Wessex Archaeology

# Rhyd-y-Groes Wind Farm, Werthyr, Near Amlwch, Anglesey, North Wales

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results


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*June 2007*

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## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

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# Rhyd-y-Groes Wind Farm, Werthyr, Near Amlwch, Anglesey, North Wales

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results


### Summary

At the end of July 2006 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site of Rhyd-y-Groes Wind Farm, Werthyr, near Amlwch, Anglesey, North Wales (centred on NGR 241000 392600) to investigate the remains of a possible Romano-British fortified enclosure visible as earthworks. The aim of the evaluation was to identify the date of the enclosure and to ascertain the nature of the structures within it.

No clear date for the earthworks was revealed. However, the project was successful in the identification of large enclosing defensive ditches through both geophysical survey and excavation. The geophysical survey revealed the extent of the enclosure but was unable to reveal any contemporary structures within it, due to the effects of later ploughing.

A possible Bronze Age cist grave was identified which may have been sealed beneath a cairn, although the lack of skeletal remains and grave goods makes the identification of this feature tentative, and its date difficult to ascertain.

The interpretation and dating of the earthworks and underlying archaeology was derived largely from comparisons with other similar excavated sites on Anglesey.

An aerial photography survey undertaken as part of this programme of works identified a series of enclosures to the north of the main defended site which have been interpreted as animal corrals and agricultural boundaries.

# Rhyd-y-Groes Wind Farm, Werthyr, Near Amlwch, Anglesey, North Wales

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results


### Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Michael Douglas (Series Editor), Melinda Corkery (Production Manager), Jaine Hilston (Assistant Producer), Jon Williers (Researcher) and Jenny James (Production Coordinator) for their considerable help during the recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Emma Wood and James Lawson of GSB Prospection. The field survey was undertaken by Henry Chapman, University of Birmingham and landscape survey and map regression was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage. The excavation strategy was devised by Mick Aston, Bristol University. The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Steve Thompson assisted by Naomi Hall, both of Wessex Archaeology. Naomi Hall was also in charge of on-site finds processing.

The excavations were undertaken by Time Team's retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Raksha Dave, Kerry Ely, Brigid Gallagher, Ian Powlesland and Matt Williams with assistance from Jane Kenney, John Roberts and George Smith of Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and local archaeologists Chris Lane, Matt Jones, Pete Jones and Sam Worrell. Finds identification was undertaken by Cei Paynton and Helen Geake.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Steve Thompson, with specialist reports prepared by Lorraine Mepham (finds) with Dr Nicholas Cooke (coins). Palaeo-environmental material was assessed by Dr Chris J. Stevens. The illustrations were prepared by Will Foster. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mepham.

The work benefited from discussion on-site with local archaeologists Francis Lynch and Owenna Orme, prehistoric specialist Francis Pryor, Phil Harding of Wessex Archaeology, Helen Geake of Cambridge University and Mick Aston of Bristol University.

Finally thanks are extended to Steve Shearn for the use of the aerial photographs in this report and David Williams for allowing access to his land to carry out geophysical survey, landscape study and archaeological evaluation.

# Rhyd-y-Groes Wind Farm, Werthyr, Near Amlwch, Anglesey, North Wales

## Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results

## 1 BACKGROUND

### 1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's 'Time Team' at the site of Rhyd-y-Groes Wind Farm, Werthyr, near Amlwch, Anglesey, North Wales (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by Time Team, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

### 1.2 Site Location, Topography and Geology

1.2.1 The Site is located at Werthyr, approximately 2 miles south-west of Amlwch, on the north coast of Anglesey and is divided into two principal areas of investigation Area 1 was positioned on a series of earthworks within an area of open grassland centred on NGR 241000 392600, with Area 2 located to the north of Area 1 on an area of flat open fields. Two other areas (Areas 3 and 4) were subject to geophysical survey but not to evaluation trenching. The whole site was under pasture.

1.2.2 Area 1 is located at an elevation of approximately 62m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) with Area 2 situated at approximately 49m aOD. The underlying geology consists of green-mica-schist and Amlwch beds (British Geological Survey: Anglesey, England and Wales, sheets 92, 93, 94, 105 and 106).

### 1.3 Archaeological Background

*Neolithic (3300-2000 BC)*

1.3.1 Neolithic activity on Anglesey can be identified through the existence of the *cromlech*, a typical form of burial tomb particular to the island; the most recognisable of these tombs are passage graves, consisting of up to five upright stones topped with a capstone forming a semi-enclosed space.

*Bronze Age (2000-500BC)*

1.3.2 Bronze Age activity has been identified south-east of Werthyr on Parys Mountain where one of the earliest copper mines in Britain was located; by the 18$^{th}$ century this was the largest open cast copper mine in the world. The industry of the Bronze Age on Anglesey relied largely on links between

north-west Wales, Ireland and the rest of Britain. During the early Bronze Age north Wales developed a copper ore smelting industry and north Welsh ores were a component of most of the metal in circulation in Wales. In the later Bronze Age period, however, the industry shifted to the south of the country, leading to an industrial crisis that would continue in Gwynedd until the mid to late Iron Age (Longley 2003).

1.3.3 Strong links between Anglesey and Ireland are attested by the disproportionately high amount of Bronze Age Irish gold found in north-west Wales.

1.3.4 Bronze Age burial activity has been identified from several inhumation burials accompanied by Beaker pottery confined within cist graves and capped by cairns, or and marked by standing stones. There are currently 46 known standing stones on the island, although at one time there were 64 known examples (Lynch 1970; Pretty 2005; Longley 2003).

*Iron Age (500BC –AD60)*

1.3.5 The Iron Age on Anglesey was characterised by settlement and farming, mainly along the coastal areas with the interior of the island remaining largely uncultivated until the medieval period.

1.3.6 Roundhouse settlements, both enclosed and unenclosed, were common during this period. The largest single class of roundhouse settlement is the 'enclosed/nucleated' group, which comprises 41% of all roundhouse settlements in north-west Wales, and which is particularly strongly represented on Anglesey. Such sites have long been thought to be Romano-British in date from the recovery of material dated to that period, but recently at least some of these settlements have been demonstrated to have late prehistoric origins (http://www.cpat.org.uk/research/nwlpre.htm).

1.3.7 Evidence of burial in the Iron Age is rare on Anglesey, although ceremonial activity and ritual monuments are represented by the lakes and pools of Llyn Cerrig Bach, where a huge amount of deliberately deposited metalwork offerings dating from 200BC-AD 60 was recovered.

*Romano-British (AD60-410)*

1.3.8 The immediate post-conquest period saw the arrival on Anglesey of refugees fleeing the Roman advance through Britain, and this is evident from the recovery of a high proportion of 'foreign' artefacts from this period in the north of Wales. The Roman historian Tacitus (*Annals* XIV, 29) records that Anglesey was full of dissidents from all over the country.

1.3.9 As the Roman army pushed north and west after the initial invasion of AD43 they met fierce resistance in north Wales from the *Ordovican* tribe led by Caratacus (Caradog). By AD 60, the Romans had consolidated their position in Wales and were preparing to launch an attack on Anglesey, which had become a symbol of political opposition.

1.3.10 Following the invasion of Anglesey and the battle which followed as the army crossed the Menai Strait, a garrison was established on the island, but

the army was then forced to leave and return south to counter the rebellion led by Boudicca in East Anglia. By the time the army returned in AD 78 under Agricola the population had dispersed.

1.3.11 During the Roman occupation Anglesey was governed from the auxiliary fort at *Segontium* (Caernarfon), but the island faced continual threat from seaborne raiders from Ireland and so several coastal watch towers and a fort at Holyhead were constructed. Anglesey remained a remote area of the Empire and as a result there is a paucity of Romano-British archaeological evidence from the island, with the county of Gwynedd being described as *'Romanisation on the fringe'* - a region largely devoid of the obvious indicators of Romano-British occupation found elsewhere in England and Wales (Davis 2003; Hopewell 2006).

## 1.4 Previous Archaeological Work

1.4.1 The earthworks at Werthyr first appeared in the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) survey in 1930, and a number of subsequent RCAHMW surveys have followed. The survey history can be summarised as follows:

- 1937 – Earthworks two miles west of church. The earthwork takes the form of a ditch between two banks. Possibly the remains of a pentagonal enclosure with medieval and later additions. Condition described as 'mostly destroyed'. No measurements given.

- 1967 – Monument classed with other 2nd to 4th century AD monuments on Anglesey.

- 1968 – Monument described as an earthwork on ground rising to the east and falling away on all other sides. Described as non-defensive, with no datable features.

- 1969 – Monument described as an earthwork only visible as shallow 1m deep ditch, 50m long, turning sharply to the south at the eastern end. In the west the monument turns to the south-south west for 20m with traces of an outer bank 30cm high. Described as 'non-defensive'.

1.4.2 In 1983 the earthworks were surveyed by Owenna Grey (now Orme) as part of a BA degree in Archaeology (University College Wales, Bangor). Below is an abridged description of the survey.

- 1983 – Earthworks on slope rising to the east on the 62m contour line of a 67m high hill. The position affords good visibility and could be easily defended. The monument consists of an earthen bank, about 55m in length with traces of an outer ditch on the same side. The ditch is about 45m long. The outer bank is better preserved on the eastern side, where it appears about 78m long. The dimensions if complete give an internal area of 57m by 36m, slightly raised above the surrounding land. The banks seem to be constructed of earth embedded with several large stones.

- Grey cited place name evidence for the site as Werthyr or *'Gwerthyr'* meaning 'fortification' or 'stronghold'.

1.4.3 In 1992 the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust carried out geophysical survey and dug evaluation trenches prior to the erection of a wind farm on the site. The evaluation revealed a number of undated features and structures potentially of prehistoric date and a number of features relating to field boundaries.

1.4.4 In 2004 the RCAHMW added the site to the National Monument Record following another survey; the site is described as both 'Roman Enclosure' (NMR 302468) and 'Roman Earthwork' (NMR 3546).

## 2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 A project design for the work was compiled by Videotext Communications (2006), providing full details of the research aims and methods. The project aims were to characterise the archaeological resource at the site and the surrounding area, to provide a condition survey of the site, and to attempt to recover dating evidence.

## 3 METHODS

### 3.1 Geophysical Survey

3.1.1 Prior to the excavation of evaluation trenches, a geophysical survey was carried out across the Site using magnetic survey. The survey grid was set out by Dr Henry Chapman of Birmingham University and tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using a Trimble real time differential GPS system. Four Areas of the Site were targeted for geophysical survey.

### 3.2 Landscape and Earthwork Survey

3.2.1 A landscape survey and analysis of the cartographic evidence was undertaken by Stewart Ainsworth of English Heritage, and the findings of this study are incorporated below.

### 3.3 Aerial Photography

3.3.1 A series of aerial photographs were taken around the Werthyr site by John Rowlands and David Roberts (University of Wales, Bangor) and were used to aid the positioning of evaluation trenches. The photographs are retained within the project archive.

### 3.4 Evaluation Trenches

3.4.1 Ten evaluation trenches of varying sizes were excavated, located either over geophysical anomalies, or on targets identified from analysis of the cartographic evidence.

3.4.2 Trenches 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 were located in Area 1, and Trenches 6, 9 and 10 in Area 2.

3.4.3 All trenches were machine excavated under constant archaeological supervision and ceased at the identification of significant archaeological remains, or where natural geology was encountered first. When machine excavation had ceased all trenches were cleaned by hand and archaeological deposits investigated.

3.4.4 The excavated up-cast was scanned by metal detector.

3.4.5 All archaeological deposits were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's *pro forma* record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.

3.4.6 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising colour transparencies, black and white negatives (on 35mm film) and digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.

3.4.7 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated soil.

3.4.8 A unique site code (WER 06) was agreed prior to the commencement of works. The work was carried out on the July 28th to August 1st 2006. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

## 4 RESULTS

### 4.1 Introduction

4.1.1 Details of individual excavated contexts and features, the full geophysical report (GSB 2006) and details of artefactual assessments are retained in the archive. Summaries of the excavated sequences can be found in **Appendix 1**.

## 4.2 Geophysical Survey

4.2.1 Conditions for survey were generally good as most of the areas comprised short pasture and were level. Area 1 contained earthworks, which were steep in places, but these did not hinder data collection.

4.2.2 As the site was in the middle of a wind farm, the data have been magnetically disturbed by the location of turbines. These responses will have masked any archaeological anomalies, if present.

*Area 1 (**Figure 2**)*

4.2.3 A series of ditches (A) clearly coincide with the enclosure that is partially visible as an earthwork. In the western arm of (A) a gap in the data (B) is evidently an entrance and this was confirmed by excavation.

4.2.4 A number of anomalies (C) can be seen within the enclosure. These are of an archaeological nature and may relate to the same period as the enclosure. However, some may be from a different phase.

4.2.5 To the east of the earthwork enclosure is a second rectilinear arrangement of ditches (D) but on a slightly different alignment to (A). Some of the anomalies (C) could be associated with this enclosure rather than (A).

4.2.6 Curving ditch (E) is potentially prehistoric, although on excavation it appeared to be comparatively late. Its function is unknown as it appears to terminate at (F). A continuation of this feature cannot be seen within the data to the east which adds to the difficulty in interpretation. A number of ditches (G) appear to join with (A) and they may indicate further enclosures, perhaps stock enclosures.

4.2.7 Negative response (H), running on a south-west – north-east alignment, could possibly be the remains of a headland or an old field boundary (ploughing trends appear to stop at this anomaly). A band of three ditches (I) run on the same alignment as the potential headland (H) but some distance to the south. They could indicate an old trackway or ditches associated with the old field system.

4.2.8 A circular anomaly (J) lies within an area of increased magnetic noise. This coincides with the area where the farmer reportedly removed a number of large stones. Parallel trends (K) may form yet another enclosure, perhaps for keeping stock.

4.2.9 Archaeological anomalies (L) are strongly magnetic and may indicate burning, or some sort of industrial activity.

4.2.10 A series of potential pits and ditches (M) indicate probable settlement type activity in and around the enclosures.

4.2.11 The location of two wind turbines on the outskirts of the survey area have caused magnetic disturbance (N) in the data. These will have masked any archaeological remains if present, although the ditches already detected do

not appear to head into the disturbed areas. Ferrous anomalies at the edges of the data are caused by a metal fence which was present around the perimeter of the field; smaller anomalies are likely to be due to modern iron debris within the topsoil or on the surface.

*Areas 2, 3 and 4 (**Figure 3**)*

4.2.12 These areas were surveyed as aerial photographs had shown a complex of ditches. However, the magnetic data showed few responses that coincided with the archaeological features. Linear and curvilinear trends may potentially be archaeological, but they may also be a result of agricultural practices. If, as seems likely, the features visible from the air were associated with stock enclosures then this would account for the lack of magnetic enhancement.

4.2.13 In Area 4 the curving trends (O) form a ring ditch that coincides with grass-marks observed on the ground. Other trends within the data may have an archaeological origin, but they may also be due to ploughing.

4.2.14 As with the other areas, small ferrous anomalies are likely to be of a modern date.

## 4.3 Evaluation Trenches

*Area 1*

Trench 1 (**Figures 1 & 4**)

4.3.1 Trench 1 was positioned to investigate the bank and ditch earthwork identified as possibly forming the eastern limit of the enclosure. Several large stones were observed on the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate these stones. The geophysical anomaly (A) was located centrally within the trench.

4.3.2 Beneath the topsoil, it became clear that the stones seen on the ground surface formed a north-south aligned revetment relating to a bank (Group (117)) on the east and a ditch (106) on the west. Ditch (106) was north-south aligned and formed part of the main enclosure ditch identified in the geophysical survey as curving around to the west, where it was recorded in Trench 4 as (404). The ditch was recorded in Trench 1 as 5.40m wide and at least 1.50 deep, but was not fully excavated. The earliest recorded fill of (106) was layer (112), possibly the primary fill of the ditch, representing material slumping down the eastern side soon after its original excavation. This was overlain by a series of secondary deposits (107), (111), (110) and (109). It would appear that the ditch was backfilled partly by natural silting but with the occasional deliberate deposition of waste material. The ditch cut directly through natural colluvial deposit (114), and this in turn sealed a glacial deposit of dark brown clay (115) which was also identified in the other excavated trenches.

4.3.3 Bank Group (117) consisted of stone revetment (103) which had deposits (108) and (102) banked behind it to the east. These deposits were only partially investigated and so the true nature of the bank and its make-up

material is not known. The bank material was probably derived from the excavated up-cast from the digging of an enclosing ditch, but it is unlikely that this material was derived from the excavation of ditch (106).

4.3.4 The bank and ditch may not in fact be related, since elsewhere the enclosure bank is internal. The bank could relate to a ditch further to the east, now masked by a possible 18th century farm complex identified during the landscape survey (S. Ainsworth pers. comm.) and recorded as geophysical anomaly (D), and ditch (106) to a ploughed-out bank on the western side, outside the trench.

Trench 2 (**Figures 1 & 5**)

4.3.5 Trench 2 was positioned to investigate the possible entrance way into the earthwork enclosure identified through the geophysical survey. The trench was located on the southern edge of the entrance way.

4.3.6 The natural geology was encountered below topsoil and subsoil. Clearly cutting it were ditch terminal (204) and ditch (206). Ditch terminal (204) was only partially revealed and recorded as 4.50m wide and 0.86m deep (it was not fully excavated).

4.3.7 The earliest recorded fill of the ditch was (211), representing a natural silting event; this was sealed by what was probably a deliberate backfilling (209). This was overlain by second natural silting deposit (210). Further evidence of deliberate backfilling was identified in deposit (208) which overlay (210) - this was charcoal rich and was interpreted as a deliberate dump of hearth material into an already partially backfilled ditch. Overlying this was a large scale natural silting deposit (205).

4.3.8 To the east of ditch terminal (204) was small ditch or gully (206), identified on the geophysical survey. This was just 0.24m deep, and had a single, naturally derived fill (207). In the geophysical survey, this small gully appears to mirror the alignment of the large enclosure ditch (A); it may be associated with anomalies (G) which are possible stock enclosures attached to the main enclosure. However, the position of gully (206) directly in front of the entrance in to the enclosure may have been deliberate; although small it may have acted as a part of a defensive screen, perhaps creating a small bank with a wooden palisade to prevent a view directly into the enclosure.

4.3.9 It appears from the geophysical survey that ditch (204) is part of the same ditch excavated as (106) in Trench 1 and as (404) in Trench 4 (see **Figure 2**). No evidence of an internal bank was identified, but the geophysical survey revealed ridge and furrow and plough damage extending across this area, which could account for the removal of any internal bank.

4.3.10 None of the features excavated in Trench 2 produced any dating evidence, but a Roman coin was recovered from the topsoil.

Trench 3 (**Figures 1 & 6**)

4.3.11 Trench 3 was positioned in an area of geophysical noise (C) to investigate the presence of structures within the enclosure.

4.3.12 Deposit (303) was revealed below topsoil and subsoil. This was a very stony deposit initially believed to be natural geology, but following the recovery of a Roman coin from the horizon between the subsoil and (303), the deposit was removed to reveal *in situ* archaeology cutting natural geology (304), comprising a possible cist burial and a number of post-holes.

4.3.13 Sub-oval feature (305) was identified as a possible cist burial as it had been clearly lined with flat slabs of stone. The stone lining (306) consisted of a number of different local stone types, but showed no evidence of deliberate shaping; all the stones were naturally flat. One fragment, however, did show possible evidence of surface polishing through use. It seems that the feature had been open for some time before the stone lining was put in place, and had partially silted up, since the stones were placed on topsoil-derived deposit (309) at the base of the feature.

4.3.14 Overlying (306) was a very stony layer (308) which possibly represents the collapse of the cist structure or perhaps a deliberate backfill event. This was covered by layer (307), a very loose mixed deposit which had been highly bioturbated, which was in turn sealed by stone spread (303).

4.3.15 The fact that no human remains or grave goods were recovered from (305) does not rule out an interpretation as a Bronze Age cist burial. The conditions of the natural geology are not favourable for the preservation of bone, and not all burials of this date contained grave goods. Also the stone spread (303) overlying (305) was confined to the surrounding area which may indicate that it is the remnants of a ploughed-out cairn that once covered and marked the grave. Although no dating evidence was recovered from the feature, a number of cairn-covered cist burials are known from Anglesey dating to the Bronze Age and associated with Beaker pottery.

4.3.16 To the south of (305) were a number of possible post-holes (310), (312), (314), (316), 318), (320) and (322). These features were very shallow, potentially truncated and filled with very loose material with no evidence of packing. The post-hole group forms a north-west – south-east alignment and therefore may be part of a fence line dividing the landscape.

4.3.17 Evidence of the effects of agriculture shown in the geophysical results was confirmed by the identification of a roughly north-south furrow (324) from medieval ridge and furrow cutting the natural geology.

Trench 4 (**Figures 1 & 7**)

4.3.18 Trench 4 was positioned across the northern east-west aligned earthwork of the enclosure, at a point where the bank and ditch survived best, and was located to investigate the continuation of the large ditch revealed by the geophysical survey, recorded as (106) in Trench 1 and (204) in Trench 2. The trench was located close to an apparent break through anomaly (A), but this was not observed.

4.3.19 It appeared from the geophysical survey, and from visible earthworks, that there was a possible double bank and ditch at this point. The inner ditch and internal bank were clearly identifiable, but the outer bank and ditch were not, so a slot was machine excavated through the internal bank, ditch, over the outer bank and through the outer ditch.

4.3.20 The upper fill of ditch (404) and the remnants of the internal bank were exposed immediately below the topsoil. Ditch (404) cut through natural glacial deposit (414) and was recorded as 3.90m wide and *c*.3m deep. The excavated upcast from the ditch had been stockpiled on the inner (southern) side of the ditch, creating the bank (412), although this had partially slumped back into the ditch.

4.3.21 The earliest deposits within ditch (404) were (411) and (415). Both are possible primary fills relating to the initial excavation of the ditch and subsequent slumping. These were overlain by deposit (416), and in turn a homogenous fill (409). Due to the depth of the ditch these deposits were not fully investigated, although it was clear that (409) was a large scale natural silting event.

4.3.22 Overlying (409) was (410) which showed evidence of stabilisation with a possible topsoil layer forming, and this was sealed by (408), a deposit which again showed signs of stabilisation. Up to this point it appears that the internal bank had suffered little from erosion, but following the deposition of (408) a large amount of bank material had slumped into the ditch. Deposits (413) and (407) were both dumps of redeposited natural similar to (412) and were possibly deposited in a deliberate action of bank levelling. The uppermost fill of ditch (404) was (406), naturally eroding in from the northern side.

4.3.23 The remains of the bank survived as deposit (412), a thick layer of redeposited natural lying directly upon the natural (414). No clear turf line or buried ground surface was identified sealed between the bank deposit and the natural; this is probably because the topsoil across the site was relatively thin due to the sterile nature of the natural geology, and also because of the mixing of horizons through bioturbation. No evidence of revetment was identified.

4.3.24 No evidence of an outer bank or ditch was observed in Trench 4, and the earthworks initially believed to be the outer bank and ditch were identified as natural undulations. No dating evidence was recovered from the trench, apart from six sherds of post-medieval pottery from the topsoil.

Trench 5 (**Figures 1 & 7**)

4.3.25 Trench 5 was positioned to investigate structures or features within the enclosure identified as geophysical anomalies (C), and was joined to the southern end of Trench 4.

4.3.26 Natural geology (503) was encountered below topsoil and subsoil, and two east-west aligned ditches were identified cutting (503).

4.3.27 Two interventions (504) and (506) were excavated through northern ditch Group (512), and two interventions (508) and (510) through southern ditch Group (513). Both ditches were aligned roughly parallel to large ditch (404) in Trench 4 but it is uncertain if they are all related. The two ditches were not clearly identified on the geophysical results. No dating evidence was recovered from Trench 5.

Trench 7 (**Figures 1 & 8**)

4.3.28 Trench 7 was positioned to investigate the southern east-west aligned ditch of the enclosure (A), and a second curving ditch identified from the geophysical survey and recorded as anomaly (E).

4.3.29 Large enclosure ditch (713) and curving ditch (705) cut through natural geology (714), and were revealed below topsoil and subsoil. Ditch (713) was only partially excavated; the feature was not bottomed and only part of the northern edge was revealed, but it was recorded as *c*.5.40m wide and over 0.90m deep. The earliest recorded deposit within the ditch was redeposited natural layer (715), which was probably derived from the putative internal bank. This was overlain by subsequent slumps of material (712), (711), (710) and (709). No trace of the internal bank was identified and this is probably due to truncation by later agriculture.

4.3.30 Before the ditch had completely silted up it appears to have been used as a temporary shelter from the evidence of a small feature dug into layer (711). (707) was a small shallow irregular scoop dug to accommodate a small fire. The scoop was filled with (706), a heavily burnt, charcoal rich layer, which is probably evidence of a single event.

4.3.31 Curving ditch (705) was recorded as *c*.3.5m wide and *c*.1.15m deep, and could be seen in section to have been cut from just below the topsoil, indicating that it was probably of relatively recent origin. The ditch was filled with (704) and (703) which appear to represent natural slumping events and was then capped by a large scale, probably deliberate, dump of material (708). No dating evidence was recovered from either of the ditches in Trench 7.

Trench 8 (**Figures 1 & 8**)

4.3.32 Trench 8 targeted the ditch of a large enclosure identified from both aerial photographs and the geophysical survey, to the south-west of the main enclosure.

4.3.33 Ditch (804) was cut into the natural geology (803), and was revealed after removal of topsoil and subsoil. The ditch was 3.6m wide and 0.60m deep, aligned north-west – south-east and was filled by a single natural silting event (805). The 'U' shaped profile of the ditch suggested that it could have been used as a stock enclosure or landscape division as opposed to a defensive ditch.

*Area 2*

Trench 6 (**Figures 1 & 9**)

4.3.34 Trench 6 was positioned to investigate a rectangular enclosure identified from aerial photography.

4.3.35 Ditch (603), which was sealed below topsoil and subsoil and cut the natural geology (609), was south-east – north-west aligned. It was filled with a series of secondary deposits - (604) concentrated on the northern edge and overlain by (605), and finally (606). These deposits all appeared to represent natural silting events. The nature of the ditch suggests that it was utilised as a stock enclosure and not for human settlement or occupation, and this was supported by the geophysical magnetic survey which revealed no evidence of burning from anywhere along the length of the enclosure. Ditch (603) was also recorded in Trench 9, as (904).

4.3.36 To the north of ditch (603) a remnant of furrow from medieval ridge and furrow was identified and recorded as (607). No datable material was recovered from Trench 6.

Trench 9 (**Figures 1 & 10**)

4.3.37 Trench 9 was positioned to investigate the continuation of ditch (603) from Trench 6 at another part of the enclosure. Ditch (904) was exposed below the topsoil and subsoil, but was not excavated. It was cut through by a modern land drain (906).

Trench 10 (**Figures 1 & 11**)

4.3.38 Trench 10 was positioned to investigate further the rectangular enclosure already identified and recorded in Trench 6 as (603) and in Trench 9 as (904), and also a second ditch aligned roughly east-west which appears to butt the rectangular enclosure, also identified from aerial photographs.

4.3.39 Below topsoil and subsoil, a number of features were identified cutting the natural geology (1003). The continuation of the rectangular enclosure was recorded as (1004). It was aligned north-west – south-east, and then turned at 90° to the south-west. The ditch was 0.65m deep and contained three secondary fills (1005), (1006) and (1007), all natural silting events.

4.3.40 To the south-east of (1004) was ditch terminal (1008). This ditch appeared in the aerial photographs to cross the rectangular enclosure but it was clear from excavation that the ditch terminated before it met (1004). Ditch (1008) was 0.20m deep and was aligned roughly south-east – north-west, curving slightly to the north at the terminal. The fill comprised a single natural silting event (1009).

4.3.41 Cutting across ditch (1004) was a very shallow ditch (0.08m deep) recorded as (1010), possibly the remains of a furrow from medieval ridge and furrow.

4.3.42 No dating evidence was recovered from Trench 10.

# 5 FINDS

## 5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 The evaluation produced a very small quantity of finds, comprising pottery, stone, metalwork and animal bone, and deriving from six of the ten trenches excavated (all in Area A); no finds were recovered from trenches 6, 8, 9 or 10. The finds are largely of post-medieval date, and thus have little potential to inform an understanding of the use of the site during the prehistoric period. Few finds came from stratified archaeological features or deposits, and datable material (pottery, metalwork) was almost entirely confined to topsoil and subsoil layers.

5.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and totals by material type and by trench/site area are presented in Table 1. Subsequent to quantification, all finds have been at least visually scanned in order to gain an overall idea of the range of types present, their condition, and their potential date range. Spot dates have been recorded for selected material types as appropriate (pottery, ceramic building material). All finds data are currently held on an Access database.

## 5.2 Results

5.2.1 Finds which definitely, or probably (on stratigraphic grounds), pre-date the post-medieval period comprise two copper alloy coins (trench 2 topsoil and trench 3 subsoil respectively), one piece of stone from pit (305), and the small quantity of animal bone (ditches (106) and (404)).

5.2.2 Both of the coins are large copper alloy issues of the early Roman period. Both are heavily corroded, preventing their closer identification. The coin from trench 2 is completely illegible, but is probably an *as* or *dupondius* of the 1st or 2nd century AD, whilst the coin from trench 3, which is badly damaged, bears traces of both the portrait on the obverse and the image on the reverse, which suggests that the coin is likely to be an *as* or *dupondius* of the second half of the 1st century AD, probably minted in the Flavian period.

5.2.3 The stone from pit (305) is an irregularly shaped igneous piece, with two opposing (and converging) surfaces which show wear polish, perhaps through use as a quern. It is not intrinsically datable.

5.2.4 The only identifiable animal bone is a single cattle fragment from ditch (106); all other fragments are unidentifiable.

5.2.5 All other finds came from either topsoil, or from colluvial deposit (105) in trench 1. These comprise pottery, iron objects and stone, of which all the pottery and all the identifiable iron objects are post-medieval.

# 6 PALAEO-ENVIRONMENTAL EVIDENCE

## 6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 Two bulk samples were taken and processed for the recovery and assessment of charred plant remains and charcoals. One sample came from the basal fill of the enclosure ditch (404) in Trench 4. The other came from a charcoal rich lens (706) in a fire pit (707) cut into the upper fills of ditch (713).

## 6.2 Methods

6.2.1 The bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods; the flot retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2mm and 1mm fractions and dried. The coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) were sorted, weighed and discarded. Flots were scanned under a x10 – x40 stereo-binocular microscope and the presence of charred remains and charcoals recorded (**Table 2**). Preliminary identifications of dominant or important taxa are noted below, following the nomenclature of Stace (1997).

## 6.3 Results

*Charred Plant Remains and Charcoals*

6.3.1 No charred remains of plants were seen in ditch (404). Pit (707) while containing a high proportion of wood charcoal produced only half a stone of sloe (*Prunus spinosa*) and a burnt fragment of probable grass root.

*Waterlogged material*

6.3.2 A litre of material from ditch (404) was examined prior to processing for waterlogged material. No waterlogged preservation was seen at this time, but a small amount of material recovered from the bulk sample may have been preserved by waterlogging. This included several seeds of water-plantain (Alisma plantago-aquatica), and a single spikelet of probable perennial rye-grass (Lolium perenne).

6.3.3 Given that the deposit comes from a gleyed, glue-grey clay basal fill below the modern water-table, it would seem probable that some of the remains are preserved by waterlogging. Water-plantain is commonly associated with ditches and wet areas around ditches, and so in keeping with the context. While perennial rye-grass is a common component of disturbed grassland, such spikelets are rarely recorded from waterlogged deposits, unless preservation is very good. Given the low quantity of remains this would not appear to be the case here, unless either the ditch was kept remarkably clear of vegetation. For this reason it seems probable the grass spikelet may be intrusive.

*Charcoal*

6.3.4 Charcoal was noted from the flots of the bulk samples. The sample from ditch (404) contained only a few fragments of small charcoal. The sample from pit (707) was very rich in charcoal, with some being ring-porous and therefore possibly of oak or ash. Little obvious roundwood or twig wood was

seen, or thorns or buds that are often associated with the burning of scrub that might otherwise be suggested by the find of sloe.

### 6.4 Potential

6.4.1 The charred plant remains have no further potential.

6.4.2 The charcoal from pit (707) has the potential to provide information concerning the species present, and may shed light on the source of the deposit e.g. wood collected for fuel, a burnt hedge etc. Such potential is however limited by the absence of phasing for this feature.

6.4.3 Given the small quantity of waterlogged remains present, the sample from ditch (404) has no further potential. That some waterlogged material is present clearly indicates some potential for waterlogged preservation at deeper levels in the ditch, which could inform future investigations of the site.

## 7 DISCUSSION

7.1.1 The evaluation was successful in providing a greater understanding of the nature of the archaeology at Werthyr, but failed to provide a definitive date for the remains. An idea of the chronology and development of the site has been derived instead from comparisons with other dated sites nearby.

### 7.2 The possible cist burial

7.2.1 Probably the earliest structure identified at Werthyr was a possible cist grave sealed beneath the remnants of a cairn, excavated in Trench 3. The identification is tentative, and this may just be a stone-lined pit. Against the interpretation as a grave are the lack of skeletal remains, the lack of datable finds and the form of construction. If this was a grave it is possible that no grave goods were ever placed in with the burial, and that the natural geology was not favourable for the preservation of bone. Very little bone of any kind was recovered from the evaluation.

7.2.2 Other cist graves on Anglesey are of different construction. Several such graves have been excavated, such as at Porth Dafarch on Holy Island and Rhosbeirio near Llanfechell. These sites comprise square or rectangular cists constructed of four large unworked stone slabs creating a lining, with a large capping stone on top, and contained early Bronze Age Beaker sherds and skeletal remains (Lynch 1970, 94-5). The grave at Porth Dafarch was definitely sealed beneath a cairn and it is likely that the grave at Rhosbeirio was similarly covered. These two graves bear almost no resemblance to the feature excavated at Werthyr, which was roughly oval (not square or rectangular) in shape, and utilised numerous small flat stones to form the lining rather than a few large slabs.

7.2.3 The evidence of an overlying cairn is also ambiguous, as no substantial cairn structure was identified. The layer sealing the stone-lined feature did contain a large number of small stones, concentrated only in that area. This may be

the remains of an overlying cairn which has been spread fairly thin by years of agricultural activity, which was evident from the geophysical survey.

7.2.4 The excavation of the Newton (Mumbles) Barrow, Swansea, Glamorgan did identify cist graves similar to the feature at Werthyr, with oval graves lined with small stones, rather than large slabs. The two sites, however, are widely separated geographically, however, which weakens the strength of the comparison (Savoy 1972, 124-7).

7.2.5 If the feature at Werthyr is a cist burial it is likely to date to the second half of the 3rd millennium BC, but if it was sealed beneath a small cairn it may be as late as the 13th century BC (Lynch, Aldhouse-Green and Davies 2000, 127). Bronze Age activity is well documented in this area of Anglesey, and the Parys Mountains mines are to the south-east.

## 7.3 The earthworks

7.3.1 The visible earthworks at Werthyr prompted the evaluation in an attempt to expand upon the surveys previously carried out, through excavation. The enclosure was initially believed to be medieval after a 1937 survey by the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW). It was later tentatively dated as Romano-British, following the 1967 RCAHMW survey when it was classed with other 2nd to 4th century AD monuments on Anglesey, and in 2004 the RCAHMW added Werthyr to the NMR and recorded it as a 'Roman Enclosure and Earthwork'.

7.3.2 Through the geophysical survey and excavation of trenches it became clear that the enclosure comprised single ditch with a definite entrance way through the western ditch, with other possible entrances in the northern and southern ditches, although these were not confirmed through excavation. The enclosure may have had a double rampart at the north-eastern corner as shown in the geophysical results, but the excavation of Trench 4 was unable to identify a second ditch. Considerable geophysical 'noise' was revealed within the centre of the enclosure, but excavation could not provide a definitive answer as to what this 'noise' represented.

7.3.3 The evaluation could not expand upon the evidence for the date of the earthworks, as the majority of all datable material recovered belonged to the post-medieval period and was concentrated in the topsoil and subsoil layers. These may relate to the small enclosure located to the east of the main enclosure and interpreted as an 18th century farmstead. Two early Roman coins were recovered, one from Trench 2 and one from Trench 3, but both were unstratified finds and cannot be taken as definitive dating evidence for the site.

7.3.4 The enclosure at Werthyr could be considered to date from the late Iron Age through to the Romano-British period by comparison to other sites, such as Din Lligwy, a fortified hut group dated to the 4th century, although believed to have been occupied for some time prior to this date. Werthyr was initially considered to be 'non-defensive' though place name evidence for the site as *Gwerthyr* can be interpreted as 'fortification' or 'stronghold'.

7.3.5 The size of the enclosure ditches, and the presence of a possible screen in front of the western entrance, suggest that the site was defensive in nature. The excavation of the enclosure ditch in various trenches revealed a feature between 4m and 5.40m wide by *c*.3m deep. This is a substantial ditch and combined with an inner bank, perhaps with a palisade, would have proved an effective defensive rampart. No internal structures or features were identified which appeared contemporaneous with the enclosure ditch. No evidence of settlement was identified, although the size of the surrounding ditches implies that they were protecting something other than livestock.

7.3.6 There was some evidence, however, for occupation on the site, although there is no evidence that this was contemporaneous with the use of the main earthwork. To the north and west of the main earthwork were several enclosures visible through aerial photographs and partly through the geophysical survey. Those nearest to the main enclosure on the western side showed higher magnetic enhancement due to the amount of burnt material within the ditches, probably derived from occupation within the defensive enclosure. The enclosures to the north are likely to be animal corrals or agricultural divisions which showed low magnetic enhancement, with no evidence of burning and on excavation proved to have been infilled through natural erosion of the surrounding ground surface. The site at Werthyr, then, could be seen as a fortified farmstead surrounded by fields and stock enclosures with a substantial defensive rampart surrounding the main settlement area.

## 8 RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1.1 A short article, probably between 2000 and 3000 words with three or four supporting illustrations, based on the results and discussion presented in this report, in the *Archaeologia Cambrensis* is suggested as an adequate level of publication. This would comprise a brief introduction detailing the circumstances of the project and aims and objectives; a results section detailing the structural remains recorded; and a brief discussion of the results, with reference to the original aims and objectives.

8.1.2 Copies of this assessment report will be lodged with CADW and the Gwynedd Sites and Monuments Record.

## 9 ARCHIVE

9.1.1 The excavated material and archive, including site records, photographs and finds, are currently held at the Wessex Archaeology offices under the project code 62509 and site code WER 06. It is intended that the archive should ultimately be deposited with Oriel Ynys Mon Museum, Rhosmeirch.

## 10 REFERENCES


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### Internet Sources


http://www.cpat.org.uk/research/nwlpre.htm A Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales - Northwest Wales – Later Prehistoric

## Appendix 1: Trench Summaries

| **Trench 1** | | | Type: | Machine Excavated |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 14.58x3.64m | | **Max. depth:** 1.29m | **Ground level:** east end 62.78m aOD west end 61.77m aOD | |
| **context** | **description** | | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 101 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | | 0.00-0.27m |
| 102 | *Layer* | Redeposited natural on the eastern side of stone revetment (103). Remnant of upcast material from digging ditch **[106]**. Pale yellow silty clay. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-5cm. Compact, fairly homogeneous deposit. Similar in characteristics to the natural geology (116). Some bioturbation. Clear interfaces. Overlies (108). | | 0.20m thick |
| 103 | *Structure* | North-south aligned stone revetment. Situated on western side of the crest of the bank. Rough natural stone blocks, one course only, no apparent bonding. Deposits (102) and (108) appear to be banked up against this structure. | | 0.30m thick |
| 104 | *Layer* | Colluvial deposit. Material deposited on the slope, derived from further upslope. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Slightly loose, slightly mixed deposit. Some bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interfaces. Overlies (105). | | 0.28m thick |
| 105 | *Layer* | Colluvial deposit. Material derived from further upslope. Suggests activity upslope. Mid grey silty clay. 20% stone, subangular, <1-10cm. Compact, stony layer. Seals top of ditch **[106]**. Some bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interfaces. | | 0.25m thick |
| **106** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of ditch. Partially excavated large north - south ditch running behind a revetted bank. Likely defensive in nature. Sides slightly irregular but generally steep and concave. Lower region lies below modern water table and therefore not fully excavated. Filled with (107), (109)-(112), and recorded as 5.40m wide and 1.50m deep.** | | **1.55m deep** |
| 107 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[106]**. Dark blue-grey silty clay. 1% stone subrounded, 4-15cm. Contained fragments of badly degraded animal bone. Waterlogged, homogeneous deposit. Gleyed. Result of gradual silting. Slightly diffuse interface. Overlies (112). | | 0.46m thick |
| 108 | *Layer* | Possible levelling/made ground deposit. Banked against stone revetment (103). Probably redeposited (115) from excavation of ditch **[106]**. Dark red-brown clay. 10% stone chips, subangular, <1-2cm. Compact, homogeneous deposit. Clear interface. Some bioturbation. Postdates (103), probably contemporary with **[106]**. | | 0.23m thick |
| 109 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[106]**. Upper fill of gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil material. Dark brown silty clay. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-5cm. Slightly mixed, compact deposit. Slightly diffuse interfaces. Overlies (110). | | 0.25m thick |
| 110 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[106]**. Humic layer within ditch. Possible level at which vegetation established itself. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone, subrounded, 2-8cm. Quite homogeneous. Clear interfaces. Overlies (111). | | 0.14m thick |
| 111 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[106]**. Gradually deposited silting of the ditch. Gleyed, normally waterlogged. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-5cm. Fairly homogeneous, compact. Clear interfaces. Overlies (107). | | 0.50m+ thick |
| 112 | *Fill* | Primary fill of ditch **[106]**, earliest fill. Derives from the slump of eastern edge. Mid brown silty clay. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-6cm. Slightly mixed deposit. Clear interface. | | 0.41m thick |
| 113 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Slightly diffuse interfaces, some bioturbation. Seen only in western edge of trench. | | 0.25-0.73m |
| 114 | *Layer* | Colluvial deposit. Similar to (104). Mid yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone subangular-subrounded, <1-6cm. Slightly diffuse interfaces. Some bioturbation. Cut by ditch **[106]**. | | 0.50-0.67m |
| 115 | *Natural* | Glacial deposit similar to boulder clay. Dark brown clay. 15% stone, | | 0.63-1.08m+ |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | subangular-subrounded, <1-12cm, Clear interface. Overlain by (116). Similar to (414) in trench 4. | |
| 116 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Clear interface. Overlies (115). | 0.33m+ |
| 117 | *Group* | Group for bank structure to east of ditch **[106]**, composed of revetment (103) and bank deposits (102) and (108) | - |

| **Trench 2** | | | **Type:** Machine Excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 15.40x2.84m | | **Max. depth:** 1.40m | **Ground level:** east end 60.31m aOD west end 60.24m aOD |
| **context** | **description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 201 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0.00-0.22m |
| 202 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Not present across entire length of trench. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 10% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-10cm. Fairly loose. Some evidence of bioturbation. | 0.20-0.31m |
| 203 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 30% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-10cm. Hard and compact. | 0.31m+ |
| **204** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of southern ditch terminus. North - south alignment. Possible entranceway into enclosure. Steep sided, not fully excavated. Same ditch as [106], [404] and [713]. Earliest fill reached (211). Filled with (205), (208)-(211). Recorded as 4.50m wide and 0.85m deep, not fully excavated.** | **1.10m deep** |
| 205 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch terminus **[204]**. Gradually silting of topsoil derived material. Light yellow-brown silty clay. 2% stone, subangular-subrounded stones, <1-2cm. Overlies (208). | 0.31m thick |
| **206** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of north - south aligned ditch. Identified on the geophysics as an outer enclosure ditch around the main entrance. Very shallow with shallow concave sides and a concave base. Filled with (207). Recorded as 0.57m wide and 0.24m deep.** | **0.30m deep** |
| 207 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[206]**. Gradually deposited topsoil derived material. Light yellow silty clay. 2% stone, subangular-subrounded stones, <1-2cm. Single fill of ditch **[206]**. | 0.30m thick |
| 208 | *Fill* | Deliberate dumped deposit within ditch terminus **[204]**. Dump of charcoal and burnt stones into the ditch. Likely indicator of nearby burning. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 2% stone, subangular-subrounded stones, <1-2cm. Overlies (210). | 0.08m thick |
| 209 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch terminus **[204]**. Slumped material from the entrance way and enclosure, possibly derived from a bank revetment. Stony nature may indicate some deliberate dumping of stone. Dark brown silty clay. 30% subangular-subrounded stones, <1-18cm. Overlies (211). | 0.42m thick |
| 210 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch terminus **[204]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Light-yellow-grey silty clay. 2% stone, subangular, <1-2cm. Overlies (209). | 0.11m thick |
| 211 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch terminus **[204]**. Earliest excavated context. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, subrounded, <1-2cm. | unknown |
| 212 | *Layer* | Subsoil; equivalent to (202). | 0.20-0.31m |

| **Trench 3** | | | **Type:** Machine Excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 8.76x4.36m | | **Max. depth:** 1.48m | **Ground level:** 59.39m aOD |
| **context** | **Description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 301 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 10% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0.00-0.38m |
| 302 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Pale grey-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-12cm. Occasional charcoal flecks. Fairly loose. Some evidence of bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interfaces. Overlies (303). | 0.38-0.58m |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 303 | *Layer* | Spread, possible demolition of cairn. Pale yellow grey silty clay. 50% stone, subrounded-subangular, 2-15cm. Fairly loose. Some evidence of bioturbation. Concentrated in the northern end of the trench. | 0.58-0.70 |
| 304 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow-grey silty clay. 15% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-10cm. Hard and compact. Slightly diffuse interface. | 0.29m+ |
| **305** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of stone lined pit. Possible cist burial. Sub-oval feature, fairly steep, concave sides. Stone lining (306), other fills (307)-(309). Recorded as 1.92m long by 1.56m wide and 0.78m deep.** | **0.78m deep** |
| 306 | *Fill* | Layer of stones pressed into cut of pit **[305**] to form outer edging of possible cist burial. Stones naturally shaped, different geologies, subrounded slabs, long axis 30cm+. Either overlies (309) or is overlain by (309). | - |
| 307 | *Fill* | Upper fill of **[305]**. Deliberate deposition. Light grey silty grey. 10% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-14cm. Very loose, mixed deposit. Overlies (307). | 0.24m thick |
| 308 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of **[305]**. Similar to (306). May either be the result of the collapse of the cist structure or another layer of deliberate backfill. Mid grey –brown silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-rounded, 2-20cm. Loose. Overlies either (306) or (309). | 0.18m thick |
| 309 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of **[305].** Identified at the base of the feature. Either a layer into which (306) bedded or material that has been washed in between the stones at a later point in time. Dark brown silty clay. 2% stone, subangular, <1-4cm. | 0.33 thick |
| **310** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of posthole. Fully excavated due to loose nature of fill. Very shallow, truncated feature, may possibly be a natural feature (e.g. stone hollow). Circular in plan with a concave base. Filed with (311). Recorded as c.0.30m in diameter.** | |
| 311 | *Fill* | Single remaining fill of posthole **[310]**. Light grey silty clay. Very loose. | |
| **312** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of posthole. Fully excavated due to loose nature of fill. Very shallow, truncated feature, may possibly be a natural feature (e.g. stone hollow). Circular in plan with a concave base. Filed with (313). ). Recorded as c.0.30m in diameter.** | |
| 313 | *Fill* | Single remaining fill of posthole **[312]**. Light grey silty clay. Very loose. | |
| **314** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of posthole. Fully excavated due to loose nature of fill. Very shallow, truncated feature, may possibly be a natural feature (e.g. stone hollow). Circular in plan with a concave base. Filed with (315). ). Recorded as c.0.30m in diameter.** | |
| 315 | *Fill* | Single remaining fill of posthole **[314]**. Light grey silty clay. Very loose. | |
| **316** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of posthole. Fully excavated due to loose nature of fill. Very shallow, truncated feature, may possibly be a natural feature (e.g. stone hollow). Circular in plan with a concave base. Filed with (317). ). Recorded as c.0.30m in diameter.** | |
| 317 | *Fill* | Single remaining fill of posthole **[316]**. Light grey silty clay. Very loose. | |
| **318** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of posthole. Fully excavated due to loose nature of fill. Very shallow, truncated feature, may possibly be a natural feature (e.g. stone hollow). Circular in plan with a concave base. Filed with (319). ). Recorded as c.0.30m in diameter.** | |
| 319 | *Fill* | Single remaining fill of posthole **[318]**. Light grey silty clay. Very loose. | |
| **320** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of posthole. Fully excavated due to loose nature of fill. Very shallow, truncated feature, may possibly be a natural feature (e.g. stone hollow). Circular in plan with a concave base. Filed with (312). ). Recorded as c.0.30m in diameter.** | |
| 321 | *Fill* | Single remaining fill of posthole **[320]**. Light grey silty clay. Very loose. | |
| **322** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of posthole. Fully excavated due to loose nature of fill. Very shallow, truncated feature, may possibly be a natural feature (e.g. stone hollow). Circular in plan with a concave base. Filed with (323). ). Recorded as c.0.30m in diameter.** | |
| 323 | *Fill* | Single remaining fill of posthole **[322]**. Light grey silty clay. Very loose. | |
| **324** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of plough furrow. Unexcavated. Linear feature running north-north-west – south-south-east. Aligned with medieval field system. Filled** | |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **with (324).** | |
| 325 | *Fill* | Upper fill of plough furrow **[324]**. Unexcavated. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-6cm. | |

| **Trench 4** | | | **Type:** Machine excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 22m x 4m | | **Max. depth:** 3.47m | **Ground level:** 62.80 m aOD |
| **context** | **Description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 401 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Light yellow-brown silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0.00-0.34m |
| 402 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Not present across the entire length of trench. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-6cm. Fairly loose, some bioturbation. | 0.23-0.58m |
| 403 | *Fill* | Eroded bank material, overlies the top of the ditch **[404]**. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-6cm. Fairly compact, similar in characteristics to the natural. Duplicated as (407). | 0.72m thick |
| **404** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of east – west aligned ditch. Very large and deep with steep, concave sides. Banks on both the northern and southern sides. Part of pentangular enclosure. Defensive. Filled with (406)-(411), (413), (415)-(416). Recorded as 3.90m wide and c.2.99m deep.** | **approx. 2.99m deep** |
| 405 | *Layer* | Stony layer. Initially thought might represent metalling associated with the bank and ditch and the larger stones believed to be packing. Excavation suggested probably natural. 20% stone, subrounded, <1-2cm, 5% stone, subrounded, 6-20cm. Does not extend the full width of the trench. Overlies (417). | 0.10m thick |
| 406 | *Fill* | Upper fill of the ditch **[404]**. Deposition of material eroded from the banks, mainly derived from the north. Pale yellow-grey silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-6cm. Mixed deposit, compact. Slightly diffuse interfaces, slightly diffuse interfaces. Overlies (407). | 0.69m thick |
| 407 | *Fill* | Slump of southern bank into ditch **[404]**. Pale grey-yellow silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Slightly mixed deposit. Hard and compact. Clear interfaces. Overlies (413). | 0.72m thick |
| 408 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[404]**. Level at which the ditch stabilised, level at which vegetation may have established. Dark brown silty clay. 2% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-4cm. Fairly homogeneous, humic deposit. Fairly clear interfaces. )overlies (408) | 0.21m thick |
| 409 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[404]**. Gradually deposited, gleyed deposit. Normally waterlogged. Mid blue-brown clay. 5% stone, subrounded, 2-5cm. Heavily blue-grey mottled, clay rich deposit. Oxidizes brown on contact with the air. Anaerobic. Fairly compact. Clear interfaces. Overlies (416). | approx. 1.65m thick |
| 410 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[404]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. May have experienced some soil formation. Mid orange-brown silty clay. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-10cm. Very occasional subangular stone blocks 15cm+. Fairly homogeneous, clay rich, compact deposit. Fairly clear interfaces. Overlies (409). | 0.55m thick |
| 411 | *Fill* | Primary fill of ditch **[404]**. Material derived from collapse of the side4s shortly after excavation. Mid brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. 1% ironstone, subrounded, <1-2cm. Slightly mixed deposit. Clay rich and compact. Clear interfaces. Derives from the north. Likely to be contemporary with (415) and (412). | 0.75m thick |
| 412 | *Layer* | *In situ* bank material from the southern bank associated with ditch **[404]**. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Slightly mixed deposit. Hard and compact. Slightly bioturbated at the top of the deposit. Slightly diffuse interfaces. Likely to be contemporary the construction and early primary deposits (411) and (415). | 0.12-0.94m |
| 413 | *Fill* | Slump of southern bank into ditch **[404]**. Pale yellow brown silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-6cm. Slightly mixed, compact deposit. Slightly diffuse interfaces. Overlies (408). | 0.62m thick |
| 414 | *Natural* | Glacial deposit. Similar to boulder clay. Similar to layer (115) in Trench 1. | 0.92-1.87m+ |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | Mid brown clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Overlain by glacial deposit (417). | |
| 415 | *Fill* | Primary fill of ditch **[404]**. Material derived from the collapse of the southern edge of the ditch shortly after excavation. Mid brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-10cm. Slightly mixed deposit. Clay rich and compact. Fairly clear interfaces. Similar to (411). Likely to be contemporary with (411) and (412). | 0.67m thick |
| 416 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[404]**. Gradually deposited, anaerobic, gleylike deposit. Initial silting of ditch. Mid blue grey clay. 2% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-4cm. Fairly homogeneous. Diffuse interface. Below current water table. Overlies (411) and (415). | approx. 0.25m thick |
| 417 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Clear interface. Overlies (414). | 0.20m+ |

| **Trench 5** | | | **Type:** Machine excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 6.7m x 4.4m | | **Max. depth:** 0.68m | **Ground level:** 61.40m aOD |
| **context** | **Description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 501 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-6cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0.00-.0.24m |
| 502 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Pale brown-grey silty clay. Very shallow and only present in south-east end of trench. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Fairly loose, slightly bioturbated. | 0.14-0.39m |
| 503 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded <1-10cm. Clay rich. Hard and compact. | 0.32m+ |
| **504** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of east – west aligned ditch. Possible internal ditch related in pentangular enclosure. Gully to the south follows a similar alignment [508], [510]. Shallow, convex, moderately steep sides, concave base. Slightly diffuse in plan and section. Filled with (505). Also excavated as intervention [506]. Part of Group 512. Recorded as 1.50m wide and 0.28m deep.** | **0.29m deep** |
| 505 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[504]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid grey brown silty clay. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-5cm. 20% stone, subrounded, 10-40cm. Occasional iron oxide mottling. Fairly compact, homogeneous deposit. Some bioturbation. Contained dump of rubble. | 0.29m thick |
| **506** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of east – west aligned ditch. Possible internal ditch related in pentangular enclosure. Gully to the south follows a similar alignment [508], [510]. Shallow, convex, moderately steep sides, concave base. Slightly diffuse in plan and section. Filled with (505). Filled with (507). Also excavated as intervention [504]. Part of Group 512. Recorded as 1.07m wide and 0.22m deep.** | **0.22m deep** |
| 507 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[506]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid grey brown silty clay. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-5cm. 5% stone, subrounded, 10-13cm. Occasional iron oxide mottling. Fairly compact, homogeneous deposit. Some bioturbation. | 0.22m thick |
| **508** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of east – west aligned gully. Shallow, truncated. On similar alignment as ditch to the north [504], [506]. Clear in plan and section. Slightly convex, moderately steep sides, concave base. Filled with (509). Also excavated as intervention [510]. Part of Group 513. Recorded as 0.85m wide and 0.21 deep.** | **0.20m deep** |
| 509 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of gully **[508]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid brown silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Fairly homogeneous. Clear interfaces. Some bioturbation. | 0.20m thick |
| **510** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of east – west aligned gully. Shallow, truncated. On similar alignment as ditch to the north [504], [506]. Clear in plan and section. Slightly convex, moderately steep sides, concave base. Filled with (511). Also excavated as intervention [508]. Part of Group 512. Recorded as 0.81m wide and 0.11m deep.** | **0.12m deep** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 511 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of gully **[510]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid brown silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-7cm. Fairly homogeneous. Clear interfaces. Some bioturbation. | 0.12m thick |
| 512 | *Group* | Group number for ditch, comprised of cuts **[504]** and **[506].** | - |
| 513 | *Group* | Group number for ditch comprised of cuts **[508]** and **[510].** | - |

| **Trench 6** | | | **Type:** Machine excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 6.48x3.38m | | **Max. depth:** 1.13m | **Ground level:** east end 49.39m aOD west end 49.19m aOD |
| **context** | **Description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 601 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Light yellow-grey silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0.00-0.37m |
| 602 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Pale grey silty clay. 15% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Fairly loose. Some evidence of bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interfaces. | 0.36-0.48m |
| **603** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of east – west aligned ditch. Part of a rectangular enclosure identified on aerial photographs. Sides fairly steep and slightly stepped, base virtually flat. Filled with (604)-(606). Same as ditch in Trench 9 [904]. Recorded as 1.70m wide and 0.70m deep.** | **0.70m deep** |
| 604 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[603]**. A combination of the slump of the northern edge and topsoil derived material. Dark grey silty clay. 1% stone, subrounded, <1-2cm. Compact. Earliest fill. | 0.14m thick |
| 605 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[603]**, gradual silting. Mid grey silty clay with mid orange mottles. 1% stone, subrounded, <1-2cm. Frequent iron oxide mottling. Homogeneous. Overlies (604). | 0.32m thick |
| 606 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[603]**, final gradual deposition of topsoil and subsoil material as well as material eroded for the feature sides. Mid grey silty clay. 1% stone, subrounded, <1-2cm. Overlies (605). | 0.50m thick |
| **607** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of plough furrow. Wide shallow, north-east – south-west aligned linear. Filled with (608).** | |
| 608 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of plough furrow **[607]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 2% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-4cm. | |
| 609 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Clear interface. | 0.40m+ |

| **Trench 7** | | | **Type:** Machine excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 15.7mx 3m | | **Max. depth:** 1.56m | **Ground level:** 59.35m aOD |
| **context** | **Description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 701 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0.00-0.32m |
| 702 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-6cm. Fairly loose. Some evidence of bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interfaces. | 0.27-0.76m |
| 703 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[705]**. Topsoil and subsoil derived material either naturally deposited colluvium or possibly deliberately dumping of material. Dark brown silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-2cm. Occasional large subrounded blocks of stone. Fairly compact deposit. Overlies (704). | 0.28m thick |
| 704 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[705]**. Represents either natural, possibly wind-blown, silting or erosion/collapse of the edge of the feature. Dark grey-brown silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-2cm. Clay rich deposit, very rare charcoal flecks. Slightly loose. Overlies (705). | 0.20m thick |
| **705** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of curvilinear ditch. Moderately sloping sides, slightly concave base. Depth suggests and shape suggests field or enclosure boundary rather than defensive ditch. Filled with (703)-(704), (708). Recorded as 3.5m** | **approx. 1.15m deep** |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | **wide and 1.15m deep.** | |
| 706 | *Fill* | Remains of a fire, burnt in a single event. Very dark grey-brown silty clay. 1% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-2cm. Around 80% of the deposit was charcoal. Series of small branches placed crossways across one another, forming a platform for heating/cooking. Lack of extensive damage to the deposits below suggests it is a single use only. Contained within **[707]**. | 0.06m thick |
| **707** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of fire pit. Small shallow, irregular scoop. Lack of extensive damage to the deposits below suggests it is a single use only. May have utilised the shelter of the hollow of the stabilised ditch. Filled with (706). Overlies (711). Recorded as 0.30m long by 0.25m wide.** | **0.06m deep** |
| 708 | *Fill* | Deliberate backfill to level ditch **[705]**. Redeposited subsoil material. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-2cm. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, 4-8cm. Rare larger stone fragments. Very similar in characteristics to the subsoil. Overlies (703). | 0.77m thick |
| 709 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[713]**. Topsoil and subsoil derived material, probable colluvium material, possible levelling. Mid grey-brown silt loam. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-2cm. Rare larger stone fragments. Compact. Some bioturbation. Overlies (710). | 0.43m thick |
| 710 | *Fill* | Possible deliberate backfill of redeposited natural to level ditch **[713]**. Mid yellow-grey-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-2cm. Occasional larger stone fragments. Compact. May be naturally deposited collluvial material. Overlies (711) | 0.24m thick |
| 711 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[713]**. Redeposited natural and subsoil material. Possible levelling of the ditch. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-5cm. Loose. Fire scoop **[707]** was cut into this level. Overlies (712). | 0.28m thick |
| 712 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[713]**. Represents either the collapse of the bank of a deliberate deposition of bank material. Mid grey-brown, silty clay. 20% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-3cm. 90% inclusions orientated downward into the bottom of the ditch. Earliest fill. | 0.19m thick |
| **713** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of south-east – north-west ditch. Flat base and shallow sides suggest non-defensive in nature. Moderately sloping, uneven sides. Overmachined at base and northern side. Southern side not fully excavated due to presence of [707]. Filled with (709)-(712). Recorded as 5.40m wide and 0.90m deep.** | **0.92m deep** |
| 714 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Clear interface. | 0.76m+ |
| 715 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[713]**, Re-deposited natural, derived from bank collapse, dark grey brown silty clay. | 0.40m+ |

| **Trench 8** | | | **Type:** Machine excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 10.28x1.34m | | **Max. depth:** 1.10m | **Ground level:** 51.81m aOD |
| **context** | **description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 801 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Light grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0.00-0.30m |
| 802 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-6cm. Fairly loose. Some evidence of bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interfaces. | 0.30-0.50m |
| 803 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Mid yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Clear interface. | 0.50m+ |
| **804** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of outer enclosure ditch identified from aerial photography. Shallow sloping sides, flat base. Filled with (805). Recorded as 3.6m wide. Recorded as 3.60m wide and 0.60m deep.** | **0.60m deep** |
| 805 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of **[804]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid brown silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-4cm. Occasional iron panning. Homogeneous. | 0.60m thick |

| **Trench 9** | | | **Type:** Machine excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 12.70x2.94m | | **Max. depth:** 0.46m | **Ground level:** 48.78m aOD |
| **context** | **description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 901 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0-0.35m |
| 902 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Pale yellow-grey silty clay. 15% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-6cm. Fairly loose. Some evidence of bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interfaces. | 0.35-0.46m |
| 903 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Clear interface. | 0.46m+ |
| **904** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of north – south aligned ditch. Part of a rectangular enclosure identified on aerial photographs. Same as ditch in trench [603]. Not excavated.** | **-** |
| 905 | *Fill* | Upper fill of ditch **[904]**. Not excavated. | - |
| 906 | *Modern* | Modern land drain. | - |

| **Trench 10** | | | **Type:** Machine excavated |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Dimensions:** 8.8m x 4.3m | | **Max. depth:** 1.11m | **Ground level:** 50.99m aOD |
| **context** | **description** | | **depth (bgl)** |
| 1001 | *Topsoil* | Modern topsoil. Mid grey-brown silty clay. 5% stone inclusions, subrounded-subangular, <1-8cm. Loose and friable. Some bioturbation. | 0-0.33m |
| 1002 | *Subsoil* | Modern subsoil. Pale yellow-grey silty clay. 15% stone, subrounded-subangular, <1-6cm. Fairly loose. Some evidence of bioturbation. Slightly diffuse interfaces | 0.33-0.46m |
| 1003 | *Natural* | Natural geology. Pale yellow-brown silty clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Clear interface. | 0.46m+ |
| **1004** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of curvilinear ditch. Aligned east-west at the north west corner of the trench but turns 90° to follow a north – south alignment. Part of rectangular enclosure. Fairly steep, slightly convex sides, narrow concave base. Filled with (1005)-(1007) recorded as 1.50m wide and 0.65m deep** | **0.65m deep** |
| 1005 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[1004]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid grey clay. 15% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-4cm. Occasional iron oxide mottling. Some gley-like characteristics. Fairly compact and homogeneous. Earliest fill. | 0.28m thick |
| 1006 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[1004]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid yellow-grey silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-8cm. Common iron oxide mottling. Fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1005). | 0.30m thick |
| 1007 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of ditch **[1004]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid grey silty clay silty clay. 10% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-2cm. Concentration of large angular stone fragments on surface. Fairly homogeneous. Overlies (1006). | 0.10m thick |
| **1008** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of east –west aligned curvilinear ditch. Terminal end seen within the trench. Shallow, concave profile. Filled with (1009). Recorded as 0.88m wide and 0.20m deep** | **0.20m deep** |
| 1009 | *Fill* | Secondary fill of **[1008]**. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Mid grey silty clay. 5% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-6cm. | |
| **1010** | ***Cut*** | **Cut of south-west – north-east aligned ditch. Appears very shallow and ephemeral. Filled with (1011). Not excavated. Possible remnant of ridge and furrow.** | **-** |
| 1011 | *Fill* | Upper secondary fill of [**1010**]. Gradually deposited topsoil and subsoil derived material. Pale grey clay. 2% stone, subangular-subrounded, <1-4cm. Not excavated. | |

**Table 1: Finds totals by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)**

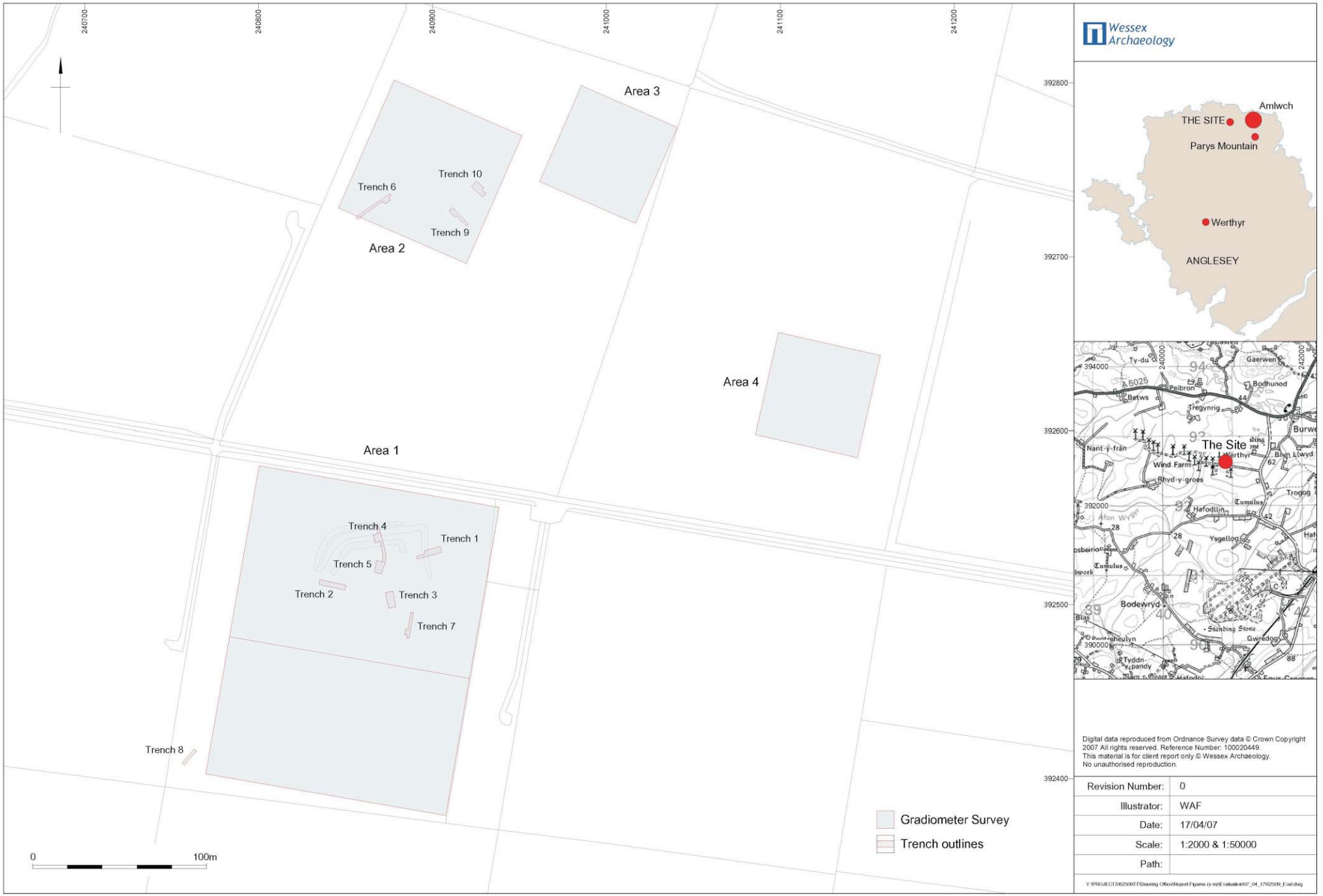
| Material | Tr 1 | Tr 2 | Tr 3 | Tr 4 | Tr 5 | Tr 7 | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Pottery | 1/1 | 1/22 | - | 6/587 | 5/151 | 1/367 | 14/1128 |
| Stone | - | - | 1/6674 | - | - | 1/95 | 2/6769 |
| Metalwork | 4 | 1 | 2 | - | - | 9 | 16 |
| *Copper alloy* | - | *1* | *1* | - | - | - | *2* |
| *Iron* | *4* | - | *1* | - | - | *9* | *14* |
| Animal Bone | 8/7 | - | - | 1/1 | - | - | 9/8 |

**Table 2: Assessment of the charred plant remains and charcoal**

| | | | | Flot | | | | | | | Residue |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Feature type/no | Context | Sample | size litres | flot size ml | Grain | Chaff | Weed seeds uncharred | Weed seeds charred | Charcoal >4/2mm | Other | Charcoal >5.6mm |
| Trench 4 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ditch 404 | 416 | 1 | 20 | 2 [1] | - | - | a | - | 0/0/2ml | - | - |
| Trench 7 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| pit 707 | 706 | 2 | 7 | 175 [0] | - | - | - | C | 30/20ml | - | - |

KEY: A** = exceptional, A* = 30+ items, A = ≥10 items, B = 9 - 5 items, C = < 5 items

NOTE: [1]flot is total, but flot in superscript = ml of rooty material. [2]Unburnt seed is in lower case to distinguish it from charred remains

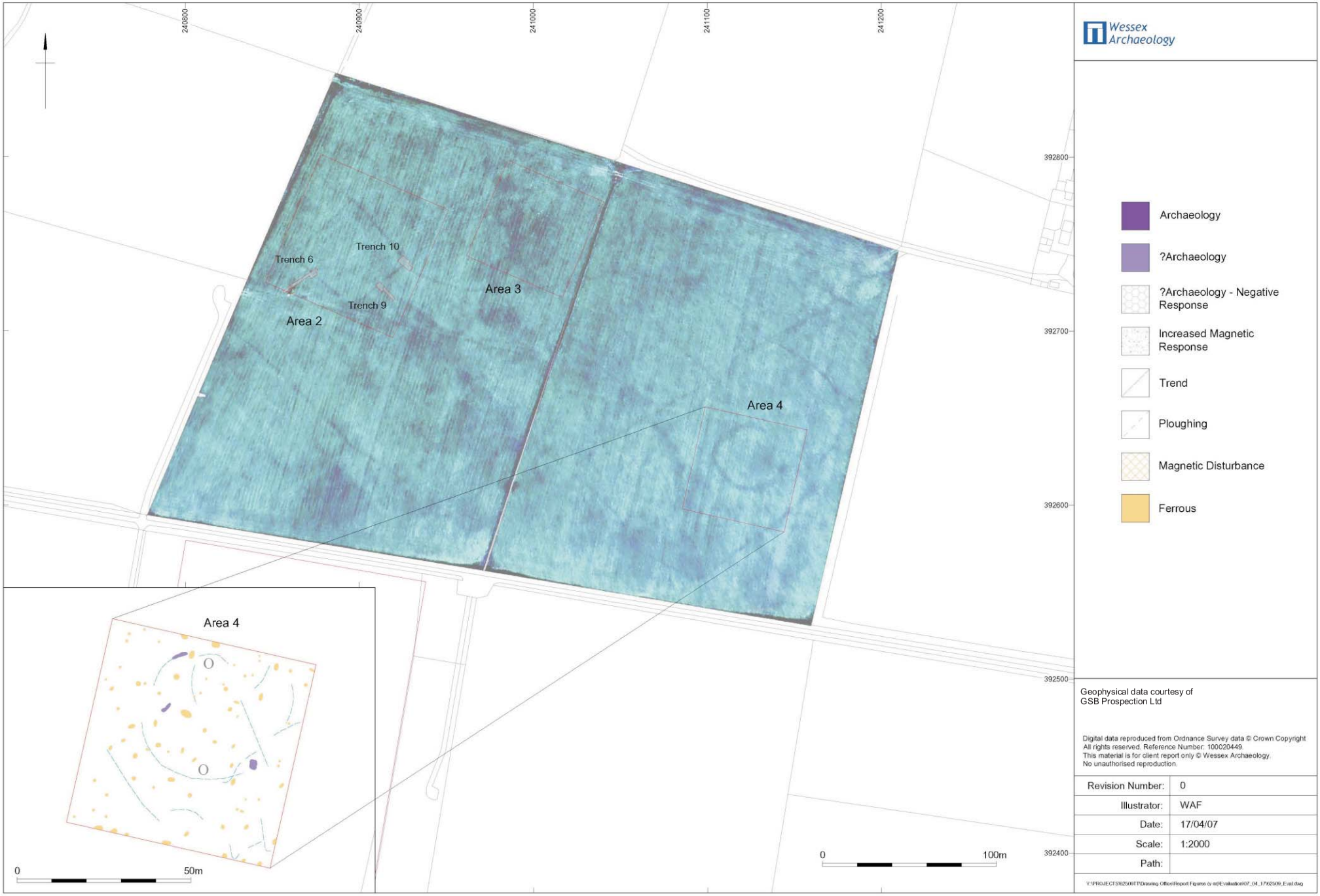



Site location and areas of geophysical survey

Figure 1

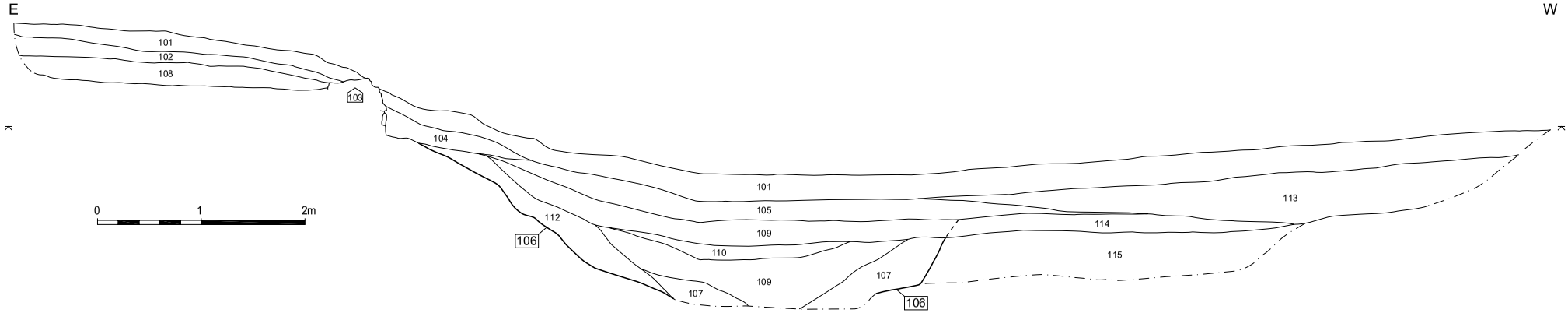

Location of Trenches in Area 1, and interpretation of Geophysical results

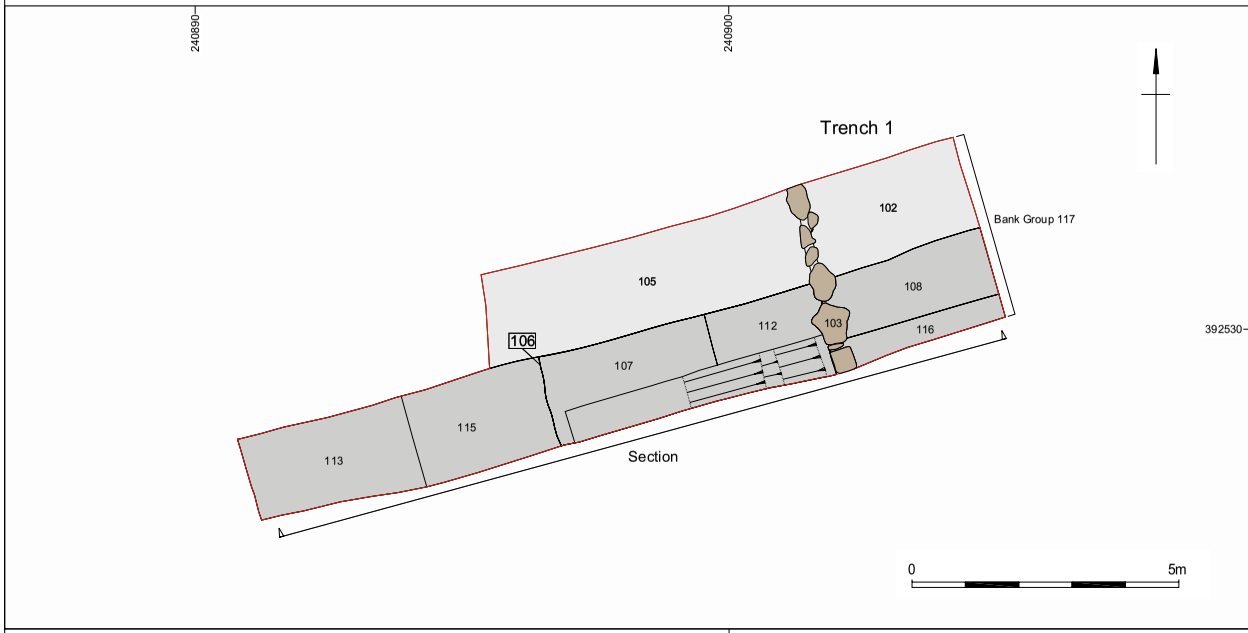
Figure 2




Location of Trenches and crop marks in Areas 2, 3 and 4 with detail of interpretation of Geophysical results in Area 4

Figure 3





Wessex Archaeology



| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Date: | 18/04/07 | Revision Number: | 0 |
| Scale: | Plan 1:100 Section 1:40 | Illustrator: | WAF |
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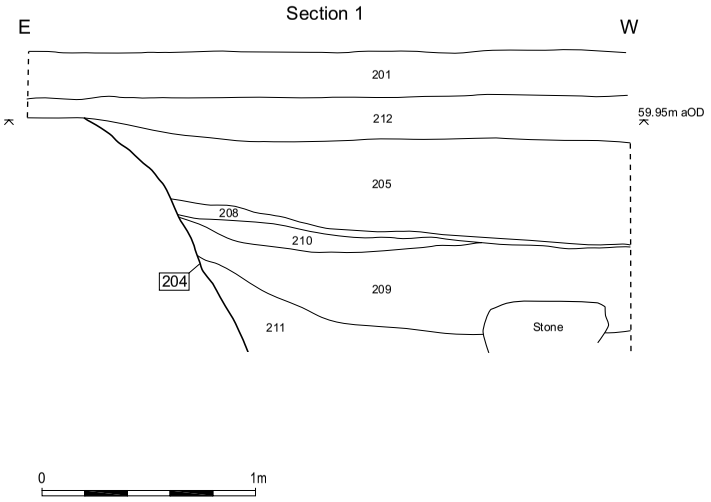
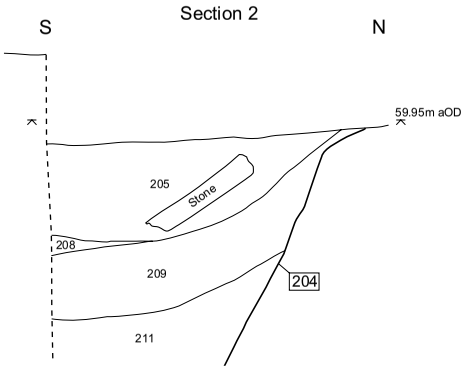
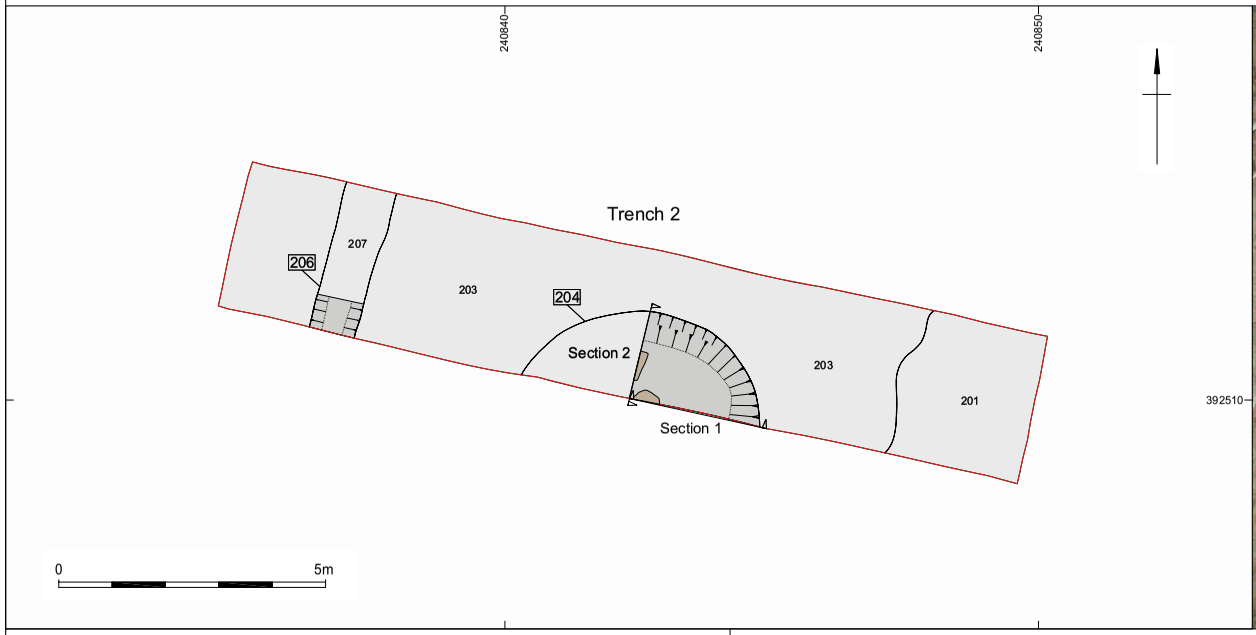
Trench 1, with north facing section of Trench and photo of Trench 1 from the north east

Figure 4




North facing section of ditch terminus (204)




East facing section of ditch terminus (204)



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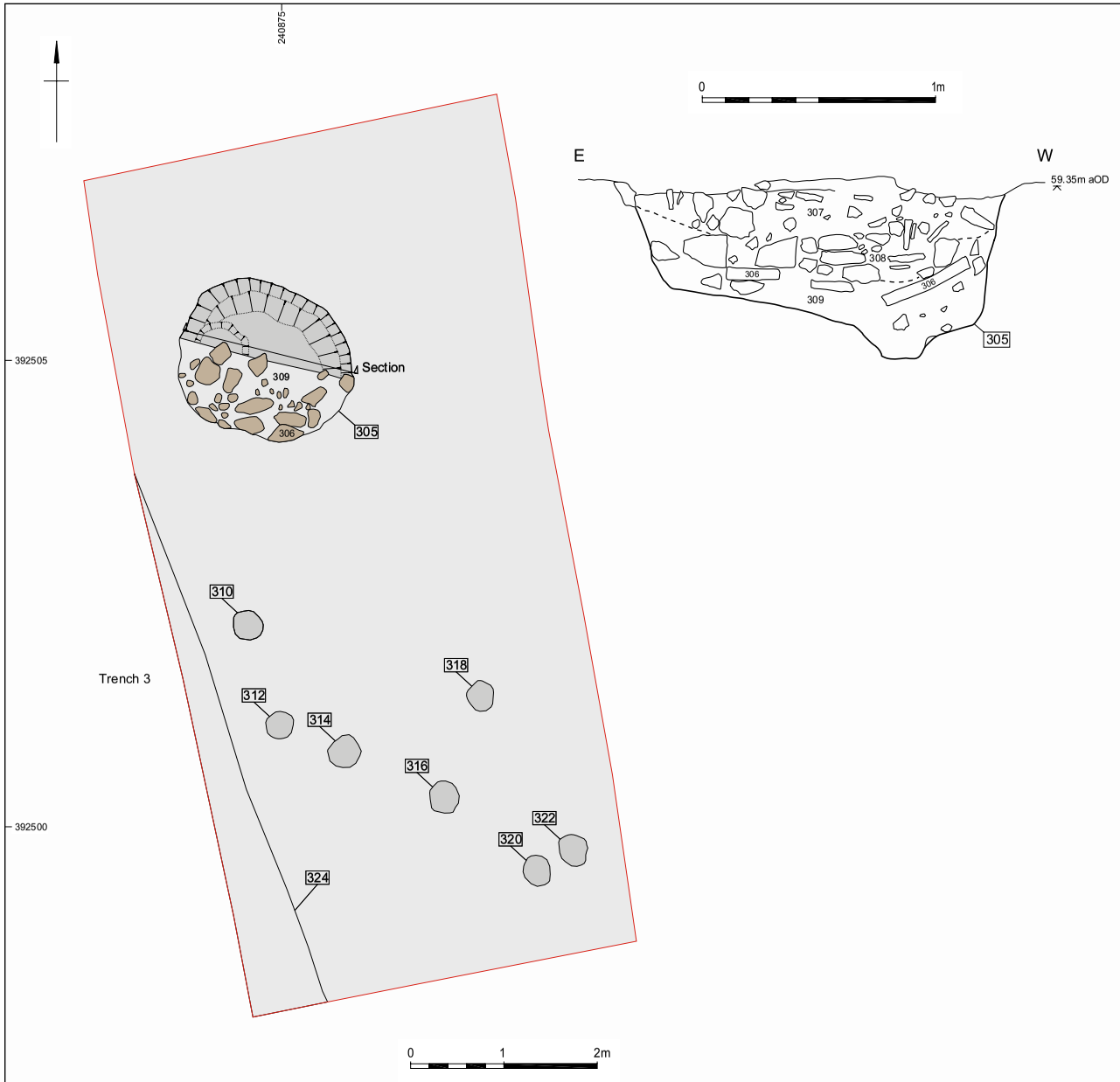
Trench 2, with north facing and east facing sections of ditch terminus (204) and photos of (204) from the north and east

Figure 5




Cist grave (305) and lining (306)

North facing section of (305)

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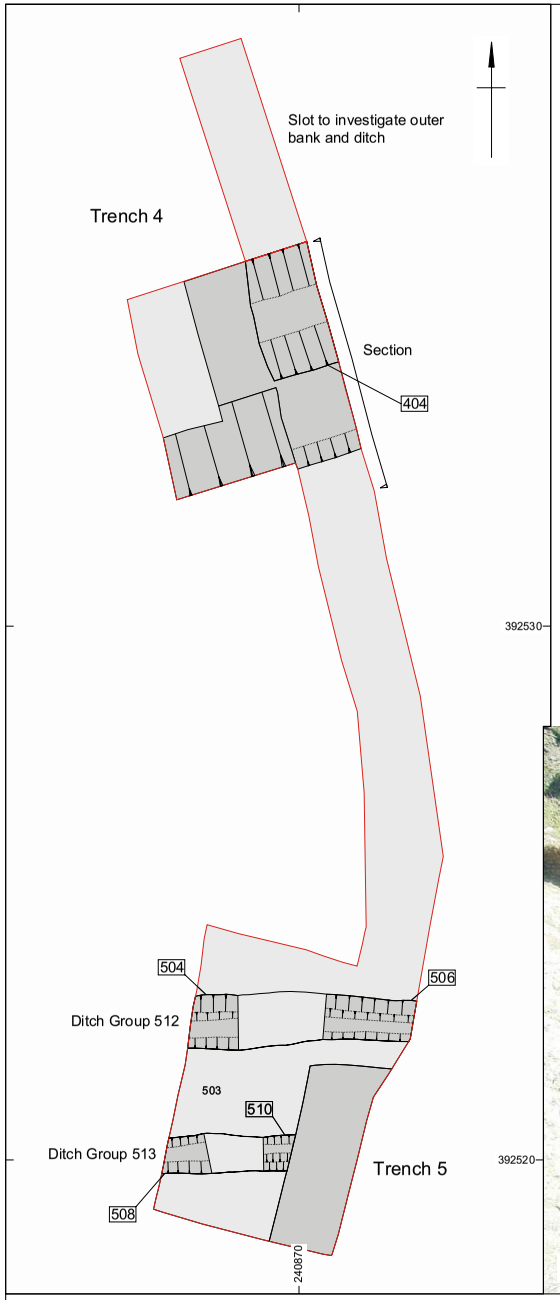
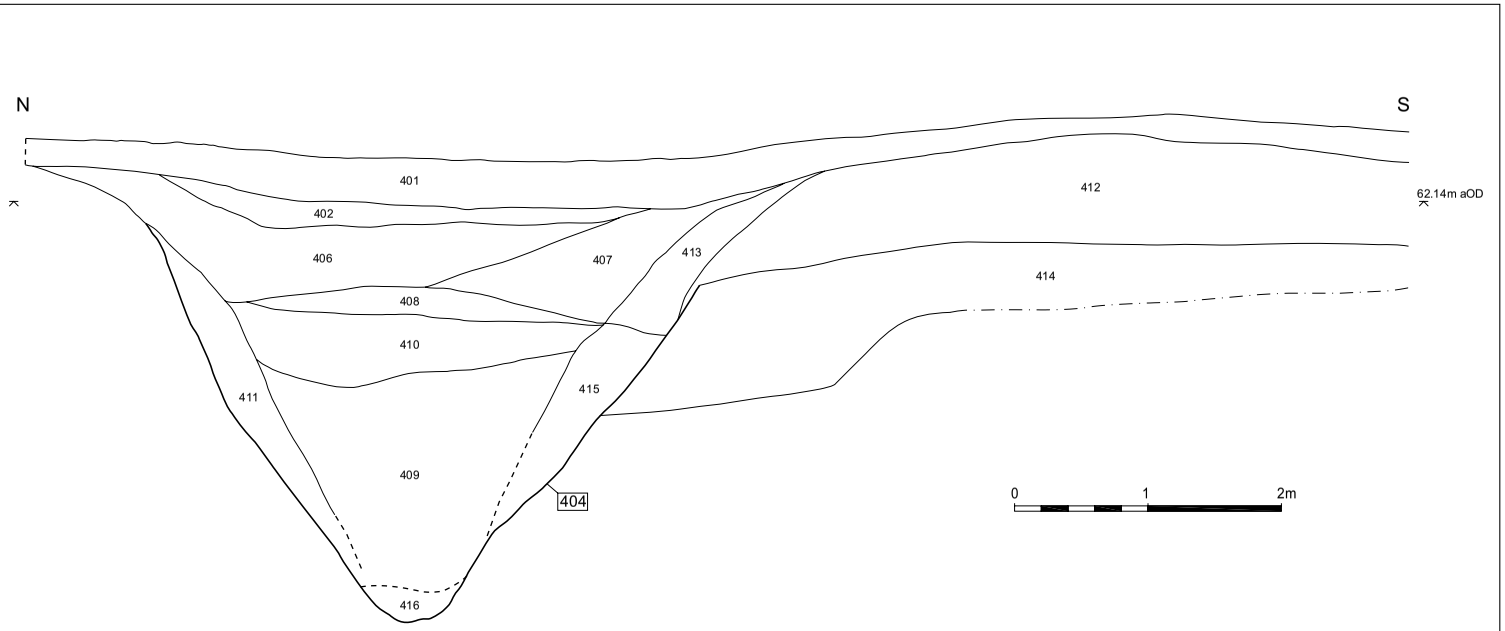
Trench 3 and north facing section of 'cist' grave (305). Photo of (305) and lining (306) and north facing section of (305)

Figure 6





West facing section of ditch (404)


Plan of Trench 5 from the south

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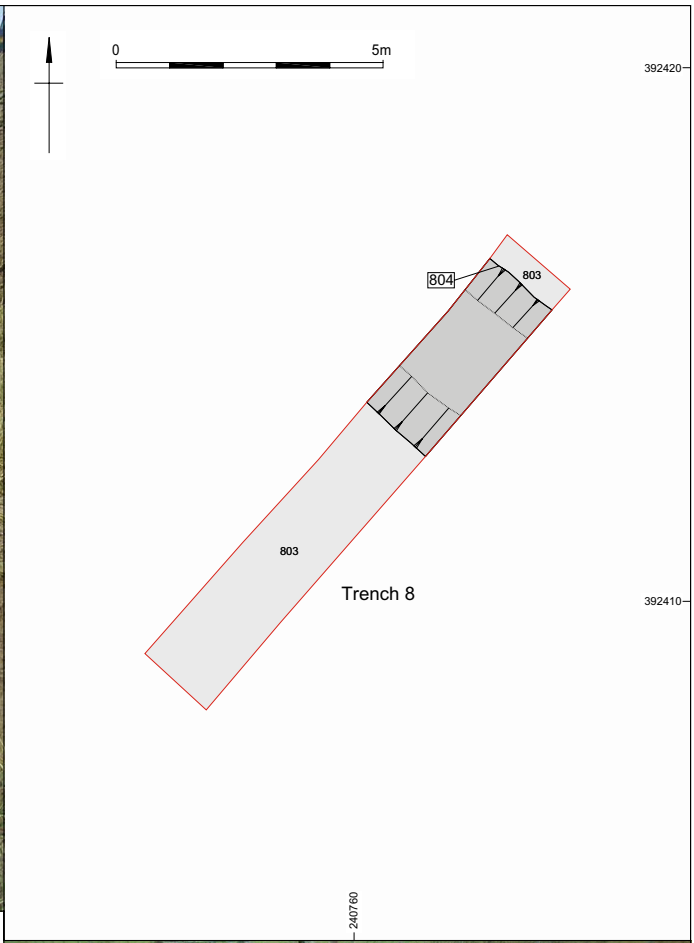
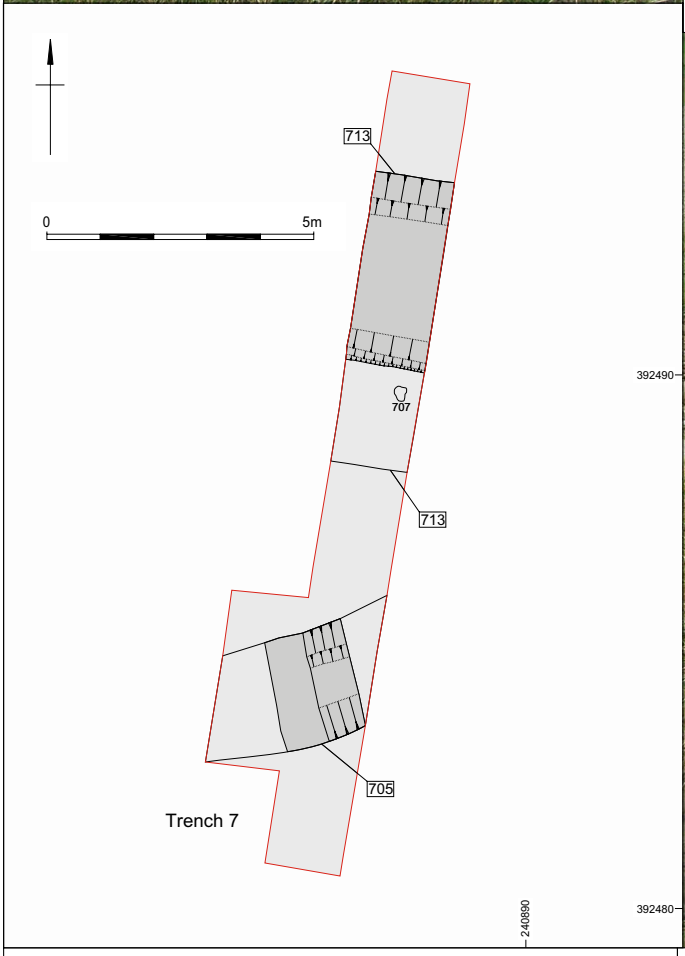
Trenches 4 and 5, with west facing section ditch (404). Photos of west facing section (402) and Trench 5 from the south

Figure 7

Trench 7 viewed from the south







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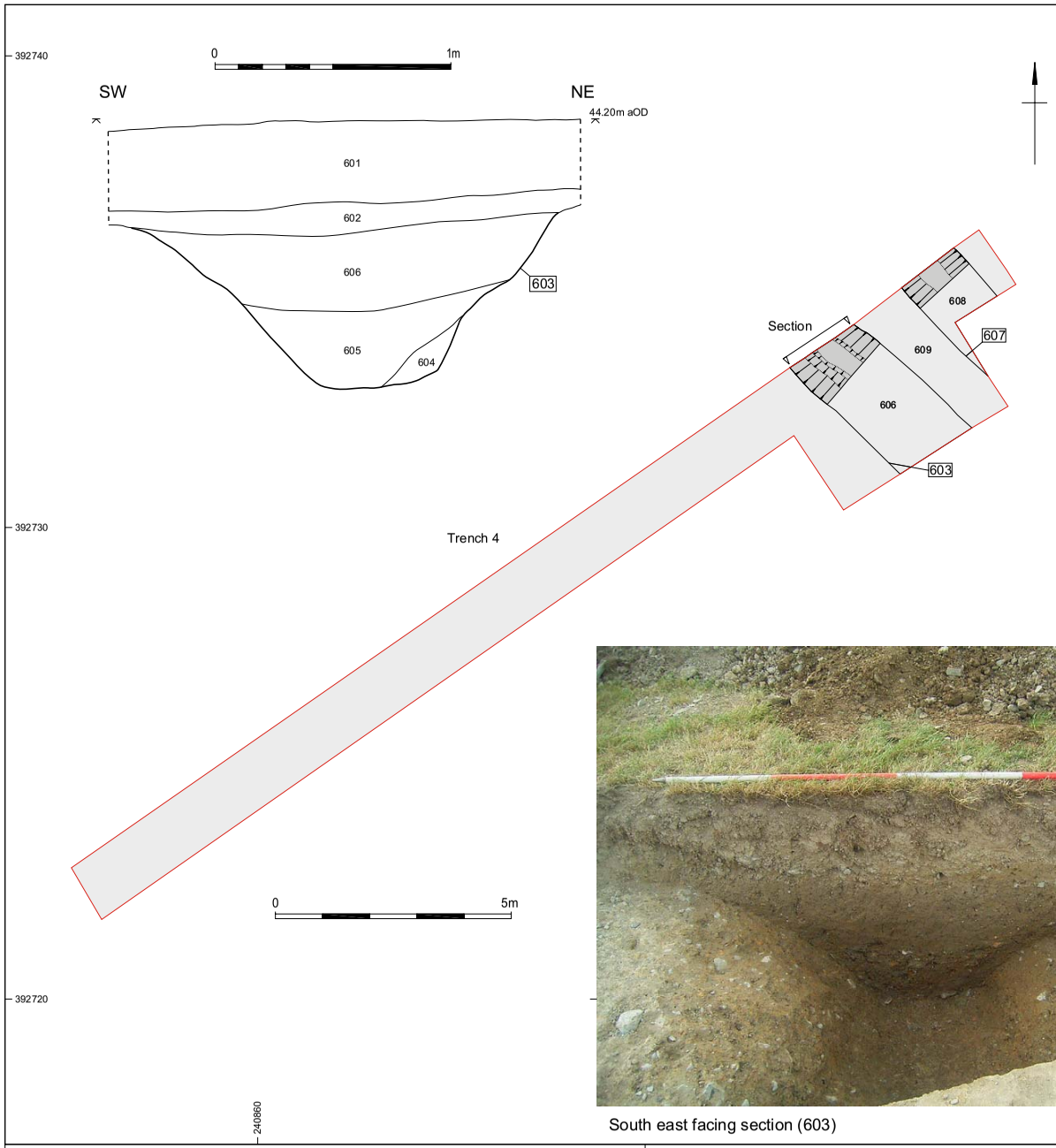
Trenches 7 and 8 with photos of Trench 7 from the south and Trench 8 from the north east

Figure 8




Trench 6 from the north east



South east facing section (603)

North west facing section (603)



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Trench 6 and south east facing section of ditch (603). Photos of Trench 6 from the north and south east facing section (603) and north west facing section (603)

Figure 9



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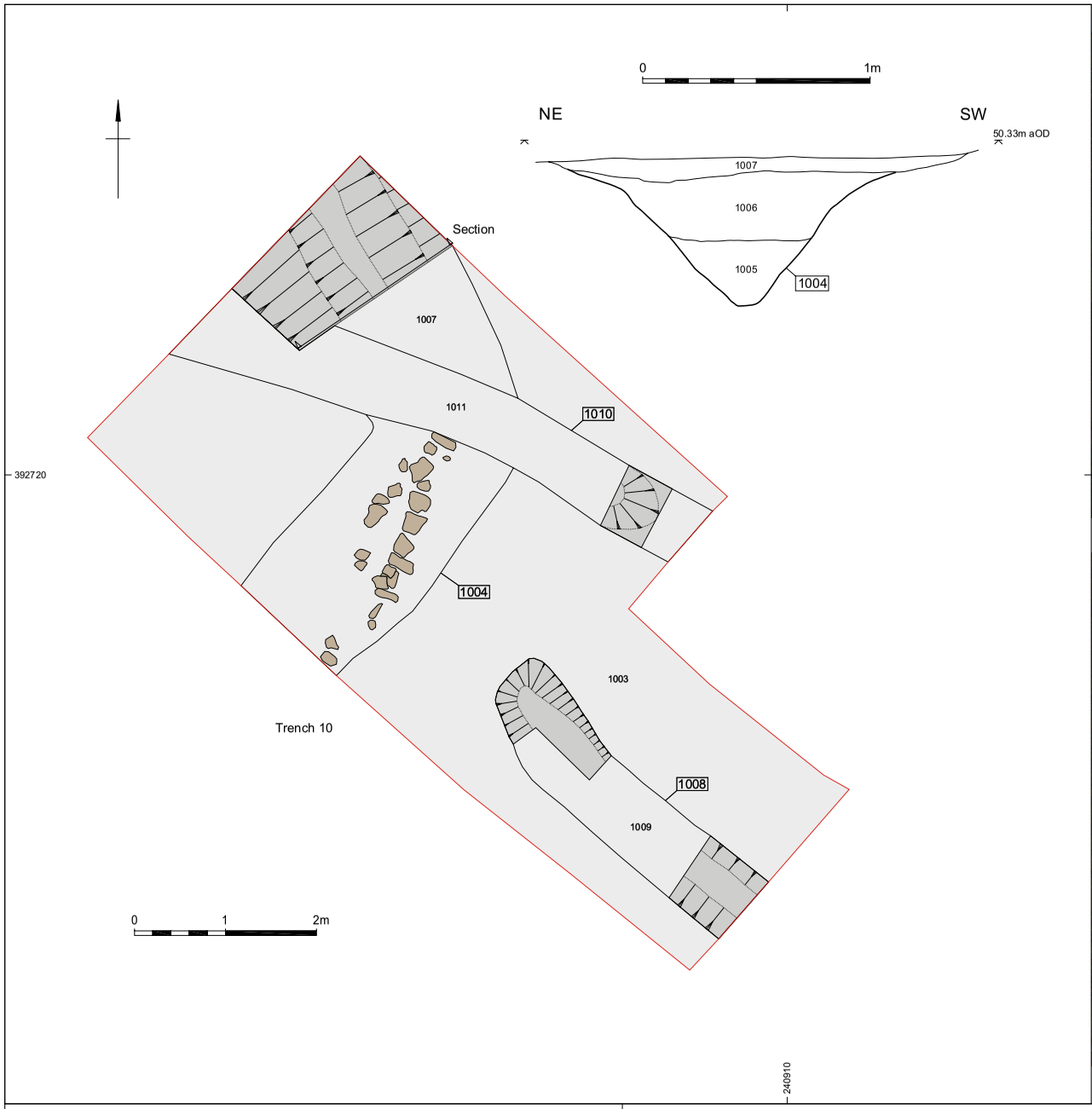
Trench 9 and photo of Trench 9 from north west

Figure 10




Trench 10 from the north west

North west facing section of ditch (1004)

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Trench 10 and north west facing section of ditch (1004). Photos of Trench 10 from the north west and north west facing section of ditch (1004)

Figure 11

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