CAPEL Y GROES, SWYDDFFYNNON, CEREDIGION ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

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SUMMARY

This site was identified as part of the Strata Florida Landscape Project undertaken by the School of Archaeology, History and Anthropology, University of Wales, Trinity St David, and recorded within the Cadw-funded Wetland Margins Survey of the Cors Caron area undertaken by Dyfed Archaeological Trust. This site of Capel y Groes (SN 6933 6608) is possibly the site of a medieval chapel and part of the administrative centre of Strata Florida's grange of Mefenydd, therefore a potentially important medieval site. Further work was required in order to provide information on the character, extent, date, state of preservation and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits. Dyfed Archaeological Trust were commissioned by Cadw to undertake a geophysical survey and follow-up evaluation excavation of the site in 2010.

This was a Dyfed Archaeological Trust/TSD University partnership project, with Dr Jemma Bezant leading the work for TSD University. Members of the local community were also engaged in the excavation. The geophysical survey was undertaken in August 2010, and the follow-up evaluation excavation was undertaken in September 2010.

The site lies in the corner of a pasture field belonging to Ty Mawr farm, a farmstead on the fringes of the small village of Swyddffynnon. The village has medieval origins, possibly as a bond settlement and was perhaps an administrative focus for the monastic grange of Mefenydd. The geophysical survey revealed a wide range of archaeological features across the survey area. The site of Capel y Groes, which is labelled on 19th century map sources, was indicated as an area of obvious archaeological activity in the corner of the field. This was surrounded by several small enclosures, again illustrated on 19th century map sources, as was a field boundary that extended to the north. The geophysical survey also showed a possible trackway accompanying this field boundary, and a series of enclosures and other activity along the edge of the field, possibly evidence of earlier post-medieval or medieval settlement activity. A further undated boundary was shown on the survey delineating the higher ground within the field, with a large attached enclosure sitting on the higher ground. A circular feature was also identified within the survey area that may represent prehistoric activity.

The evaluation excavation consisted of a single trench located on the site of Capel y Groes, as depicted on the 19th century maps. It revealed the remains of a mortared stone, and possible part-timber, built building with a mortared floor cut by an unusual arrangement of drains. Associated finds dated the building to between the 17th and 19th century, with the concentration of activity within the late 18th and 19th century. The finds also indicated this was a domestic structure, but possibly also engaged in agri-industrial activities. Associated enclosures, and a possible earlier trackway were also recorded. One medieval pit was discovered, and an undated ditch, but one that clearly pre-dated the post-medieval building. The excavated evidence suggested the site depicted on 19th century map sources was that of a post-medieval cottage, no indication of a chapel site was revealed within the area excavated, although several other potentially important sites remain within the area, as depicted on the geophysical survey results.

INTRODUCTION

Project Commission

In 2009-10 Dyfed Archaeological Trust undertook a Wetland Margins Survey of the Cors Caron area (Poucher 2010). This was a Cadw-funded project examining the archaeological potential of the wetlands of Ceredigion and as a consequence several sites around the wetland fringes were identified as worthy of further study. Originally it was intended to undertake an evaluation of an earthwork site know as Castell Llwyn-gwinau, although this was not possible due to access issues. Another potentially important medieval site had been identified as part of the Strata Florida Landscape Project undertaken by the School of Archaeology, History and Anthropology, University of Wales, Trinity St David and it was decided that this was also just as worthy of further investigation. This site is Capel y Groes (SN 6933 6608), possibly the site of a medieval chapel and the administrative centre of Strata Florida's grange of Mefenydd.

This is a Dyfed Archaeological Trust/TSD University partnership project, with Dr Jemma Bezant leading the work for TSD University. Members of the local community were also engaged in the excavation.

Scope of the Project

The survey and evaluation has been designed to provide information on the character, extent, date, state of preservation and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the site area.

The project addresses several themes identified in the *Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales: southwest Wales – Medieval:*

> Monastic reform and the creation of copyhold estates.
>
> Cultural expression and identity: style, design and the inter-relationships of power and economy.

There is very little medieval archaeology known from Ceredigion, which has no standing vernacular medieval structures for example.

This project also addresses some of the key objectives posed by the ongoing Strata Florida Landscape Project directed by Professor David Austin and Dr Jemma Bezant of Lampeter University. One of the main research themes that this investigation had the potential to address was "Is there an archaeology associated with the monastic operations of the Abbey?"

Data was obtained by geophysical survey followed by evaluation excavation. Approximately 2.5ha was surveyed, followed by the excavation of a single trench measuring 30m by 4m across the site of the possible chapel. The objective was to detect any buried archaeological features within the field, particularly those that could be associated with a possible medieval chapel site.

Report Outline

This report describes the location of the site along with its archaeological background before summarising the geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation results and the conclusions based on those results.

Abbreviations

Sites recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER[1]) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR).

SAM - Scheduled Ancient Monuments
NW – northwest
NE – northeast
SW – southwest
SE – southeast
SSE – south-southeast
ESE – east-southeast etc

Illustrations

Photographic images are to be found at the back of the report. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale.

Acknowledgements

Several enthusiastic students from Lampeter University and local volunteers undertook the excavation under the supervision of P Poucher and R Ramsey of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust and J Bezant of University of Wales, TSD. M Ings of Dyfed Archaeological Trust assisted in the geophysical survey. An initial examination of pottery and glass was undertaken by D Williams of University of Wales, TSD. Trust staff and the volunteers would like to express their gratitude to Mr Bailey for allowing the excavation on their land and to Terry Bailey for her help in setting up, publicity and assistance during the excavation.

[1] Held and managed by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Shire Hall, Llandeilo.

THE SITE

Site Location

The site is located on the edge of the small hamlet of Swyddffynnon, which itself lies on the northwestern shoulder of Cors Caron. Cors Caron is a complex of raised bogs along the Teifi valley between Tregaron and Pontrhydfendigaid, comprising three main peat domes surrounded by a range of reedbeds, wet grassland, rivers, streams, ponds, woodlands and farmland. It is said to be the most intact surviving example of a raised bog landscape (macrotope) in the UK, covering an area of *c*.330 hectares (816 acres). The bog was declared a National Nature Reserve (NNR) in 1955 and is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and a wetland of international importance (Ramsar site). The area also lies in the Upland Ceredigion Area of Outstanding Historic Interest.

Swyddffynnon lies astride the Camddwr Fach stream that drains into the bog and also forms the boundary of the estate granted to Strata Florida Abbey in the late 12th century by Lord Rhys ap Gruffudd.

The evaluation site itself lies in the corner of pasture field on the SE side of the hamlet. The farmstead of Ty Mawr sits on the northeastern side of the field with a lane bordering the northern edge of the field with the Camddwr Fach valley and current main settlement focus just beyond. Further lanes form the western boundary connecting to other farmsteads in the area. After a relatively level platform the land then rises to the east onto a local summit, divided by a hedgebank, which then overlooks the upper reaches of the bog to the east. Capel y Groes is labelled on 19th century maps sitting in the SW corner of the field, close to the junction of two lanes.

Site History

The site of the possible medieval chapel, Capel y Groes, was identified by the University's Strata Florida Landscape project and recorded within the 2009-10 Wetlands Margins Survey of Cors Caron. It sits on land belonging to Ty Mawr, on the fringes of the hamlet of Swyddffynnon. Swyddffynnon was a medieval settlement, and included the outlying farms of Pengwndwn, Swydd, Ty Mawr and Cruglas. *Fennanoyer* (the medieval name for Swyddffynnon) is mentioned in a grant made by Rhys ap Gruffudd to Strata Florida Abbey sometime between 1165 and 1184. *Finnaun Oyer* appears again shortly afterwards in a grant made by Lord Rhys in 1184. *Fennanoir* appears again in 1198 and as *Finnaun Oyr* in 1202 and *Fennaun Oyer* between 1280 and 1282. The function and character of this location during the medieval period remains opaque, but it is assumed that the village or hamlet was a bond settlement and was perhaps an administrative focus for the monastic grange of Mefenydd.

The first clear mapping evidence for the site comes mainly from the parish tithe map of 1841 and the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889, although a building is suggested in this location on the Ordnance Survey original surveyors drawings of 1821. The tithe map shows a building surrounded by small enclosures at the junction of three roads, described in the accompanying apportionments as 'Capel Groes' a 'House and gardens', part of the holdings of Ty Mawr farm. The northwestern part of what is now a single large field is shown divided into several smaller enclosures on the tithe map, with the enclosure immediately to the east of Capel Groes named as Cae'r Cwrt (Court Field). The name 'Capel y Groes' has lead to the suggestion that this house may formerly have been a chapel; the Groes element may refer to the True Cross, or to a crossroads. The association with other significant names such as Cae'r Cwrt and Ty Mawr may be an indication that this area was the focus of the early settlement

of Swyddffynnon. Also suggested by the fact that immediately to the north of Capel y Groes the HER records a smithy, a corn mill and a corn drying kiln. As an early settlement focus it is considered highly likely that Capel y Groes was originally a chapel of the monastic grange of Mefenydd. The current settlement focus on the west side of the Camddwr Fach may have developed during the 18th and 19th century.

By the time of the first edition 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map of 1889 the field had been amalgamated into much of its current form and Capel Groes, although still standing and labelled, may have been roofless and abandoned.

The site in general is being threatened by low level, but constant, agricultural degradation. Map analysis demonstrates that many of the field boundaries in the area of the site have been removed in the past 170 years, with most going during the latter part of the 20th century. Indeed, the paddocks and enclosures associated with the chapel itself survived until the 1960s. The field that contained the site of the chapel and the possible court is farmed as a single unit and is subjected to occasional ploughing.

Previous Archaeological Work

Over the course of the past few years the University of Wales, TSD has undertaken research into the holdings of Strata Florida, part of a long-running research interest into the Abbey. As part of this project a walk-over survey was undertaken in 2008 on the farmland surrounding Ty Mawr farm, including this field. Several new archaeological sites were identified across the area, including the site of Capel y Groes.

The area was also examined as part of the desk-based research undertaken on the area during the Cadw-funded Wetland Margins Survey (Poucher 2010).

No intrusive archaeological work has been undertaken in the area.

METHODOLOGY

Geophysical Survey Methodology

Initially a geophysical survey was undertaken across the field to help identify underlying archaeological features and specific areas to target with more intrusive excavation. A fluxgate magnetometer (gradiometer) was used for the geophysical survey. This detects variations in the earth's magnetic field (full specifications are in appendix 1). Readings were taken on traverses 0.5m wide and every 0.25m within a 20m x 20m grid across the whole site. Approximately 2.5ha was surveyed. The grid was located and tied into the excavation survey using a Trimble TST.

Limitations

The survey was undertaken over a total of 4 days in August 2010. Weather conditions were mixed but generally dry. The field was under grazed pasture, bounded by post and wire fencing amongst the hedgebanks, which may have obscured some of the readings taken in their immediate vicinity. Overhead power lines crossed the western corner of the field, although these do not appear to have caused any major distortions in the survey results. The field was relatively level but with a sloping ridge crossing to the SE. Pacing lines were used throughout the survey and any variations in the data collections due to ground slope are likely to have been small.

The underlying geology of mudstones of the Derwenlas formation, overlaid with glacial till and freely draining slightly acid loamy soils, did not appear to cause any geological distortions of the geophysical survey results.

Processing and Presentation

Processing was performed using *ArchaeoSurveyor 2.5*, more detailed explanation of the processes involved is described in Appendix 1. The data is presented with a minimum of processing, but the presence of high values caused by large ferrous objects and wire fencing tends to hide fine details and obscure archaeological features, thus the values were 'clipped' to a range from 10nT to –10nT to remove the extreme values allowing the finer details to show through.

The processed data is presented as grey-scale plots overlaid on local topographical features (Figures 4 & 5).

All measurements given are approximate as accurate measurements are difficult to determine from fluxgate gradiometer surveys. The width and length of identified feature can be affected by its relative depth and magnetic strength.

Archaeological Trial Trench Methodology

The archaeological trial trench was opened following the completion of the geophysical survey. The trench was opened by machine (photo 1), removing the topsoil under archaeological supervision and subsequently excavated by hand by a team of professional archaeologists, archaeological students and local volunteers (photos 2 & 3). Archaeological features and deposits were excavated and recorded using standard archaeological techniques, plans were drawn at 1:20, sections drawn at 1:10, digital photographs were taken of all archaeological features, and features and deposits were recorded on pro-forma sheets. A detailed survey was undertaken and the site located on the national Ordnance Survey grid by using a Trimble TST. Finds were labelled and processed off site at a later date.

GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY RESULTS

Geophysical Interpretation

The geophysical survey highlighted numerous possible archaeological remains spread across the whole field. It also showed and confirmed significant archaeological activity around the site marked as 'Capel y Groes' on 19th century map sources. The identified anomalies are discussed by feature numbers below, as shown on Figure 5.

No.1

In the SW corner of the field lies an area of mixed strong magnetic responses. These appear to be mainly a mix of strong bipolar responses, associated positive and negative magnetic readings, which give an indication of a cluster of archaeological activity in this area. Within these responses several linear readings can also be identified forming possible enclosures and boundaries.

These readings clearly relate to the building and its associated enclosures marked as 'Capel Groes' on the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 and the parish tithe map of 1841. The enclosure boundaries marked on these two maps can clearly be picked out on the geophysical survey results, and a mix of readings such as this is often a good indication of concentrated activity expected from an area of occupation like a house. What the survey does also show however, is a concentration of high readings at the southern end of this area, which topographically relates to a relatively level platform slightly overlooking the site of the building. At the northern end, an extra sub-square enclosure not marked on the historic maps is also suggested with its northern boundary running in a SW – NE direction and extending beyond the sub-square enclosure. A variety of readings may also suggest further activity within the enclosure.

It should be noted however that the landowner indicated a water pipe runs through part of the field in this area, although the exact location is unknown.

No.2

A linear anomaly is depicted extending from this area of archaeological activity (No.1) in a southeasterly direction for *c*.50m before curving eastwards and eventually northeastwards to head in the direction of Ty Mawr farmstead. This linear anomaly is formed by mainly darker positive magnetic readings, accompanied by slighter negative readings along its northern edge. Such linear responses are typically indicative of boundary ditch and banks. Topographically this feature also runs along the top of a break of slope separating the hill summit from the lower level land to the NW. Such a boundary is not marked on any historical map source for this area, therefore is likely to predate the 19th century at least.

At its western end are a series of three discrete areas of strong positive readings. Typically such readings may be indicative of cut archaeological features such as pits, although as they occur in the line of a supposed ditch they may relate to features within the fill of the ditch, possibly associated with the activity of neighbouring activity at No.1. This would suggest the two may be contemporaneous, but this is speculative at best, and such relationships are difficult to prove on the basis of geophysical survey results alone. Similar anomalies are visible roughly midway along the linear anomaly, in front of area No.9 (see below), and again may relate to activity associated with No.9. There may also be a gap in the linear anomaly as it begins to curve more eastwards. This may represent an entranceway through the boundary giving access from the lane to Crug-Las farm, itself likely to be a routeway of long-standing.

No.3

Running in a SW – NE direction across much of the western side of the field are two roughly parallel positive linear anomalies. These are most clearly visible running from the southeastern tip of the enclosure around Capel Bethel, towards the high readings around Capel y Groes (No.1). Around 20m from Capel y Groes the linear anomalies turn at a right angle to head in a NW direction towards the edge of the field. At the point of this turn fainter readings also suggest a possible continuation of the lines of these anomalies towards Capel y Groes, aligned with the narrow enclosure on the western side of the building as depicted on the tithe and first edition Ordnance Survey maps.

Beyond the Capel Bethel enclosure the linear anomalies kink slightly more eastwards and continue as magnetically positive anomalies for *c.*20m. Beyond this point the line is continued by faint negative linear anomalies, running in the direction of Ty Mawr.

Enclosed within the linear anomalies are several areas of discrete magnetically positive readings and shorter magnetically positive linear anomalies, as well as areas of magnetically negative readings, which indicates a variety of possible archaeological activity between the two linear features. The nature of these features is uncertain.

The main SW – NE line of this anomaly aligns itself with a former field boundary marked on the tithe map of 1841 that demarcates several smaller enclosures along the northwestern side of the field, fronting the lane that runs to Ty Mawr. The width between the two anomalies may indicate this is more than just a field boundary, and may in fact enclose a trackway. The right-angled turn is somewhat unusual, but the faint continuation towards Capel y Groes aligns with the enclosure to the west of the building that opens out on the road junction to the SW (the former gateway opening can still be seen in the current hedgeline). This may therefore represent a continuation of the trackway from this road junction, heading towards Ty Mawr farm. Further trackways lead eastwards from Ty Mawr farm down to the bog, and possibly across.

No.4

No. 4 is located in a small area in the western corner of the field enclosed by linear anomalies forming part of No.1 and No.3. Within the eastern corner of this area is a spread of bipolar readings (associated positive and negative magnetic readings). This may represent a spread of small metallic objects or similarly a spread of burnt material. It is unclear from the geophysical survey results if these are archaeological features and what their relationship is to the suggested enclosure boundaries of Nos. 1 and 3, or if they represent more modern agricultural detritus amongst the topsoil.

No.5

Similar to No.4 this is an area enclosed between the current boundaries of Capel Bethel and the right-angled turn of No.3. Within this area are faint positive and negative linear anomalies, some of which appear to have right-angled turns, which may indicate small enclosures or building remains. Discrete areas of positive magnetic readings along with general areas of mixed readings above the background magnetic responses suggests a variety of archaeological activity within this area, some of which may relate to domestic activity such as hearths.

No.6

Similar to Nos. 4 & 5 this is a relatively level area fronting the current lane to Ty Mawr farm and enclosed between the current boundary of Capel Bethel, a field boundary around a former dwelling to the NE, and the line of No.3 to the SE.

Within this area are a number of features of possible archaeological origin, mainly towards the NE end of the area. Perhaps the most immediately apparent is a discrete area of strong positive magnetic readings enclosed by associated strong negative magnetic responses. Such responses are often indicators of areas of concentrated heat activity, as may be expected from a hearth or kiln. To the NW lie two linear anomalies of positive magnetic results and possibly associated discrete areas of positive magnetic results. These are often indicative of cut features such as pits and ditches and may be evidence of building remains or further archaeological activity. Similar responses are also visible to the east and SW within this area.

No.7

This large area lies between the linear anomalies of No.2 and No.3. Topographically the northwestern half of this area lies on relatively level land which then rises up a moderate slope on to higher ground to the SE. Several linear anomalies, caused by both relatively faint positive and negative magnetic readings, cross the area from NW to SE. Many appear to be contained within the boundaries defined by Nos. 2 & 3 but the central one appears as if it might extend beyond No.2 and into area No.9. Positive linear anomalies also appear to run at right angles. The regularity of these features suggests they are not natural in origin and may be the result of agricultural activity such as ploughing or drainage.

A spread of discrete areas of positive magnetic readings, and bipolar magnetic readings, may indicate further undefined archaeological activity spread throughout this area, especially as these appear to concentrate to the NW on the level area of land with fewer anomalies visible on the sloping ground.

No.8

Located at the northeastern edge of the survey area is sub-circular feature defined by a curvilinear anomaly of positive magnetic readings. Such positive responses are often indicative of cut features, such as ditches. This defines a sub-circular feature *c.*10m in diameter and such sub-circular features are often typical of Prehistoric archaeological sites. However there could be a range of alternative explanations and further archaeological investigation would be required to characterise and date this feature.

No.9

The summit of the high ground along the southeastern edge of the field is roughly defined by the linear anomaly of No.2. Within the high ground itself, to the SE of No.2, the geophysical survey has revealed several straight linear anomalies, defined by positive magnetic readings, with evidence of right-angled turns. These appear to define a series of enclosures, and possibly even building remains on this higher ground, overlooking the lower level platform to the NW. Further discrete areas of positive and bipolar magnetic responses within these enclosures may also indicate archaeological activity, suggesting activities more intensive than would perhaps be expected from agricultural enclosures. The linear anomaly described in 'No.2' also appears to be straighter and gives stronger positive

magnetic readings at this point. It may also be of note that the current hedgebank to the east curves outwards slightly at this point and topographically there is a slight but distinct hollow in this area that may represent some form of building platform.

Further discrete positive and bipolar responses are spread throughout the area, but it is difficult to say with any certainty if these represent archaeological activity or background readings of more naturally occurring features and objects in the soil. Nothing is indicated on historic map sources to explain these possible enclosures, which would indicate they are earlier features.

Conclusion

As with all geophysical surveys it is often difficult to draw any accurate conclusions about possible underlying features without further intrusive archaeological investigation. The geophysical survey clearly shows a wide range of archaeological activity throughout the entire field, some of which can be explained through comparison with 19th century map sources. An intense area of activity is indicated around the site of Capel y Groes in the western corner of the field, and many of the features can be seen to correspond to a building and surrounding enclosures. Similarly the linear anomaly that runs across the field towards Ty Mawr (No.3) corresponds to a field boundary shown on the tithe map defining enclosures along the northwestern edge of the field. The geophysical survey however clearly shows a greater complexity to these features than is apparent on the maps, with possible extra enclosures and centres of activity around Capel y Groes and a possible trackway alongside the long field boundary.

The range of possible archaeological activity within the enclosures along the northwestern edge of the field and into the level ground behind may be indicative of earlier settlement activity, clearly pre-19th century in date and possibly also medieval in origin. There is also a suggestion of possible Prehistoric activity in this area, which is perhaps unsurprising given the wealth of other Prehistoric activity, from Bronze Age burnt mounds and burial mounds to Iron Age hillforts, that can be found in the region. The enclosures visible on the summit of the hillside are also curious and interesting features. There is no indication of their existence on 19th century maps, which clearly indicates they are earlier, although one may have been either in use or clearly visible when the field boundary to the SE was added. The size of the enclosures and their prominent location may indicate a site of some importance.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION RESULTS (Figure 6 & 7)

The topsoil (101) consisted of a mid grey-brown silty-clay loam spread across the site, which was thicker at the SE end where the ground level began to rise. A large quantity of post-medieval pottery, glassware and ironwork was recovered from the topsoil across the full length of the trench. Much of the pottery was a mix of tablewares and more utilitarian wares, and the ironwork appeared to include parts of agricultural machinery, along with horseshoes and several leather shoes (photo 15). The bulk of the closely dateable pottery appeared to be 19th and early 20th century in date, with some 17th and 18th century pottery amongst it and a quantity of Devon gravel-tempered ware that could have a broad post-medieval date range. The range of finds clearly indicates post-medieval domestic activity, centred mainly in the 19th century, but with some possible 17th and 18th century activity. The finds also suggest agricultural and possibly also some limited ironworking activity.

Building

Underlying the topsoil was a mortared floor level (106) and flattened bedrock floor base (111) enclosed by remnants of a wall 104 (photos 4, 5 & 8) to the SE and linear construction cut (113) to the NW (photos 6, 7, 8 & 9). The clean-up layer (102) overlying the floor levels, which was fairly indefinable from the topsoil, included a range of 19th and 20th century kitchen- and tablewares, along with large quantities of ironwork (including an iron chain-link and hook) and a leather shoe (photo 16). Along with the topsoil five small fragments of roofing slate were also recovered.

The easternmost wall (104) consisted of the low, and possibly robbed out remains of a drystone, or clay-bonded wall, orientated NE – SW (photos 4, 5 & 8). The wall was 0.7m wide and ran for at least 2.7m but faded out to the north, possibly as a result of robbing, as no return was discernible. The wall was built of large to very-large sub-angular stone, with no facing visible on the external (SE) side. Internally a line of thin upright stones had been placed against the face of the wall, up to which the internal floor surface (106) ran. Ground levels rose to the SE and the wall sat within a stepped construction cut (103). It had been built tight against the lower step, the upper reaches backfilled with a stony mid-brown silty-clay (114), which contained no finds.

Lying 4.2m to the NW was a stepped cut (113) on a very similar alignment (photos 6, 7, 8 & 9). This was an L-shaped cut with a steep straight southeastern edge dropping down 0.15m on to a flat base 0.63m wide. This then dropped again along its NW edge another 0.1m. This stepped cut extends from the southern edge of the trench in a NE direction for 2.6m before the NW ground level rises to the level of the first L-shaped cut, making the northern 1m a simple L-shape cut rather than a stepped cut. No walling remains were visible within this cut, but the orientation and occurrence at the NW edge of the floor surface strongly suggests this is the NW wall of a building defined by the floor and wall 104. It is possible this wall may have been completely robbed of stone, but the occurrence of stone within wall 104, and in wall 138 to the NW would seem to suggest this thoroughness in robbing is unlikely. It may indicate therefore that this section of the building was constructed on a timber beam or similar.

Construction cut 113 was not filled by any clearly identifiable deposit, but was overlaid by 109 and 110. Layer 109 was a firm mid grey silty-clay with stones along its base, and showing tipping from the east. This deposit spread across the cut, and was not contained by it. It contained a variety of domestic pottery, mostly 19th century in date, and a small collection of thin, flat, clear glass, possibly window glass, and was the only deposit on the site to contain this. This

was in turn overlain by a concentrated spread of stones (110), possibly rubble, and containing some 19th century tableware pottery. These walls align quite closely to the extent of the building as depicted on the first edition 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.

In between the two walls was a fairly level, laid floor surface, with a slight slope of *c*.0.15m down to the NW, partly accounted for by the removal/truncation of the laid floor surface to the NW (photo 10). To the SE the floor surface (106) consists of cemented or hard-packed stone in a sandy-clay, smoothed on its surface. Several small iron nodules lie amongst this surface, it is unclear if these represent the remains of nails or pins driven into the floor surface, or are accidental inclusions within the floor deposit. Where this laid surface disappears to the NW the underlying bedrock (111) has been levelled off to accommodate it. To the SE this surface runs up against a line of vertical stones placed against the base of wall 104. It is also overlaid by a spread of angular stones (105), covering an area 1.6m long, 0.36m wide and laid butting against wall 104. This spread is 0.1m thick, with a relatively level surface, but not smooth and therefore not considered to represent a domestic floor surface. It also ends abruptly along its NW edge suggesting a deliberately laid deposit rather than part of the demolition/collapse, although its function is unclear.

The floor surface (106) is cut by several linear and curvilinear features, some of which appear to be intercutting, but none of which were excavated. The latest feature would appear to be a curvilinear ditch or gully 126, 0.35m wide, extending in a NW direction from, and possibly underlying, deposit 105. It ran for 2.4m before curving slightly to the north and extending a further 0.9m cutting through feature 128. It may also cut feature 122, but the relationship here is uncertain. It contains a dark-grey silty-clay fill, but is capped with large flat grey stone, level with the floor surface of the room. The capping would suggest this may represent a drainage feature, but it does not appear to drain to a specific area, although feature 128, through which it cuts, is a similar possible drainage feature that does run beyond the NW wall of the building. The fact it is capped level to the floor surface also indicates it is likely to be contemporary with the use of the building.

Feature 122 is a similar curvilinear ditch or gully containing a mid grey silty-clay fill with the occasional large flat stone level with the floor surface (photos 12 & 13). This feature is somewhat sinuous and extends for 3.1m from the southern trench-edge. It appears to end at the point where 126 begins to curve to the north, and may in fact continue northwards accounting for this curve. This would then make it 4m long and perhaps make more sense as a drainage feature if it drained from this northern edge (close to area 131) down to the south. Feature 126 could then in turn drain into this, although the function of a drain running into the centre of the building is unclear. This feature varies from 0.25m wide at its southern end, to 0.45m wide at its northern end.

Feature 124 has a very similar fill, in fact the two are indistinguishable, and curves off in a westward direction heading for the western edge of the building, but fading out just before (photo 12). The upper levels here may have been truncated however, as it has already been noted that the floor surface 106 has been truncated away by this point. Feature 124 is 1.35m long, 0.25m wide.

Feature 126/122 appears to cut a similar, but straight, stone-filled gully (128) that runs in a SE - NW direction for 1.8m (photos 12, 13 & 14). It is 0.15m wide, and has a squared SE end, and emerges into the side of construction cut 113 at the NW end, there is no clear indication of it extending beyond cut 113. The fill is very stony, the generally flat stones have been placed on their edges in a SE – NW alignment. At its SE end there is a gap of 0.18m, then a similar sized feature (130) with a squared end extends the line for a further 0.38m to the SE, although

the SE terminus of this is uncertain. It contains a similar fill, but it is not as noticeably stony.

Against the NE trench edge, close to the terminus of feature 126/122, and adjacent to features 128 and 130, the exposed bedrock floor has been heat-reddened in a semi-circular area (131), although no structural features are positively associated (photo 11).

Yard

On the NW side of the building, as defined by construction cut 113, there is a linear area *c.*1.5m wide with a slightly concave base running parallel to 113 before the ground begins to rise slightly again. This may represent a passage or pathway in front of the building. Within this lies a small circular posthole (120), measuring 0.28m in diameter and containing a single fill of mid brown-grey silty-clay, but with no finds (photos 18 & 19).

To the NW the ground level drops away slightly, represented in part by cut 108 and partly visible in the SW facing section of the trench. This forms a roughly linear channel or depression up to *c*.4m wide, running in a NE – SW direction before the ground level then begins to rise slightly and levels off again to the NW. This depression was filled with a dark grey silty-clay loam (107), very similar to the topsoil, but slightly darker. It also contained a similar spread of mainly 19th century pottery and glassware, along with an assortment of ironwork including some horseshoes and possible axle parts, and a leather shoe (photo 18). The base of this depression was uneven and showed no clear signs of rutting, however, it does align with a possible trackway identified on the geophysical survey (No.3). A rough spread of stones (140) did extend into this depressed area that may represent a former surface (photos 20 & 21), but they were rather loosely laid within the depression and may in fact be collapse or demolition from a later boundary wall visible to the north (138).

This wall (138) was drystone or clay-bonded, built of large grey stone, laid at an angle, in a semi-herringbone style (photos 22 & 23). Only fragmentary remnants of the wall remains, a single course high (0.28m) and 2.1m long. It runs in a SE – NW direction, at right-angles to the walls of the nearby building (104 & 113), and at a slight angle to the trench, so protrudes *c*.0.4m into the trench. The alignment with the building suggests the two are contemporary, and 19th century pottery can be seen amongst the stones in the section. The semi-herringbone style is reminiscent of local field boundary walls rather than weight-bearing building walls. When compared to the first edition 1:2500 this section of walling aligns closely to a boundary enclosing the entranceway to the site. The map shows this boundary returning to the SW, which also occurs at the point where wall 138 fades out, suggesting the return was robbed away. If the trackway, as suggested by the depression, did run through this area then the map clearly shows that by the late 19th century it had been blocked off by this boundary and was therefore out of use.

Within this area, to the south of wall 138, is a cluster of small stakeholes (142, 144, 146 and 148) (photo 24), with the possibility of further unexcavated stakeholes being present. It is unclear what this may relate to, but presumably activity within the enclosure as defined by wall 138, rather than activity on the possible earlier trackway.

Similarly, running parallel to wall 138, but 2.3m to the SW, is a line of three possible postholes (135, 137 & 140) (photos 25 & 26). The postholes vary from 0.2 to 0.4m in diameter and all have somewhat uncertain edges, but fills that include large stones which may represent post-packing stones. Their alignment

would suggest these relate to activity contemporary to the enclosure, although no finds were recovered from the fills.

To the NW the ground level rises, both roughly in line with the edge of the enclosure as depicted on the first edition OS map and also in line with the edge of the possible trackway. No readily identifiable features were identified to the NW although this area was not closely cleaned.

Early features

No medieval artefacts were recovered from any features associated with the building remains, which appears to be mainly 18th and 19th century in date, with some evidence of 17th century activity. To the SE beyond wall 104 a shallow sub-rectangular pit (116) was cut into the rising subsoils (photo 27). The pit measured 1.1m NW – SE and 1.45m NE – SW. The southwestern edge lay partly under the side of the trench, but the break of slope at the base was visible indicating the SW edge lay very close to the edge of the trench. The single fill consisted of a mid yellow-brown clayey-silt which appears to have been a backfilling deposit, giving no evidence as to the function of the pit. Within this fill several small fragments of an unglazed gravel-tempered red earthenware were recovered, believed to be medieval in date, but not closely dated.

To the NE further excavation revealed a 1.45m wide linear ditch (133) running in an ESE – WNW direction (photos 28, 29 & 30). The ditch had a concave profile with moderately sloping edges, 0.4m deep. It contained two fills, the upper fill was a mid yellow-grey clayey-silt with frequent gravel inclusions. This deposit was similar to the natural subsoils and may be a redeposited subsoil. It also showed evidence of having been tipped in from the west. This overlay a mid grey-brown clayey-silt showing similar tip-lines. Neither deposit produced any finds or charcoal flecks. The base of the ditch is relatively level and extends beyond the SE extent of the trench, appearing to maintain its level, despite the rising ground level in this direction. Despite this it does not appear to be visible on the geophysical survey results. To the west the line of the ditch continues underneath the remains of wall 104, although the ground has been cut away to a level close to the base of the ditch in order to accommodate the level floor of the building. However, where the floor deposit 106 has been removed on the NW side of the building, the continuation of the ditch is clearly visible (as 118) (photo 31). This extends as far as construction cut 113 which cuts down below the base level of the ditch, effectively truncating any further continuation to the west. This continuation would make the ditch at least 9m long, but it clearly originally continued further in both directions. The lack of finds means there is no date for this ditch, there was also a lack of any charcoal within the fills suitable for radiocarbon dating, but its regular linear appearance clearly indicates it was created by human activity and pre-dates the construction of the building.

CONCLUSION

The excavation found evidence of building remains, represented by one stone wall and the construction cut for a possible timber wall, with laid floor surface in between. Finds indicate this building was in occupation from the 18th through to the early 20th century, and may have been in use in the 17th century, but there is no indication it has medieval origins. Pottery also indicates this was a domestic building, but may have been engaged in agri-industrial activities due to the quantity of utility wares, ironwork and shoes discovered, along with an unusual arrangement of drains within the floor of the building. A possible passageway or pathway appears to run up the western side of the building, with rising ground to the east. This building corresponds closely to the building remains visible on the tithe map of 1841 and the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. A further segment of walling to the west corresponds to the enclosures associated with this building as depicted on the same maps. A rough depression in this area may be an indication of an earlier trackway passing through as suggested on the geophysical survey, which was subsequently blocked off to act as an adjacent yard for the building.

This building does not appear to be the remains of a medieval chapel. No clear evidence of a medieval chapel site was uncovered within the study area during this excavation. A single medieval pit was uncovered adjacent to the post-medieval building, and alongside this ran an undated ditch, although clearly pre-dating the post-medieval building, all suggesting earlier (i.e. pre 17th/18th century) activity in the immediate vicinity. This is also suggested by the geophysical survey results that clearly show a range of archaeological activity throughout the entire field. This includes possible settlement activity along the level, lower ground fronting the northwestern edge of the field with a possible trackway and agricultural activity behind. Further enclosures and possible settlement activity is also suggested on the ridge overlooking this area. This activity pre-dates the 19th century map sources, but clearly has some bearing on trackways and field boundaries that are marked on those maps, which may indicate an earlier post-medieval or even medieval date for this activity. Possible Prehistoric archaeology is also suggested on the geophysical survey results.

Further archaeological excavation would be required in order to characterise the spread of archaeological remains suggested by the geophysical survey. The current excavation concentrated in an area of known archaeology, as depicted on historic map sources, as the likeliest site for the supposed medieval chapel. Many of the remaining features identified on the geophysical survey are not marked on any historic maps.

Despite finding no definite evidence of a medieval chapel site the excavation does not prove that one did not stand in this area, as several potential locations still exist. Clearly the building depicted on historic map sources, and labelled as Capel y Groes, does not have medieval origins, but by that stage the chapel remains may have disappeared leaving jut the name, which was then adopted by a later building. Medieval activity in the area has been shown, and the geophysical survey also shows a concentration of readings on a level platform immediately to the SW of the current investigations that suggests itself as another potential chapel site.

SOURCES

Poucher, P., 2010 *Wetland Margins Survey Cors Caron.* Dyfed Archaeological Trust Report No. 2009/56

Maps

Anon 1841 *Lledrod Parish Tithe Map*.

Ordnance Survey 1820 - 21 *Original Surveyor's Drawings Sheet 314*

Ordnance Survey 1889 *1st edition 1:2500 Cardiganshire XXI.2*

Ordnance Survey 1905 *2nd edition 1:2500 Cardiganshire XXI.2*

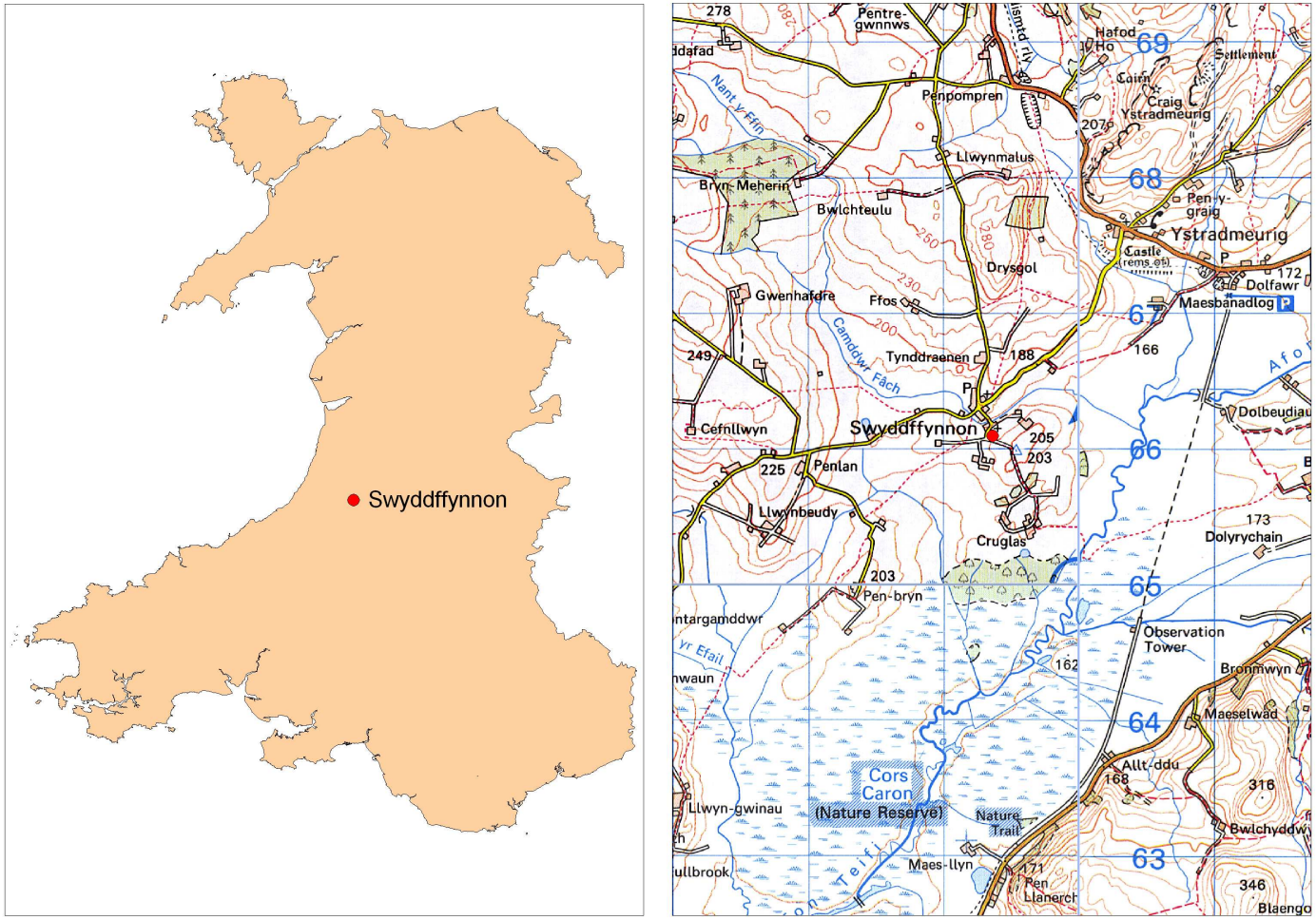

Figure 1: Location map, based on the Ordnance Survey.

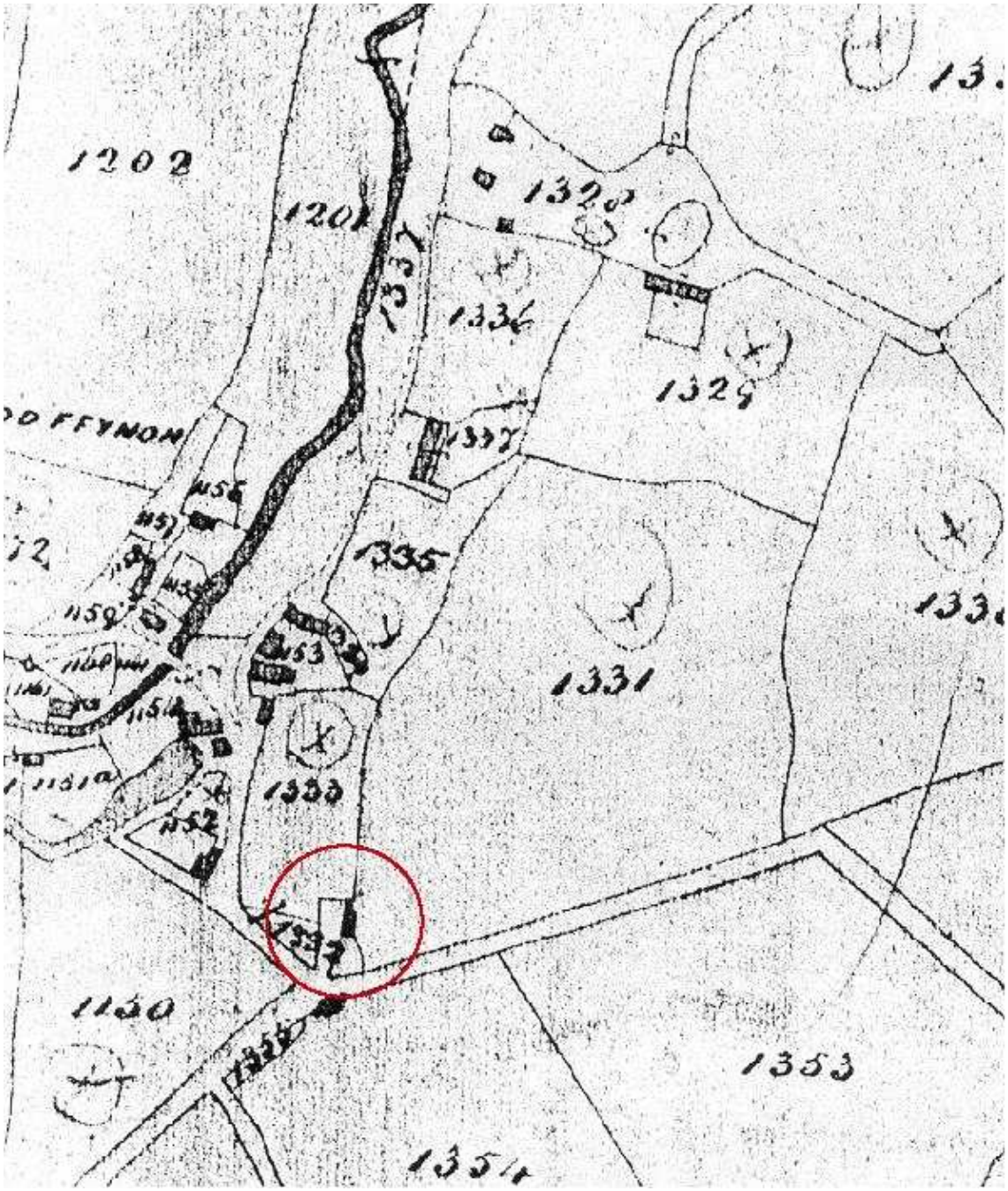

Figure 2: Extract from the Lledrod Parish Tithe map of 1844, showing the 'House and gardens' called Capel Groes, circled in red. North is to the top left.

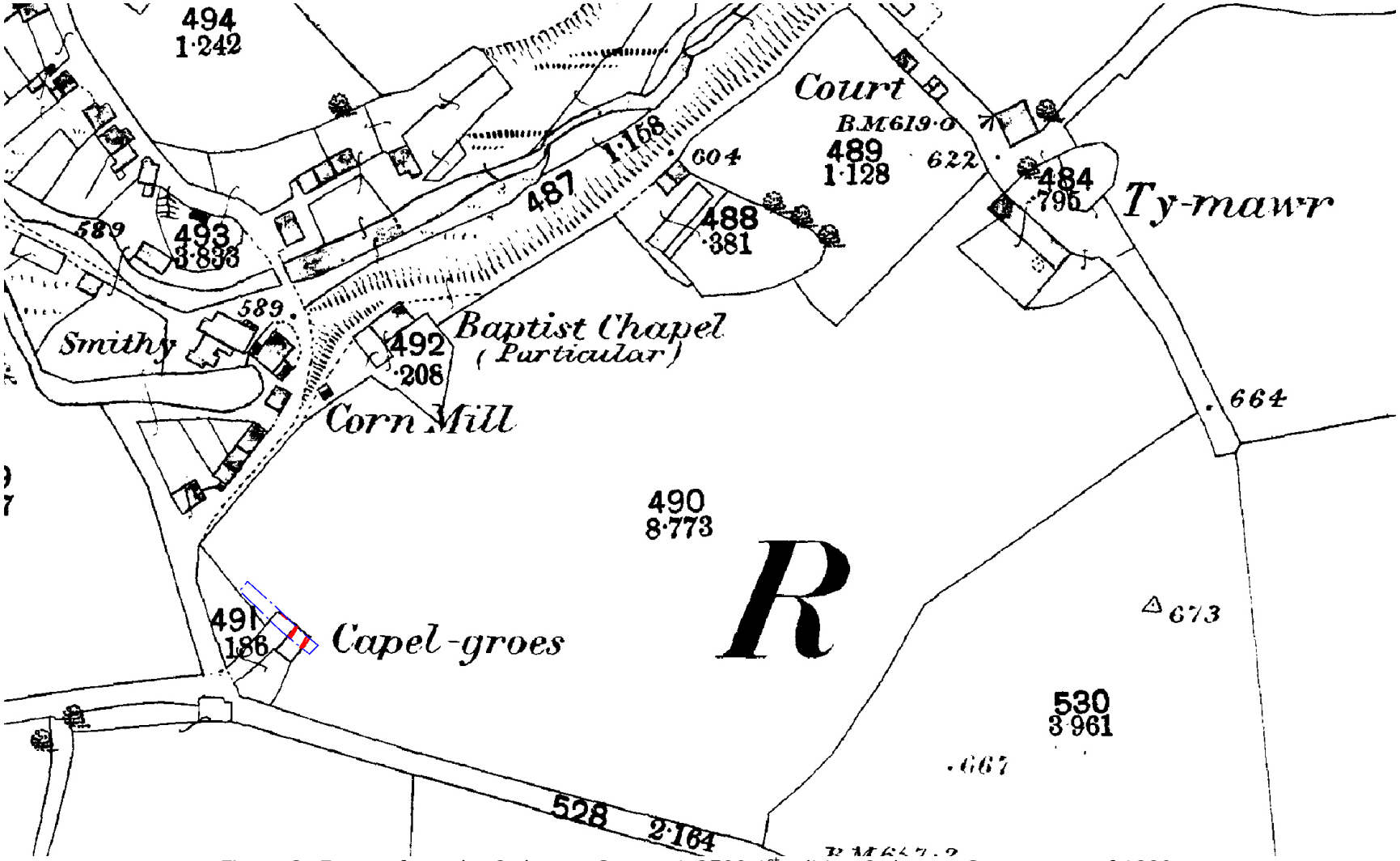

Figure 3: Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889. The excavation trench is overlaid in blue, with the recorded walls in red.

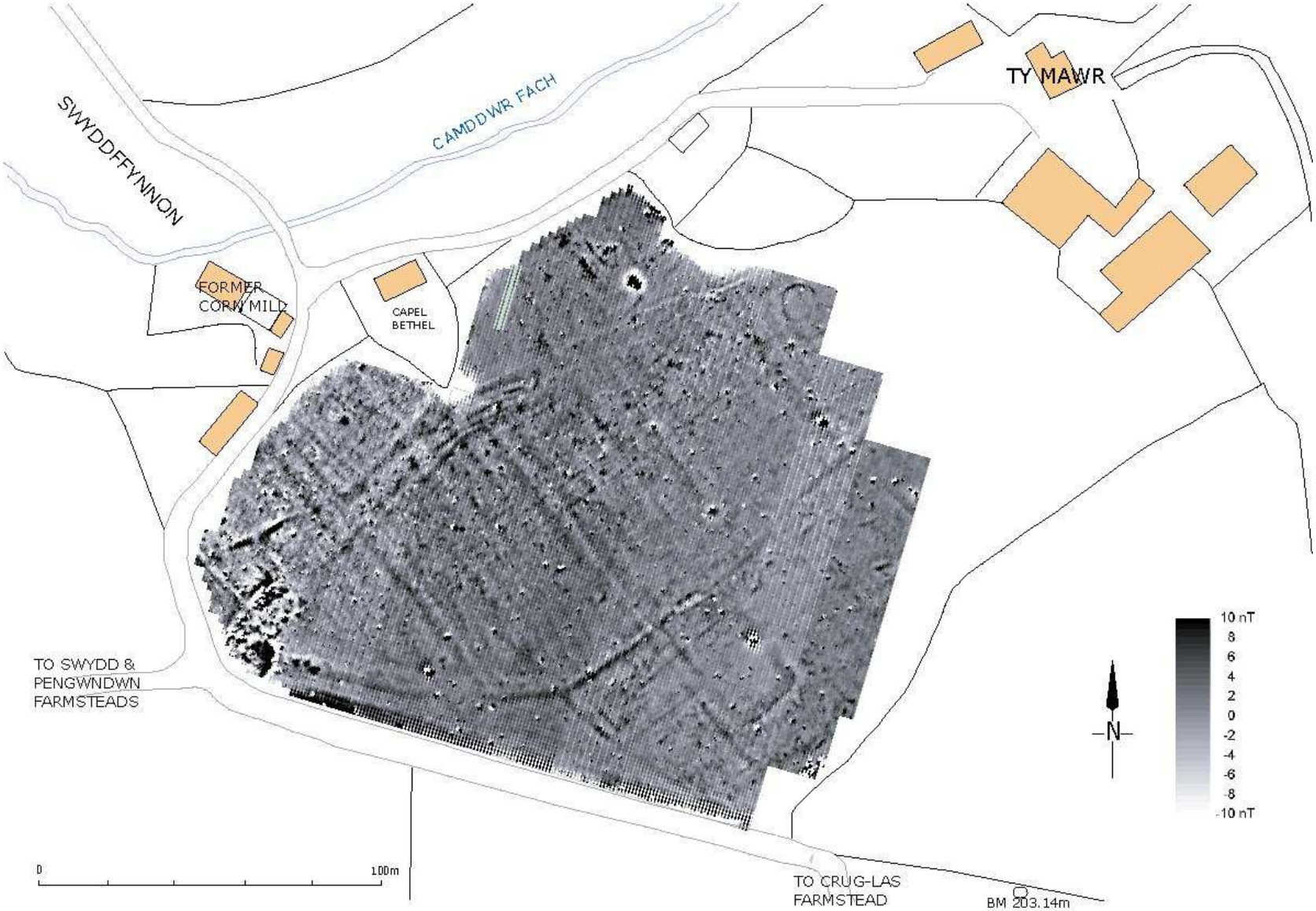

Figure 4: Geophysical survey results as a greyscale plot overlaid on local topographical features.

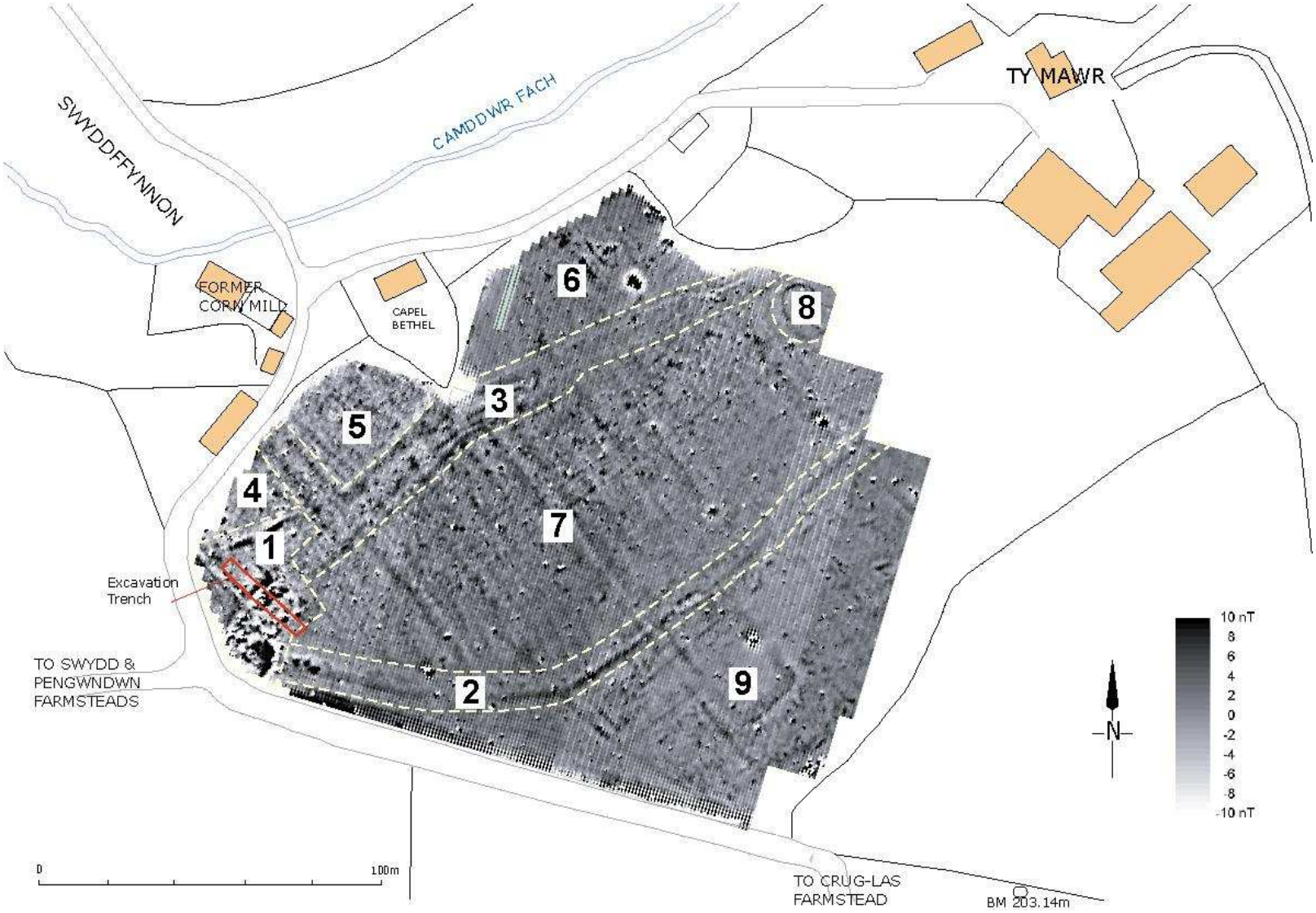

Figure 5: Interpretation of the geophysical survey results. Number refer to the 'Geophysical Survey Results – geophysical interpretation' section in the main text. The excavation trench is outlined in red.

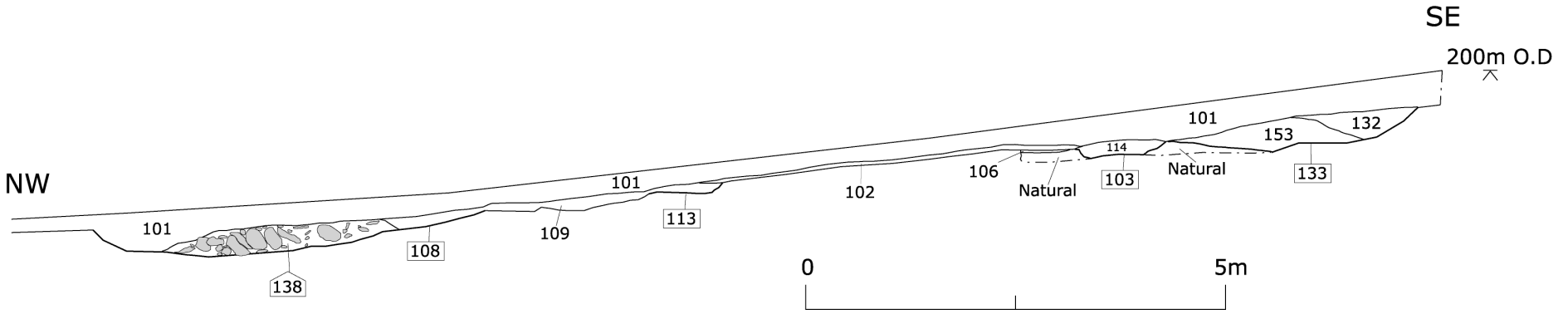

Figure 6: Southwest facing section of the first 17m of the Trench

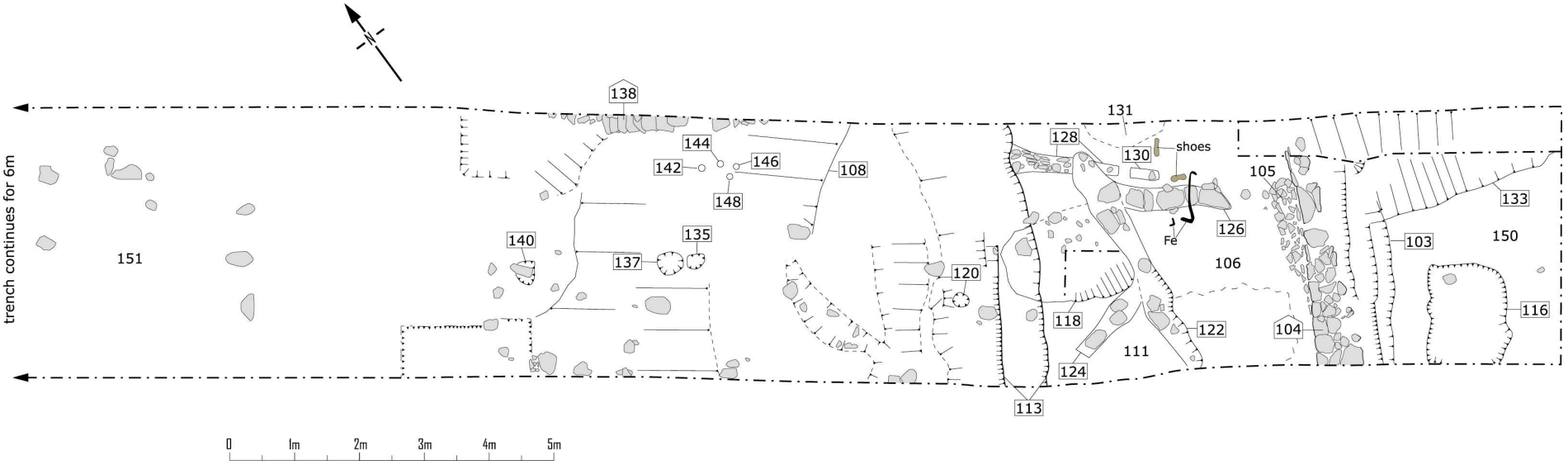

Figure 7: Post-excavation plan of the Trench

Photo 1: General shot of machine beginning to open the trench.

Photo 2: View NW as the trench is being hand-cleaned.

Photo 3: General working shot of the excavation, looking NW.

Photo 4: View looking NE along wall 104, also showing the facing of upright stones along its left-hand side with the small spread of stones 105 at the top left. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 5: View looking SW along wall 104 after the excavation of its external construction cut 103. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 6: View looking SW along construction cut 113 for the western wall. Overlying deposit 110 has been partially excavated in the centre. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 7: View looking NE along construction cut 113, also showing the area of flattened bedrock/subsoil floor surface 111. The darker fill of ditch 118 can also be seen in the centre under the scales. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 8: General shot looking NE of the internal floor of the post-medieval building. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 9: General view looking SE across the area of the post-medieval building. Construction cut 113 crosses in the foreground. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 10: General shot looking SW of the internal floor of the post-medieval building. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 11: View SW, showing area of heat-affected ground (131) in front of feature 130 and the stone-capped feature 126. An iron hook and chain lies over 126, with a leather shoe adjacent to the hook. 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 12: View looking east at the internal floor surface 111/106, with the scales arranged alongside features 122 and 124. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 13: View SW of the end of features 122 and 126 cutting through feature 128 that lies just beyond the horizontal scale. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 14: View SE along stone-filled feature 128, with stone-capped feature 126 in the background. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 15: Leather shoe within deposit 101. 0.5m scale.

Photo 16: Leather shoe within deposit 102. 0.5m scale.

Photo 17: Leather shoe within deposit 107. 0.5m scale.

Photo 18: NW facing shot of posthole 120, pre-excavation. 0.5m scale.

Photo 19: SW facing shot of posthole 120, half-sectioned. 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 20: NE facing shot of stony spread 140 within feature 108. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 21: SE facing shot of layer 140 on the left. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 22: NE facing of wall 138 visible in the Trench section. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 23: Plan shot of wall 138 protruding from the NE section. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 24: SW facing shot of stakeholes 142, 144, 146 & 148. 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 25: NE facing shot of possible posthole 140 with a packing stone still in situ. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 26: NE facing shot of possible postholes 137 (on the left) and 135 (on the right). 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 27: SW facing shot of pit 116. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 28: NW facing shot along the trench, showing the edge of ditch 133 to the right of, and parallel to, the horizontal 1m scale. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 29: Shot of the SW facing section at the eastern end of the trench. The two fills (132 & 153) of ditch 133 are faintly visible. 1 x 1m scale.

Photo 30: As above but adjoining part of the section to the NW. The cut into the lighter subsoils visible to the left of the horizontal scale is a continuation of construction cut 103, although clearly wall 104 has been robbed away at this point. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scale.

Photo 31: SE facing shot showing the unexcavated ditch 118, visible as a darker area of soil (fill 117) underneath the scales, cut into the floor surface 111. 1 x 1m & 1 x 0.5m scales.

Photo 32: SW facing shot of the section of the sondage cut through the natural subsoils at the NW end of the trench. Shows deposits 151 and 152. 1 x 1m scale.

Photo 33: N facing shot of the trench prior to backfilling.

Photo 34: NW facing shot of the trench prior to backfilling.

APPENDIX 1: Geophysical methodology and instrumentation

Geophysical Survey Instrumentation

A fluxgate gradiometer survey provides a relatively swift and completely non-invasive method of surveying large areas.

The survey was carried out using a Bartington Grad601-2 dual Fluxgate Gradiometer, which uses a pair of Grad-01-100 sensors. These are high stability fluxgate gradient sensors with a 1.0m separation between the sensing elements, giving a strong response to deeper anomalies.

The instrument detects variations in the earth's magnetic field caused by the presence of iron in the soil. This is usually in the form of weakly magnetised iron oxides, which tend to be concentrated in the topsoil. Features cut into the subsoil and backfilled or silted with topsoil therefore contain greater amounts of iron and can therefore be detected with the gradiometer. There are, however, other processes and materials that can produce detectable anomalies. The most obvious is the presence of pieces of iron in the soil or immediate environs, which usually produce very high readings and can mask the relatively weak readings produced by variations in the soil. Archaeological features such as hearths or kilns also produce strong readings because fired clay acquires a permanent thermo-remnant magnetic field upon cooling. This material can also get spread into the surrounding soil leading to a more generalised magnetic enhancement around settlement sites.

Not all surveys produce good results as anomalies can also be masked by large magnetic variations in the bedrock or soil or high levels of natural background "noise" (interference consisting of random signals produced by material within the soil). In some cases, there may be little variation between the topsoil and subsoil resulting in features being un-detectable. It must therefore be stressed that a lack of detectable anomalies cannot be taken to mean that that there are no below ground archaeological features.

The Bartington Grad601 is a hand-held instrument and readings can be taken automatically as the operator walks at a constant speed along a series of fixed length traverses. The sensor consists of two vertically aligned fluxgates set 1.0m apart. Their Mumetal cores are driven in and out of magnetic saturation by an alternating current passing through two opposing driver coils. As the cores come out of saturation, the external magnetic field can enter them producing an electrical pulse proportional to the field strength in a sensor coil. The high frequency of the detection cycle produces what is in effect a continuous output (Clark 1996).

The gradiometer can detect anomalies down to a depth of approximately one metre. The magnetic variations are measured in nanoTeslas (nT). The earth's magnetic field strength is about 48,000 nT; typical archaeological features produce readings of below 15nT although burnt features and iron objects can result in changes of several hundred nT. The instrument is capable of detecting changes as low as 0.1nT.

Geophysical Survey Data Collection

The gradiometer includes an on-board data-logger. Readings in the surveys were taken along parallel traverses of one axis of a grid made up of 20m x 20m squares. The traverse intervals were either 0.5m or 1.0m apart. Readings were logged at intervals of 0.25m along each traverse giving 3200 readings per grid square (medium resolution on 0.5m traverses), or 1600 readings per grid square (low resolution on 1.0m traverses).

Geophysical Survey Data presentation

The data was transferred from the data-logger to a computer where it was compiled and processed using ArchaeoSurveyor 2.5 software. The data is presented as grey-scale plot where data values are represented by modulation of the intensity of a grey scale within a rectangular area corresponding to the data collection point within the grid. This produces a plan view of the survey and allows subtle changes in the data to be displayed. A separate grey-scale plot with interpretation of the main features is also included as necessary.

Geophysical Survey Data Processing

The data is presented with a minimum of processing although corrections are made to compensate for instrument drift and other data collection inconsistencies. High readings caused by stray pieces of iron, fences, etc are usually modified on the grey scale plot as they have a tendency to compress the rest of the data. The data is however carefully examined before this procedure is carried out as kilns and other burnt features can produce similar readings. The data on some noisy or very complex sites can benefit from 'smoothing'. Grey-scale plots are always somewhat pixellated due to the resolution of the survey. This at times makes it difficult to see less obvious anomalies. The readings in the plots can therefore be interpolated thus producing more but smaller pixels and a small amount of low pass filtering can be applied. This reduces the perceived effects of background noise thus making anomalies easier to see. Any further processing is noted in relation to the individual plot.

Reliability

Geophysical survey is an immensely useful tool but it should be realised that while a survey will detect a wide range of features, it may not detect *all* buried features. A gradiometer survey detects changes in magnetic flux density and relies on there being a detectable difference between the archaeology and the substrate. This may not occur for many reasons (e.g. a cut feature being backfilled with subsoil). It must therefore be stressed that a lack of archaeological responses from a geophysical survey does not prove that there is no archaeology present.

Grid locations

The survey grids were located by measurements to fixed points such as field boundaries located during the survey.

Bibliography

Clark A J, 1996, *Seeing Beneath the Soil* (2nd edition). Batsford, London.

APPENDIX 2: Finds

CONTEXT NO.	TYPE	DESCRIPTION	DATE	QUANTITY
101	Glass	Mostly clear bottle glass, some brown bottle glass and a few fragments of opaque pale blue glass	19th & 20th century	Multiple fragments (1/3 tray)
	Glass	Lime-bake glass & true cylinders	19th & early 20th century	Multiple fragments (½ tray)
	Pottery	Staffordshire ware	19th & 20th century	Multiple sherds (½ tray)
	Pottery	Sliptrailed ware (not Staffordshire or Bristol wares), probably Welsh wares	Post-medieval	4 sherds
	Pottery	Assorted stonewares	Post-medieval	Multiple sherds (1/3 tray)
	Pottery	Banded creamwares & whitewares	Post-medieval	Multiple sherds (¼ tray)
	Pottery	Mocca ware	19th century	Multiple sherds (1/8 tray)
	Pottery	Mocca-type wares	Post-medieval	Multiple sherds (¼ tray)
	Pottery	Devon gravel-tempered ware & gravel-free ware	16th to 19th century (generally 17th-18th century)	Multiple sherds (1/3 tray)
	Pottery	'Buckley-type' ware and black-glazed red earthenwares	Prob. 19th century	Multiple sherds (1 tray)
	Pottery	Plain wares and decorated earthenwares, some china	19th & 20th century	?
	Pottery	Tin-glazed English earthenwares	Pre 19th century, usually 17th & 18th century	2 sherds
	Pottery	Assorted Spongewares & painted wares	19th century	Multiple sherds (¾ tray)
	Pottery	Drainage pipes	Post-medieval	?
	Pottery	Lustre ware	19th century	3 sherds
	Pottery	Transfer-printed earthenware	19th century	Multiple sherds (¾ tray)
	Clay pipe	Stem & heel	?	2 fragments
	CBM	Unidentifiable	?	?
	Stone	Roofing slates	?	4 fragments
	Coal		?	2 fragments

	Lime	Fragment of lime for agriculture	?	1 fragment
	Metal object	Brass decoration, possible lamp base	?	1 fragment
	Metal objects	Unsorted mixed ironwork including tongs, horseshoes.	?	Multiple objects (1 bucket)
	Metal object	Iron-slag	?	9 fragments
	Leather	Leather shoe sole, banded in iron	?	2 shoes
102	Glass	Dark and clear bottle glass along with some opaque pale-blue glass	19th /20th century	14 fragments
	Glass	Lime-bake glass	19th & early 20th century	5 fragments
	Pottery	'Buckley-type' ware	Prob. 19th century	7 sherds
	Pottery	Banded creamwares & whitewares	Post-medieval	1 sherd
	Pottery	Transfer-printed earthenwares	19th century	2 sherds
	Pottery	Miscellaneous earthenwares	Post-medieval	4 sherds
	Pottery	Devon gravel-tempered ware	16th to 19th century (generally 17th-18th century)	1 sherd
	Stone	Roofing slate	?	1 fragment
	Metal objects	Unsorted ironwork, including an iron hook and chain-link	?	Multiple objects (½ bucket)
	Leather	Leather strap with iron-rimmed holes	?	1 fragment
	Leather	Leather shoe sole with heel and metal banding	?	1 shoe sole
104	Pottery	'Buckley-type' ware & black-glazed red earthenwares	Prob. 19th century	1 sherd
107	Glass	Mixed, including dark bottle glass, clear bottle glass, light brown glass and decorated glass. Includes a complete ink-bottle.	?	Multiple fragments (¾ tray)
	Buttons	2 cream opaque, 1 clear	?	3 buttons
	Pottery	Staffordshire ware	19th & 20th century	Multiple sherds (1 tray)
	Pottery	'Buckley-type' kitchen/dairy wares & other black-glazed red earthenwares	Likely 19th century	Multiple sherds (¾ tray)
	Pottery	English stonewares, dripping jars?	19th & 20th century	13 sherds
	Pottery	Utility earthenwares	19th & 20th century	Multiple sherds (1/3 tray)

	Pottery	Miscellaneous earthenwares & some bone china	19th & 20th century	Multiple sherds (½ tray)
	Pottery	Banded cream and white-wares, utility wares	19th & 20th century	Multiple sherds (¼ tray)
	Pottery	Mocha ware	19th century	1 sherd
	Pottery	Sponge decorated & printed wares	19th century	Multiple sherds (½ tray)
	Pottery	Transfer printed earthenware, includes one piece with writing "..Exhibit.. ….1888….."	19th century	Multiple sherds (½ tray)
	Metal objects	Large fragments of ironwork, possible from a vehicle - includes possible axle/suspension arm	?	3 objects
	Metal objects	Unsorted ironwork, includes horseshoes	?	Multiple objects (¾ bucket)
	Metal object	Decorated copper/brass object	?	1 object
	Bone	Unidentified, burnt fragment	?	1 fragment
	Leather	One shoe sole, banded in metal and one shoe strap	?	1 shoe
109	Glass	Mixed, including dark bottle glass and clear decorated glass	?	10 fragments
	Glass	Clear, flat glass – possible window glass	?	20 fragments
	Pottery	Devon gravel-tempered ware	16th to 19th century (generally 17th-18th century)	16 sherds
	Pottery	Utility earthenware	19th & 20th century	9 sherds
	Pottery	Miscellaneous earthenwares	19th & 20th century	19 sherds
	Pottery	'Buckley-type' ware/black-glazed red earthenwares	Likely 19th century	7 sherds
	Pottery	Staffordshire ware	19th & 20th century	5 sherds
	Pottery	Transfer-printed earthenware	19th century	3 sherds
	Pottery	Banded creamware	19th & 20th century	1 sherd
	Metal objects	Unsorted ironwork including horseshoes	?	Multiple objects (¾ bucket)
110	Pottery	Sponge decorated ware	19th century	3 sherds
112	Pottery	'Buckley-type' ware	Likely 19th century	1 sherd
	Pottery	English stoneware	19th /20th century	1 sherd
	Metal object	Iron? slag	?	1 fragment

115	Pottery	Unglazed gravel-tempered earthenware	?Medieval	4 sherds
	Metal object	Unidentified slag	?	1 fragment
117	Stone	Burnt (blackened) stone	?	1 fragment

CAPEL Y GROES, SWYDDFFYNNON, CEREDIGION ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NUMBER 2010/50

Mawrth 2011
March 2011

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by

Philip Poucher

Swydd / Position: Archaeologist

Llofnod / Signature ... ... Dyddiad / Date 31/03/11

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith
This report has been checked and approved by

James Meek

ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: Head of Field Services

Llofnod / Signature .. Dyddiad / Date 31/03/11

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report