relationship to the archaeological record of Conwy

4.17.7. A full bibliography

4.17.8. A copy the agreed specification

4.17.9. An assessment of the potential for further archaeological investigation

4.17.10. Up to five copies of the report will be provided.

4.17.11. A digital copy of the report will also be provided.

4.17.12. A digital copy of the report will be supplied to the Gwynedd Historic Environment Record

4.17.13. A digital copy of the report will be supplied to Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service

4.18. A draft copy of the report will be submitted to the Donald Insall Associates for comment within one month of the completion of the fieldwork

4.19. A report will be prepared for publication. This will most likely take place in Archaeology in Wales

4.19.1. A note will also be prepared for inclusion in the gazetteer section of Archaeology in Wales

5. Personnel

5.1. The project will be directed by Dr I.P. Brooks MCIfA FSA

6. General

6.1. IFA Code of Conduct

6.1.1. All staff will abide by, and all procedures be carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists' Code of Conduct.

6.2. Health and Safety

6.2.1. EAS Ltd adopt and adhere to safe working practices at all times. A copy of the company's general statement of policy is available on request.

6.3. Liaison

6.3.1. Cadw and the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service will be informed in advance of the works being carried out.

6.3.2. Procedures will be put in place for the monitoring of the project by the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service and Cadw

6.4. Insurance

6.4.1. EAS Ltd carries all necessary Public and Employee Liability Insurances.

6.4.2. EAS Ltd carries Professional Indemnity Insurance.

6.5. Copyright

6.5.1. EAS Ltd shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documentation, under the Copyrights, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved: excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive license to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the Project Specification.

6.5.2. EAS Ltd is prepared to assign copyright at the request of the client.

7. Contingency

7.1. It is not possible to predict some aspects of the excavation, particularly the number and character of any finds and the requirement for scientific analysis such as C14 dating

7.2. It is recommended that there is a contingency available to allow the commissioning of specialist reports or analysis if required

7.3. These specialist reports or analyses will only be commissioned with the express permission of the client and in consultation with the development control archaeologist.

8. Timetable

8.1. Re-assessment of the Butler archive: 1 man day

8.2. Assessment of the records of the Historic Environment Record: 1 man day

8.3. Fieldwork associated with the excavations: 15 man days.

8.4. Report and archive preparation: 3 man days.

8.5. It is assumed the excavation will take place in late February and early March

Figure 1: Location (Base map from Bing Maps)