

Castle Ditches Camp, Cwm Col Huw Llantwit Major, Bridgend Watching Brief



Report by: Trysor

For: Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales

April 2015



Castle Ditches Camp, Cwm Col Huw Llantwit Major, Bridgend Watching Brief

By

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Trysor Project No. 2015/445

For: Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales

April 2015

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Cover photograph: View from the western end of the hillfort, looking west

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RHIF YR ADRODDIAD - REPORT NUMBER: Trysor 2015/445

DYDDIAD 27^{ain} Ebrill 2015

DATE 27th April 2015

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan bartneriad Trysor. Mae wedi ei gael yn gywir ac yn derbyn ein sêl bendith.

This report was prepared by the Trysor partners. It has been checked and received our approval.

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Jenny Hall

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Croesawn unrhyw sylwadau ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn.

We welcome any comments on the content or structure of this report.

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Trysor is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and both partners are Members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, www.archaeologists.net .

Jenny Hall (BSc Joint Hons., Geology and Archaeology, MCIfA) had 12 years excavation experience, which included undertaking watching briefs prior to becoming the Sites and Monuments Record Manager for a Welsh Archaeological Trust for 10 years. She has been an independent archaeologist since 2004 undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desk-based appraisals and assessments, and watching briefs.

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1. Summary

1.1 In February 2015, Trysor undertook a watching brief on the excavation of a posthole for a new gatepost on the inner edge of the ramparts of Castle Ditches Camp SAM GM109. No archaeologically significant contexts were removed from the posthole. At the base of the posthole there was stone which may represent the rampart of the hillfort, but the size of the posthole prevented close examination.

2. Copyright

2.1 Trysor holds the copyright of this report and of the paper and digital archive. Further paper copies may be made of this report without gaining permission to reproduce but it must be noted that Figure 3, 4 & 5 include other copyright material and should not be copied.

3. Introduction

3.1 Mr Vaughn Matthews, Conservation Officer for Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales, Fountain Road, Tondu, Bridgend, CF32 0EH has commissioned Trysor heritage consultants to undertake an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of a hole for a gatepost on the Scheduled Ancient Monument GM019, Castle Ditches Camp, an Iron Age Defended Enclosure, see Figure 1.

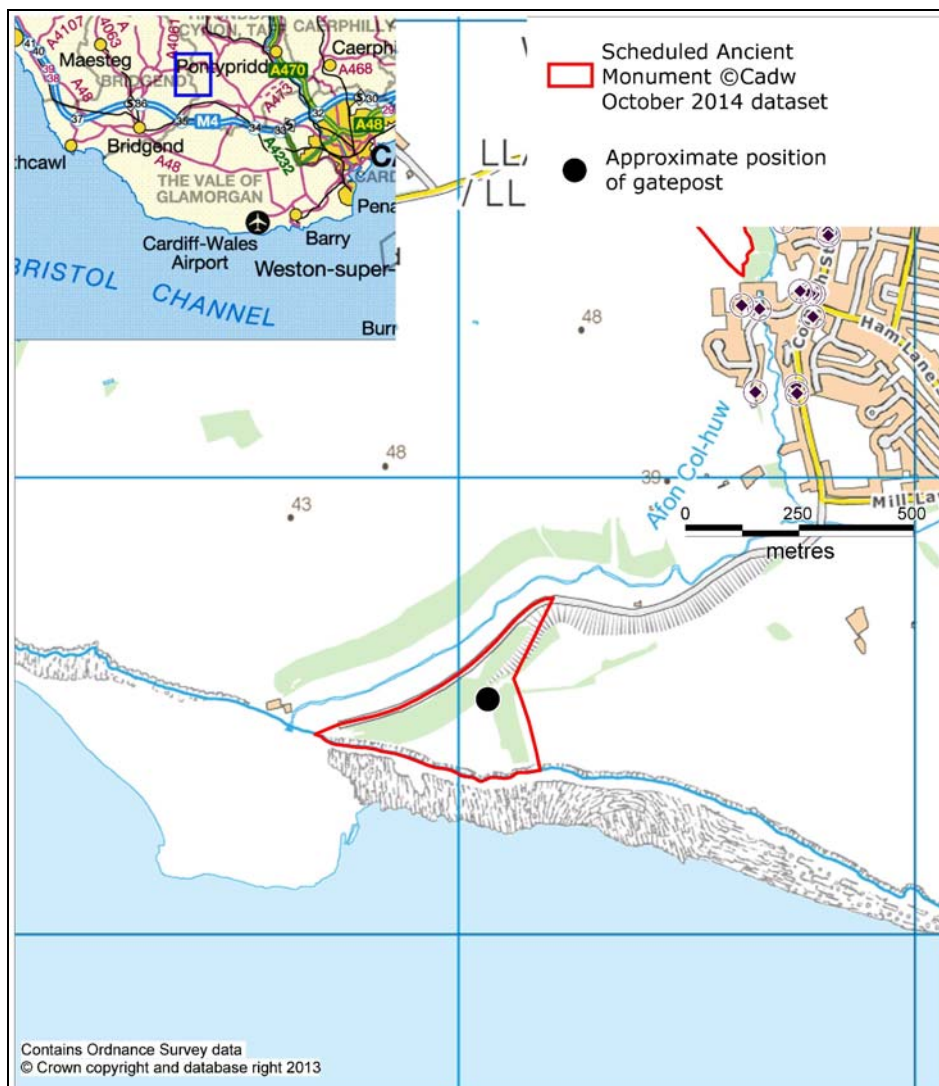


Figure 1: Location of the watching brief.

4. The development

4.1 The development consisted of a single posthole, 0.20 metres square and 0.55 metres deep for a new gate to aid stock management within the hillfort.

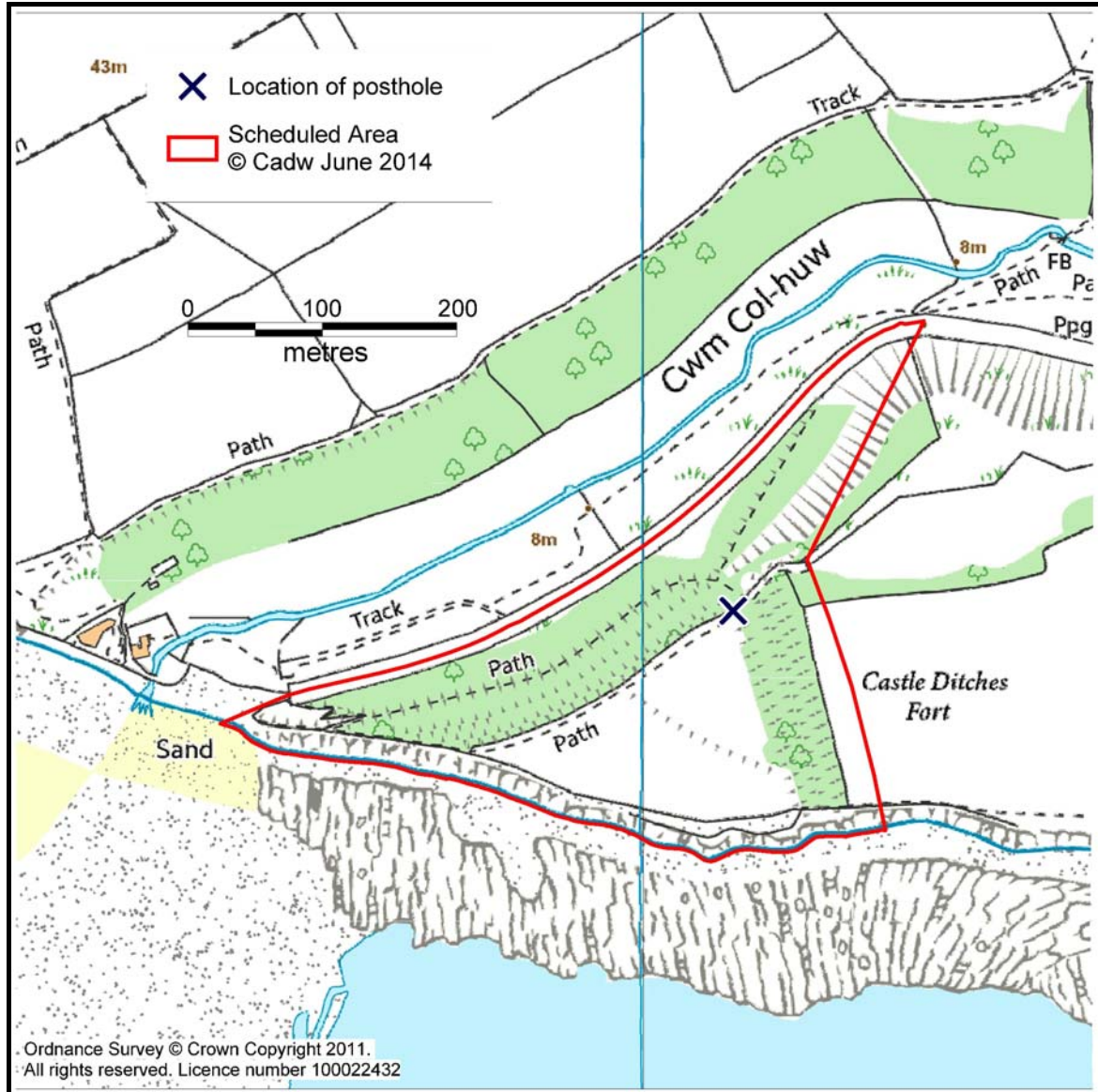


Figure 2: Location of the posthole

5. Conditions on the consent

5.1 The site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, GM019 and Scheduled Monument Consent was required for the excavation of the posthole. Consent was given on the condition that an archaeological watching brief was carried out.

6. Specification

6.1 Trysor prepared a specification for the watching brief, see Appendix A. The specification was approved by Louise Mees, Regional Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Archaeology (South East Wales), Cadw.

7. Historical and Archaeological Overview

7.1 Castle Ditches Camp (GM019) lies on the steep slope on the southern side of Cwm Col Huw. The extant remains form a roughly triangular enclosure but the western side may have been removed by coastal erosion. Triple ramparts and ditches face northeast, east and northwest. Overall the enclosure measures 248 metres east to west by 216 metres northwest to southeast.

8. Methodology

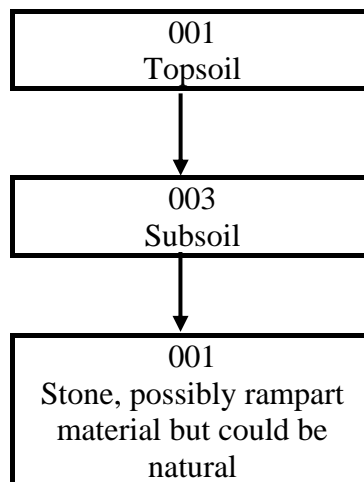
8.1 On Monday 2nd February 2015, the hand excavation of the posthole was observed by Trysor. The hole was 0.20 metres square and 0.55 metres deep and located at approximately SS9606767250.

9. Site Stratigraphy

9.1 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (Institute for Archaeologists, 2013 updated version). The hand excavation of the posthole was watched by Trysor and the stratigraphy of the site recorded.

9.2 Context Catalogue

Context Number	Depth	Description	Interpretation
001	Up to 0.15 metres	10YR3/2 Very dark grayish brown clay	Topsoil
002	0.35 metres	10YR4/1 dark grayish brown clay with <15% gravel	Subsoil
003		Stone. Excavation stopped at this point as the hole was deep enough for its purpose. Stone was felt in the base but could not be clearly seen in such a small hole	Possibly rampart material, debris from collapse of the rampart or natural.



10. Photographs

10.1 Colour digital photographs were taken of hand excavation of the posthole using a 16M pixel camera. The following table describes the content of each photograph included in the project archive and their locations are provided in the following map, see Figure 4. The photographs are included in Appendix B at the end of the report.

Photo Number	Description	Date Taken	Direction
CCH2015_001	From the western side of the hillfort, looking east northeast towards the brambles that cover the northeastern rampants	02/02/2015	Looking northeast
CCH2015_002	Digging the posthole	02/02/2015	Looking northwest.
CCH2015_003	Excavated posthole	02/02/2015	Looking west.

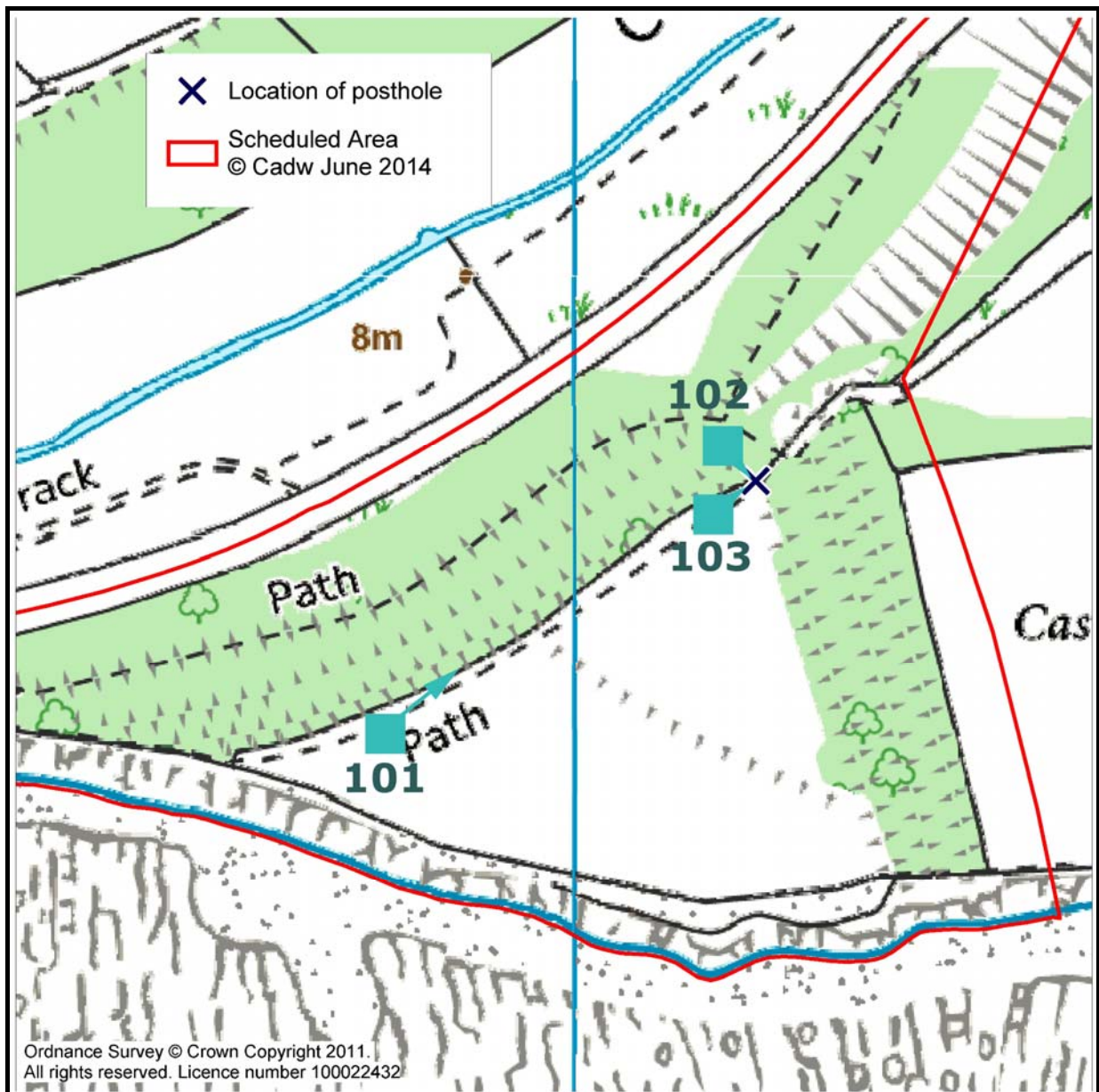


Figure 5: Location of photographs

11. Conclusion

11.1 No archaeologically significant contexts were removed. Stone was felt at the bottom of the posthole at 0.50 metres and excavation stopped as the hole was deep enough for its purpose and the nature of the hole prevented proper investigation. The stone may have been part of the rampart, or may have been natural material

12. Archive

12.1 The archive and a paper copy of the report and photographs will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth. Photographs are in TIFF format, following the standard required by the RCAHMW.

12.2 Further copies of the report have also been supplied to the client, and the Historic Environment Record at Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust, Swansea.

APPENDIX A – Watching Brief Specification written by Trysor and sent to Cadw in January 2014

**CWM COL HUW, LLANTWIT MAJOR, PEMBROKESHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF SPECIFICATION**

Scheduled Monument Consent

1. Introduction

Mr Vaughn Matthews, Conservation Officer for Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales, Fountain Road, Tondu, Bridgend, CF32 0EH has commissioned Trysor heritage consultants to undertake an archaeological watching brief on the excavation of a hole for a gatepost on the Scheduled Ancient Monument GM019, Castle Ditches Camp, an Iron Age Defended Enclosure.

The excavation is at approximately SS9606567518, within the ramparts of the defended enclosure.

2. The development

A new hole for a gatepost, as part of fencing to control stock, is to be dug on the inner edge of the ramparts of Castle Ditches Camp.

3. Nature of the archaeological resource

Castle Ditches Camp lies on the steep slope on the southern side of Cwm Col Huw. The extant remains form a roughly triangular enclosure but the western side may have been removed by coastal erosion.

Triple ramparts and ditches face northeast, east and northwest. Overall the enclosure measures 248 metres east to west by 216 metres northwest to southeast.

The site is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, GM019.



Figure 1: Approximate location of proposed gatepost

4. Field methodology

The watching brief will be carried out in accordance with Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA, 2014a)

A two-person team will watch the excavation of a hole approximately 0.20 metres square and 0.55 metres deep. The hole will be examined and features of archaeological interest recorded.

5. Contingency arrangements if archaeological features are discovered

In the event that archaeological remains are encountered, where appropriate investigation falls outside the scope of this watching brief specification, a meeting between Trysor, the applicant, Cadw and the Local Planning Authority case officer will be convened in order to agree a course of action. The applicant will be responsible for paying for any further work necessary.

6. Health & Safety

Trysor will undertake a risk assessment in accordance with their health and safety policy.

7. Recording

A plan of the groundworks, and representative sections if appropriate, will be drawn, at an appropriate scale, recording all features of archaeological interest. The plan will be based on the applicants' survey drawings of the development area.

A written record of all activity will be kept in a project specific notebook. If archaeological contexts are encountered they will be recorded following the *Central Excavation Unit Manual: Part 2: Recording*, 1986, using a consecutive numbering system.

Any artefacts will be dealt with in accordance with the guidance provided in the Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA, 2014b). Any artefacts will be retained, cleaned and stored. Following reporting they will be returned to the applicant.

Should any human remains be encountered, the Coroner and Regional Archaeological Trust will be immediately informed and the remains left *in situ*.

Colour digital photographs will be taken, as appropriate, using a 14M pixel camera. A written record will be made on site of the photographs taken. Appropriate photographic scales will be used.

8. Reporting

A report on the watching brief will be prepared according to the requirements of Section 3.8 of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (CIfA, 2014a, p.14) following the completion of the work. Copies of the report will be provided to the client, the Regional Historic Environment Record and the National Monuments Record.

9. Dissemination

A summary of the work undertaken and its findings will be submitted to *Archaeology in Wales*, the annual review of archaeological work in Wales collated by the Council for British Archaeology Wales (CBA Wales)

10. Archive

The paper archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, including a copy of the final report in accordance with the CIfA's *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (CIfA, 2014c). This archive will include all written, drawn and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. Photographs will be supplied in TIFF format in a file size greater than 11MB, following the standard required by the RCAHMW for Upland Survey (RCAHMW, 2011).

11. Resources to be used

Two members of staff will undertake the watching brief. They will be equipped with standard field equipment, including digital cameras, GPS and first aid kits.

Trysor have access to the computer hardware and software required to deliver the completed final report and archive to a professional standard.

12. Qualification of personnel

Trysor is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and both partners are Members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, www.archaeologists.net

Jenny Hall (BSc Joint Hons., Geology and Archaeology, MCIfA) had 12 years excavation experience, which included undertaking watching briefs prior to becoming the Sites and Monuments Record Manager for a Welsh Archaeological Trust for 10 years. Since 2004 she has been an independent archaeologist undertaking a variety of work that includes upland survey, desktop assessments and watching briefs.

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13. Insurance & Professional indemnity

Trysor has Public Liability and Professional Indemnity Insurance.

14. Project identification

The project has been designated Trysor Project No. 2015/445

15. Sources

16.1 Maps

15.2 Non-published

Central Excavation Unit, 1986, *Central Excavation Unit Manual: Part 2: Recording*, 1986

RCAHMW, 2011, *Form AB12: "Notes for Guidance" in the preparation of applications for Uplands Archaeology Initiative projects 2012-13*

15.3 Published

CIfA, 2014a, *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief*

CIfA, 2014b, *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials.*

CIfA, 2014c, *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

15.4 Web based materials

Historic Wales

Jenny Hall & Paul Sambrook

Trysor

January 2015

APPENDIX B



Plate 1: CCH2015_101 – The interior of the hillfort from the western side looking northeast towards the bramble-covered ramparts. The posthole was excavated at the northern end of the rampart on left hand side of the photo.



Plate 2: CCH2015_102 - During excavation of the posthole, looking south southeast.



Plate 3: CCH2015_103 - The excavated posthole, looking northeast.