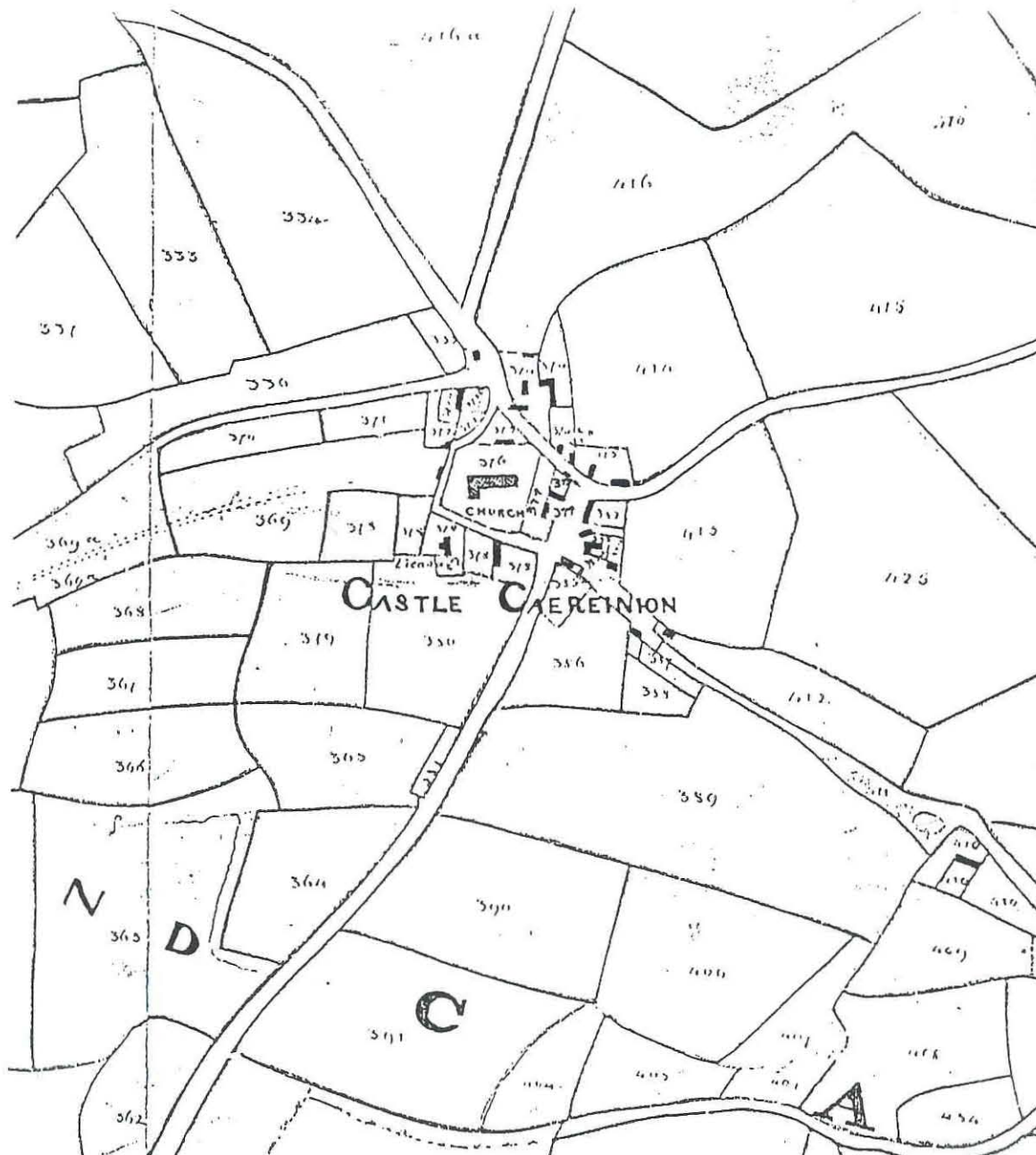


THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Land adjacent to The Row, Castle Caereinion, Powys ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



CPAT Report No 444

CPAT Report No 444

**Land adjacent to The Row,
Castle Caereinion, Powys**
ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

R Hankinson
November 2001

Report for Powis Castle Estate

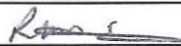
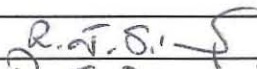
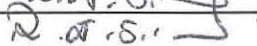
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CPAT Report Record

Report and status

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Internal memo

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CONTENTS

- 1 INTRODUCTION
- 2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY
- 3 DESK-TOP STUDY
- 4 EVALUATION
- 5 CONCLUSIONS
- 6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
- 7 REFERENCES

APPENDIX 1: SPECIFICATION

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT ARCHIVE

FIGURES

PLATES

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In August 2001 the Contracts Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) was invited by Munro Associates of Shrewsbury, acting for the Powis Castle Estates in Welshpool, to prepare a specification and quotation for undertaking an archaeological evaluation of land adjacent to The Row, Castle Caereinion, Powys. The evaluation process was in relation to a planning application for consent to erect a single new dwelling within the garden of No 3, The Row.
- 1.2 The evaluation was the subject of a brief drawn up by Mr M Walters of CPAT Curatorial Section (CPAT EVB 331), acting as the archaeological curator. The specification was approved by Mr Walters, and the accompanying quotation was accepted by Munro Associates on behalf of their clients on 4th October 2001. A site visit was carried out by Mr N Jones of CPAT Contracts, prior to the commencement of the evaluation, when it became apparent that there would be difficulties in locating the trenches as required in the brief. Following discussions with Mr Walters it was agreed that a trench across the proposed new access road was impractical and would not be required. The remaining, 12m-long, L-shaped trench was located on the position of the proposed new dwelling and its access path to the street frontage. The evaluation was carried out at the beginning of November 2001 and this report compiled immediately thereafter.

2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 The site area lies at the centre of the village of Castle Caereinion (SJ 16410551; Fig 1), which is sited on fairly level ground approximately 6km to the west of Welshpool, Powys. The Row is a terrace of cottages running parallel with the street frontage of the B4385, and is opposite the Red Lion public house which itself backs onto the yard of St Garmon's church.
- 2.2 The solid geology of the area consists of undivided Ludlow and Wenlock Series siltstones and mudstones belonging to the Silurian period (1994 British Geological Survey map). The soils of the area generally consist of fine silty and loamy soils belonging to the Cegin Association (1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales map).

3 DESK-TOP STUDY

- 3.1 The existing layout of the village in the vicinity of the site consists of the terrace of three cottages known as The Row, which are aligned north-west/south-east on the north-east side of the B4385 as it runs through Castle Caereinion. The development (Fig 2) comprises a strip of ground forming the north-east part of the gardens of Nos 1, 2 and 3, The Row, which is planned to form an access road, with the proposed new dwelling being located in the south-east part of the garden of No 3, at the south-east end of the terrace.
- 3.2 The 1902 2nd edition OS 1:2500 map (Montgomery 23.13; Fig 3) depicts The Row, but shows it subdivided into four cottages. It would appear that No 3 was originally two separate cottages which were combined to form a single dwelling at some point in the 20th century. No structures are depicted in the proposed location of the new dwelling, though small structures, possibly sheds or outside toilets, are depicted at the north-east side of the gardens. The 1st edition OS map of 1886 (Fig 4) depicts the same structures in the development area.
- 3.3 The Castle Caereinion Tithe map of 1839 (Fig 5) also depicts The Row; the apportionment describes the terrace as consisting of four houses with gardens. Only two of the houses were occupied at the time of the Tithe survey. To the south-east of The Row a structure aligned north/south is depicted, but is described in the apportionment only as 'part of a house and garden'; this appears to fall outside the development area. Holding 377a, which is on the inside of the bend in the road west of The Row, is named as the 'Turnpike house in the village of Castle Caereinion'.
- 3.4 A Powis Castle estate map of 1817 (NLW Powis Castle M27; Fig 6) also depicts The Row though the building marked on the Tithe map to its south-east is shown on a different alignment. Ordnance Surveyors drawing No 198 is also dated 1817, but lacks detail regarding the village, though it does demonstrate that the road layout of the village at the time is largely the one which survives to the

present day. It is apparent that the basic layout of the village at the beginning of the 19th century was substantially the same as that depicted on the 1902 Ordnance Survey map

- 3.5 An earlier Powis Castle estate map of 1766 (NLW Powis Castle M39: Not reproduced), transcribed from an original survey of 1760, gives a radically different picture of the village. On this map, the only structures in the village are the church and a group of buildings alongside the road to its south-west. There is only a field on the north-east side of the church and no evidence for The Row, or indeed the line of the main road which now passes through the village.
- 3.6 Analysis of the available sources demonstrates that between 1760 and 1817 the village increased in size, mainly as a result of the construction of dwellings on the north-west and north-east sides of the churchyard; The Row was one of these structures. The expansion of the village appears to have been driven by the construction of the turnpike road around the north and east sides of the churchyard (see para 3.3), which completely changed its road pattern. It is difficult to provide a definitive date for the construction of the turnpike, even though the general Act of Parliament for roads in the Welshpool area was passed in 1769 (Pawson 1977, 354); but it seems likely that the resulting roads would have been constructed later in the 18th century, perhaps the 1780s or 1790s. This suggests that The Row was probably constructed on a greenfield site, near the end of the 18th century.

4 EVALUATION (Fig 7)

- 4.1 A single L-shaped trench, measuring approximately 12m in total length, was excavated within the site of the proposed new dwelling. The position of the trench was altered slightly from that prescribed in the brief, with the approval of the curator, in order that the specified length could be fitted into the available space within the garden of No 3, The Row.
- 4.2 The excavation consisted of the initial removal by hand, and stockpiling for later re-instatement, of the turf cover, following which up to 0.45m of dark grey loose loamy topsoil (1) was removed by machine. Beneath the topsoil, a layer of grey-brown clayey loam (2), between 0.1m and 0.2m thick, was encountered which contained mostly 18th and 19th-century pottery; the upper part of this layer was removed by machine, while the remainder was excavated by hand.
- 4.3 A layer of yellow-brown clayey loam (3), up to 0.16m thick and exclusively containing medieval/early post-medieval pottery, was present beneath layer 2. This appeared to represent a ploughsoil and was removed by hand down to the natural, orange-brown, stony clay subsoil (4). Only medieval pottery was present in the basal part of layer 3.
- 4.4 Only three features were present within the evaluation area. The most recent of these were two gullies, (5) and (7), both of which contained relatively modern, in-situ, glazed ceramic drainage pipes; these features appeared to have been cut through layers 2 and 3 and into the natural subsoil (4), though the fill of both also contained topsoil, apparently identical to layer 1. This suggests that, despite the appearance of the section, both features had actually been cut through the topsoil. The only remaining feature was a shallow linear scoop (9), 0.7m wide x 0.08m deep, cut into the natural subsoil (4) and running approximately north-west/south-east; no finds were recovered from its fill (10), which was very similar to the overlying ploughsoil (3). The most probable interpretation of feature 9, in the light of the results of the desk-top study and the finds within layer 3, is that it represents a ploughmark of medieval or early post-medieval date.

5 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1 Analysis of the results of the desk-top study suggest that prior to the construction of the turnpike road through Castle Caereinion, probably in the later part of the 18th century, the evaluation area was undeveloped and functioned as a field. The excavation element of the evaluation confirmed this hypothesis and suggested that there had been some arable use of the area, probably in the medieval period or early post-medieval period.
- 5.2 The terrace of houses known as 'The Row' would seem to have been built following the construction of the turnpike road and were definitely in place by 1817. The only additional features which have

been recorded in the area of the proposed development appear to be small structures, possibly sheds or outside toilets, which were depicted within the gardens of The Row, adjacent to their north-eastern boundary, on the first and second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 maps of 1886 and 1902.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 6.1 The writer would like to thank the following people for their assistance during the project: Ms Wendy Owen and Mr Nigel Jones of CPAT, the staff of the CPAT Sites and Monuments Record, Mr & Mrs Alexander of No 3, The Row, Castle Caereinion, the staff of The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth, and the staff of the National Monument Record, Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments in Wales, Aberystwyth.

7 REFERENCES

Pawson, E, 1977, *Transport and economy: the turnpike roads of eighteenth century Britain*, London: Academic Press.

Cartographic Sources

1766 (1760 survey) National Library of Wales Powis Castle Map M39

1817 National Library of Wales Powis Castle Map M27

1817 Ordnance Surveyors' drawing No 198

1839 Tithe map of Castle Caereinion parish (Apportionment dated 1840)

1886 first edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (Montgomeryshire 23.13)

1902 second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (Montgomeryshire 23.13)

1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales map (Sheet 2 - Wales) and Legend (1:250,000 scale)

1994 British Geological Survey map of Wales (Solid edition at 1:250,000 scale)

APPENDIX 1

LAND ADJACENT TO THE ROW, CASTLE CAEREINION, POWYS SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The proposed development involves the construction of a new dwelling on land adjacent to The Row, Castle Caereinion, Powys (Powys CC Planning Application M99607). The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, acting as archaeological advisors to the local authority, have determined that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken to assess the potential impact of the proposals on the archaeological resource. Accordingly, a Brief has been prepared (EVB 331 dated 03/08/01) which details the works required.
- 1.2 The development site lies within the historic core of the village, as defined by the Montgomeryshire Historic Settlements Survey (CPAT Report 40, 1992), and it is thought likely that buried archaeological deposits may survive which relate to street frontage occupation.

2 Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the assessment are:
 - 2.1.1 to reveal by means of a combination of desk based study and field evaluation, the nature, condition, significance and, where possible, the chronology of the archaeology within the area of the proposed development in so far as these aims are possible;
 - 2.1.2 to record any archaeological sites identified during the field evaluation;
 - 2.1.3 to prepare a report outlining the results of the assessment, incorporating sufficient information on the archaeological resource for a reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the future management of the archaeology.

3 Methods

- 3.1 Stage one of the assessment will involve the examination of all the readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial, photographic and oral sources. Repositories consulted will include the following: County SMR, CPAT, Welshpool; the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth; the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth; Powys County Archives, Llandrindod Wells.
- 3.2 Stage two will take the form of a field evaluation consisting of two trial trenches, the size and location of which are described in the brief. The programme of works will be agreed with the client, and the position of the trenches approved by the curator, in advance of site work commencing. Any alterations to this scheme will only be undertaken following full consultation with the curator and developer.
- 3.3 The excavations will be undertaken using a machine excavator with a toothless bucket to remove modern overburden down to the level of the first recognisable archaeological horizon. Thereafter, all excavation will be conducted by hand unless otherwise agreed with the curator in advance. All archaeological contexts identified will be adequately sampled to define their function, date and relationship to other features, in so far as these aims are possible.
- 3.4 Contexts will be recorded on individual record forms and be drawn and photographed as appropriate. All photography will be in 35mm format black and white and colour print and colour slide. All features will be located as accurately as possible with respect to buildings and boundaries identified on modern Ordnance Survey maps and levels will be related to Ordnance Datum where possible.

- 3.5 Following the on-site work an illustrated and bound report will be prepared according to the principles laid out in the Curatorial Brief. This will be in A4 format and contain conventional sections on: Site location, Topography and Geology; Historic Background; Evaluation; Conclusions and Recommendations and References, together with appropriate appendices on archives and finds. A draft report will be forwarded to the curator and client prior to the production of the final report.
- 3.5 The site archive will be prepared to specifications laid out in Appendix 3 in the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991).

4 Resources and Programming

- 4.1 The evaluation will be undertaken by a small team of skilled archaeologists under the overall supervision of Mr RJ Silvester, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 4.2 All report preparation will be completed by or with the assistance of the same field archaeologist who conducted the evaluation.
- 4.3 It is anticipated that stage one of the evaluation will be completed within 3 days, the evaluation will be completed within 4 days, and the report will be completed within 3 days. A copy of the report will be deposited with the Regional SMR. CPAT will not be in a position to undertake any part of the evaluation until September 2001. The curator will be informed of the timetable in order to arrange for monitoring if required.
- 4.4 Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 4.5 CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance.

N.W. Jones
14th August 2001

APPENDIX 2**PROJECT ARCHIVE****Site archive**

10 Context record forms
1 black and white negative film
1 colour slide film
1 colour print film
Photographic catalogue
1 A1 site drawing

Finds**Context 1**

Bone china (early 19th century on), 3 sherds 35g
Developed yellow ware (19th-20th century), 1 sherd 10g
Coal Measures red ware, 3 sherds 10g
Buckley fineware (lid), 1 sherd 22g
Developed whiteware (19th-20th century), 3 sherds 11g
Local red earthenware (17th-18th century), 1 sherd 13g
Mottled ware (1690-1760), 3 sherds 10g
Pearlware (1780-early 19th century), 13 sherds 99g
Ceramic (unglazed) drainage pipe, 1 fragment 98g
Clay pipe stem, 3 fragments 6g
Green glass, 1 shard 10g
Clear glass, 2 shards 9g
Modern plastic toy, 1 fragment 1g

Context 2

Brown glazed stoneware, 2 sherds 10g
Buckley coarseware, 1 sherd 43g
Buckley coarseware handle, 1 sherd 34g
Mottled ware, 2 sherds 5g
Local red earthenware, 1 sherd 4g
Pearlware, 2 sherds 1g
Coal measures red slipware, 1 sherd 4g
Clay pipe stem, 4 fragments 9g
Clay pipe bowl, 1 fragment 1g
Clay pipe foot (stamped), 2 fragments, 9g
Sandy micaceous fabric probably locally produced though location unknown
(13th-15th century), 3 sherds 22g

Context 3

Sandy micaceous fabric probably locally produced though location unknown
(13th-15th century), 3 sherds 13g
Highly fired fabric base of internally glazed ?storage jar (15th-16th century, 1 sherd 68g

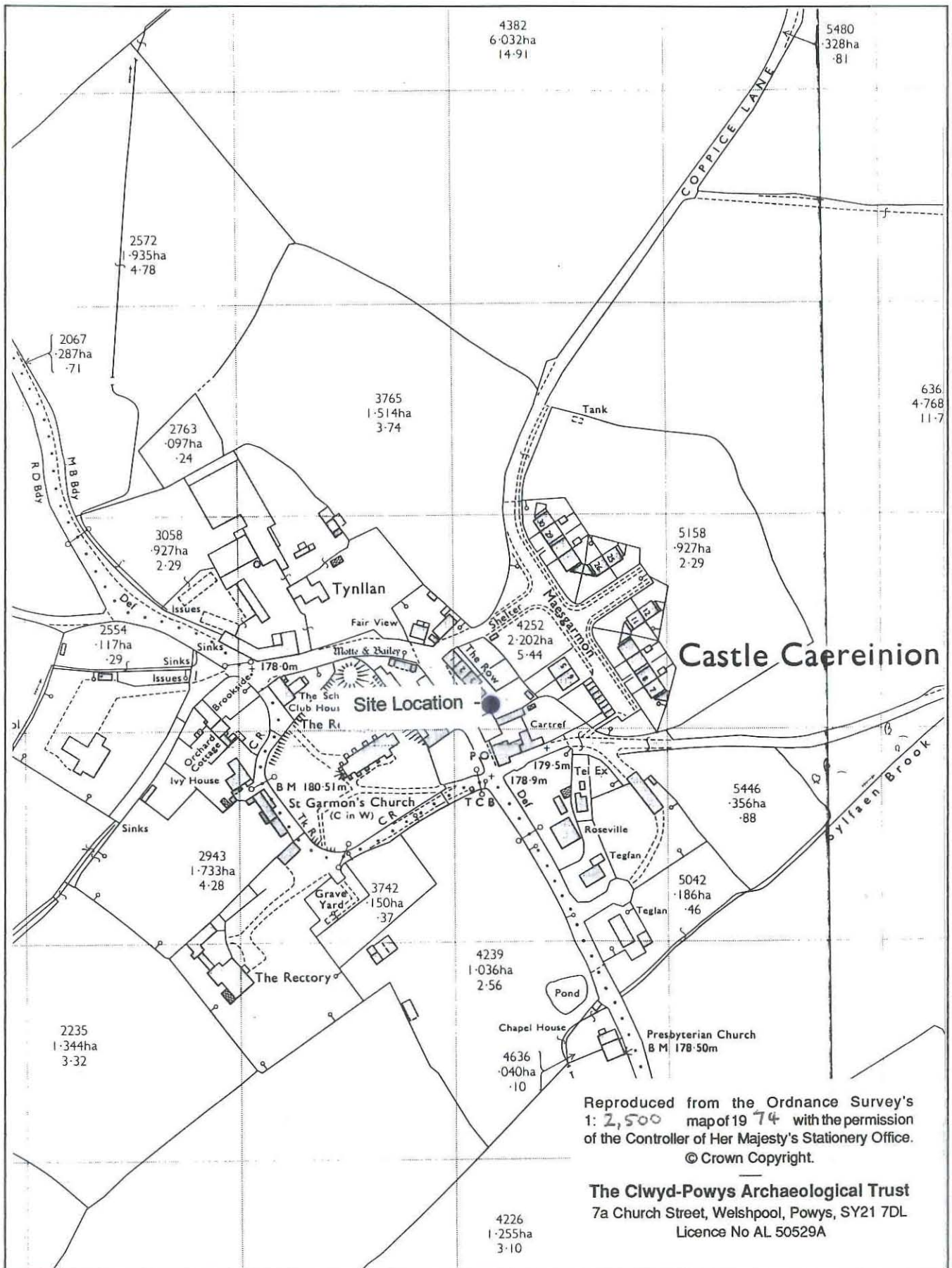


Fig 1 Location. Scale 1:2500

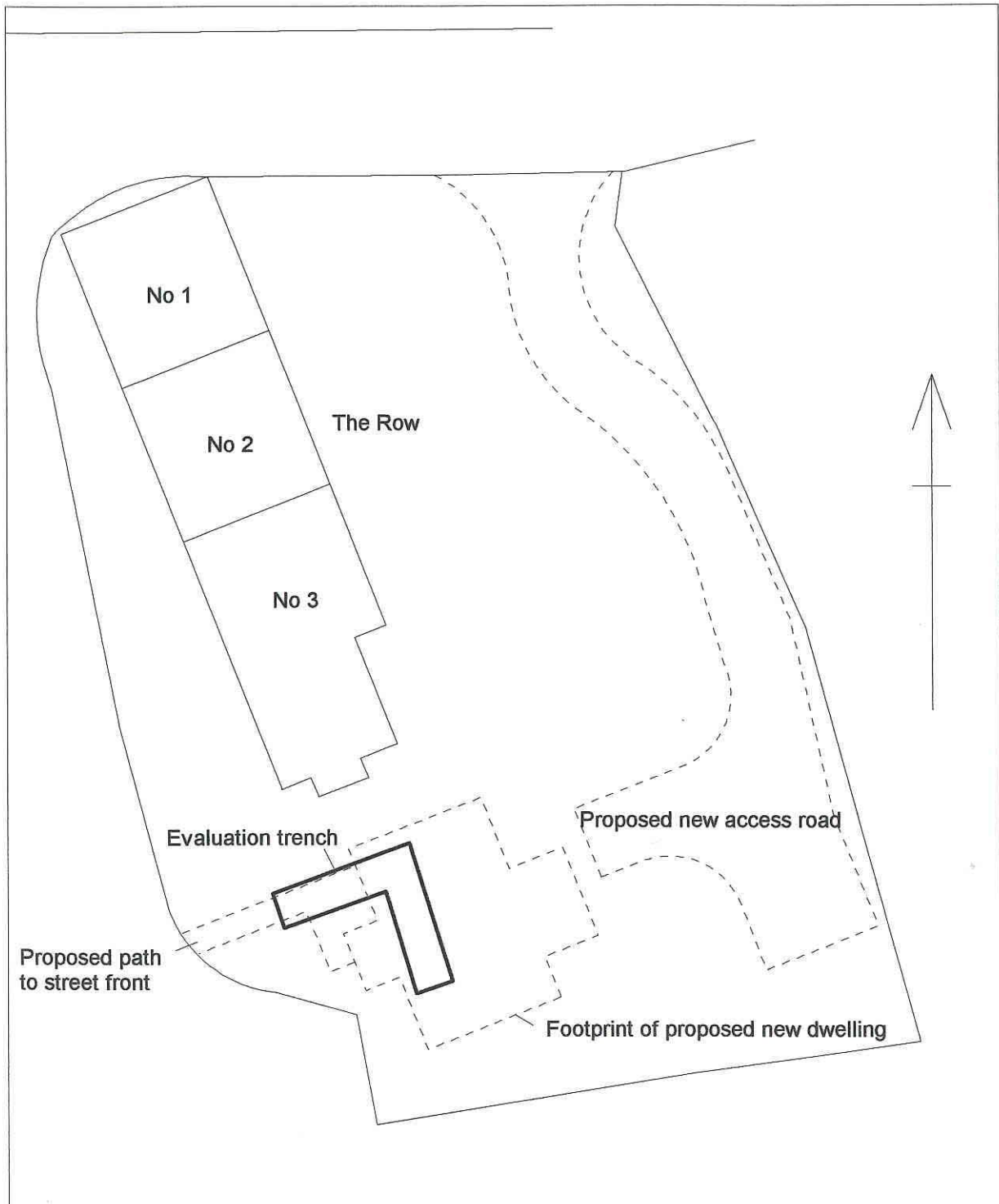


Fig. 2 Trench location, scale 1:250

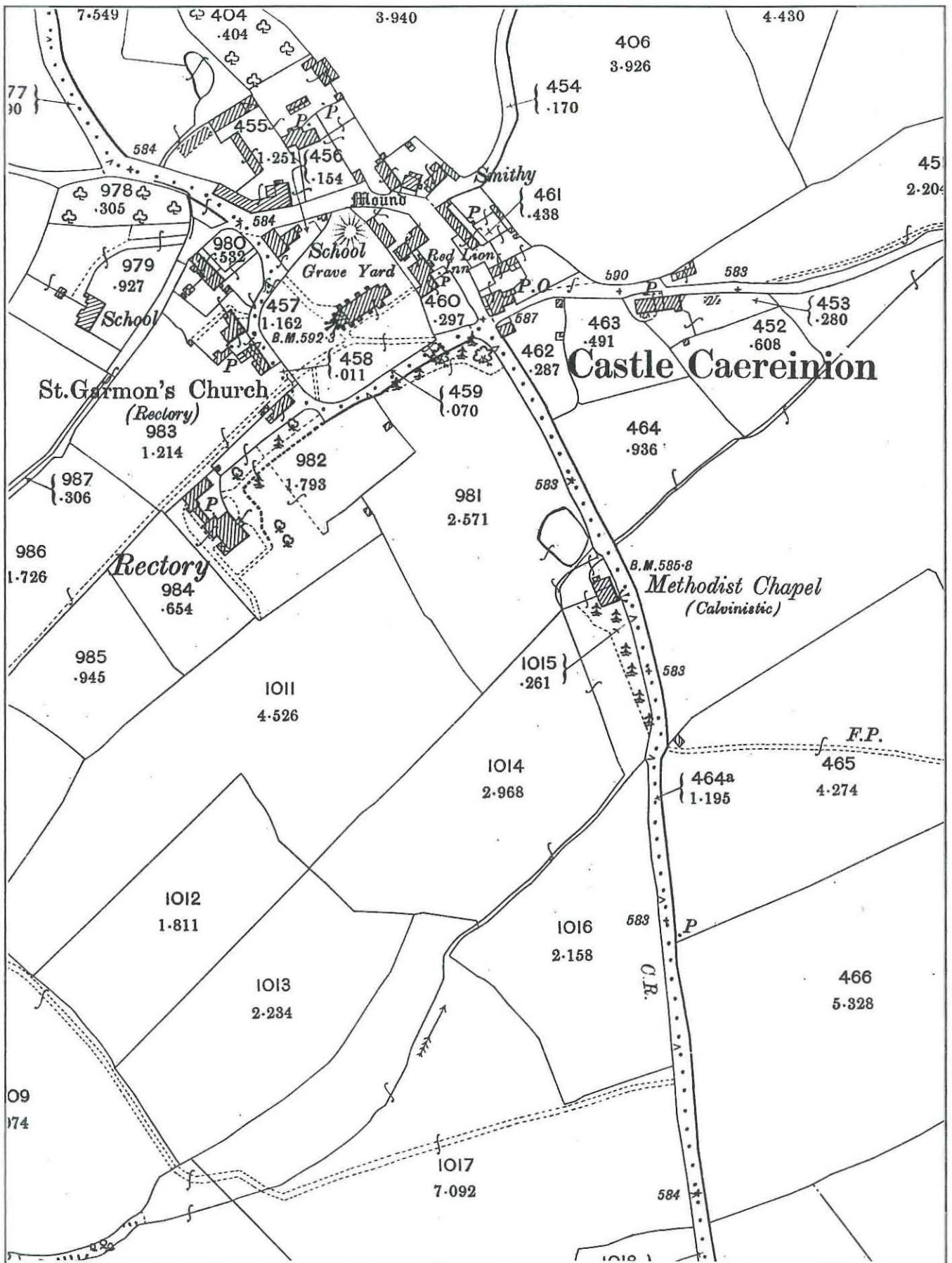


Fig 3 Second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (Montgomeryshire 23.13)

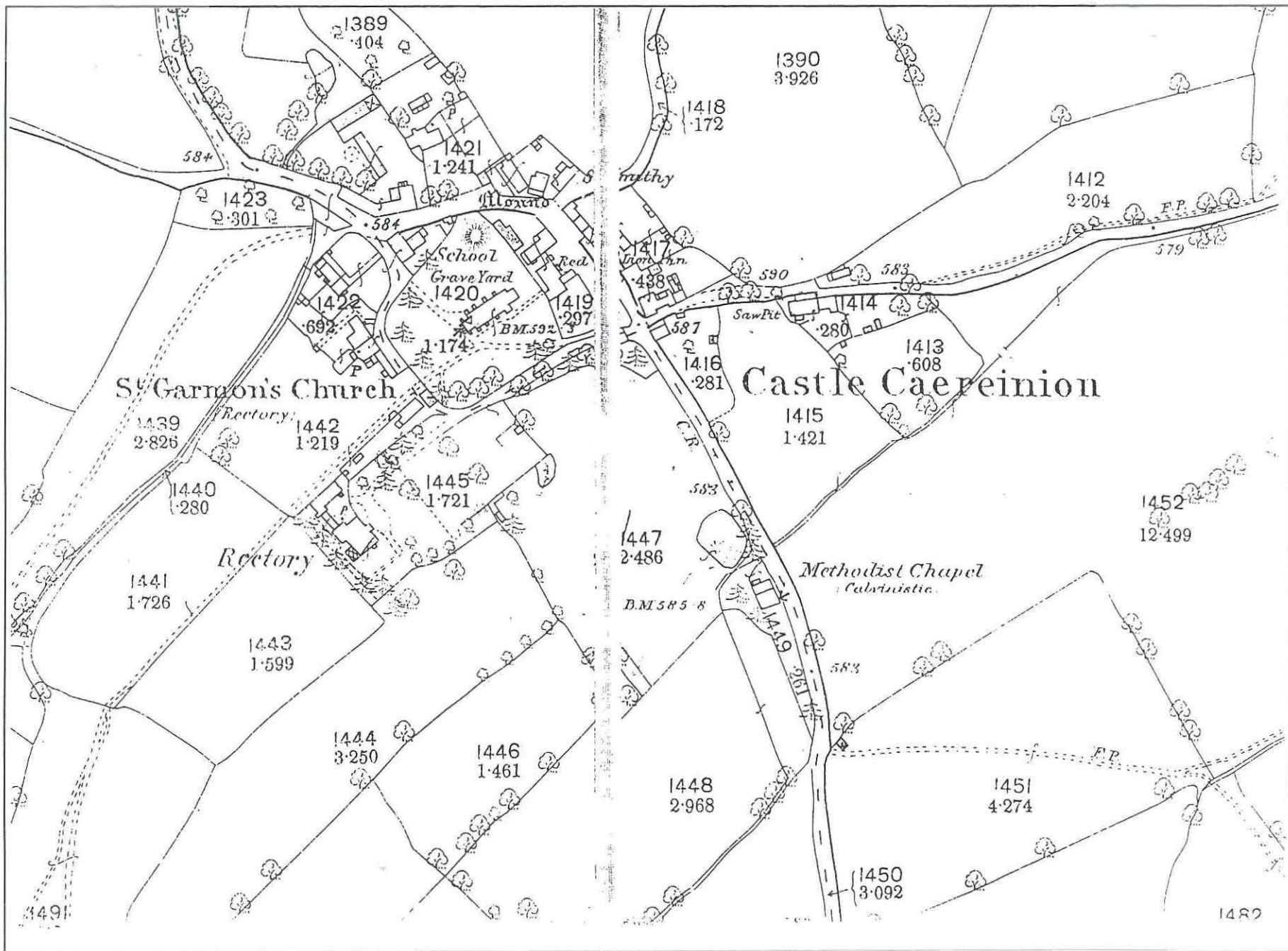


Fig 4 1886 First edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (Montgomeryshire 23.13)

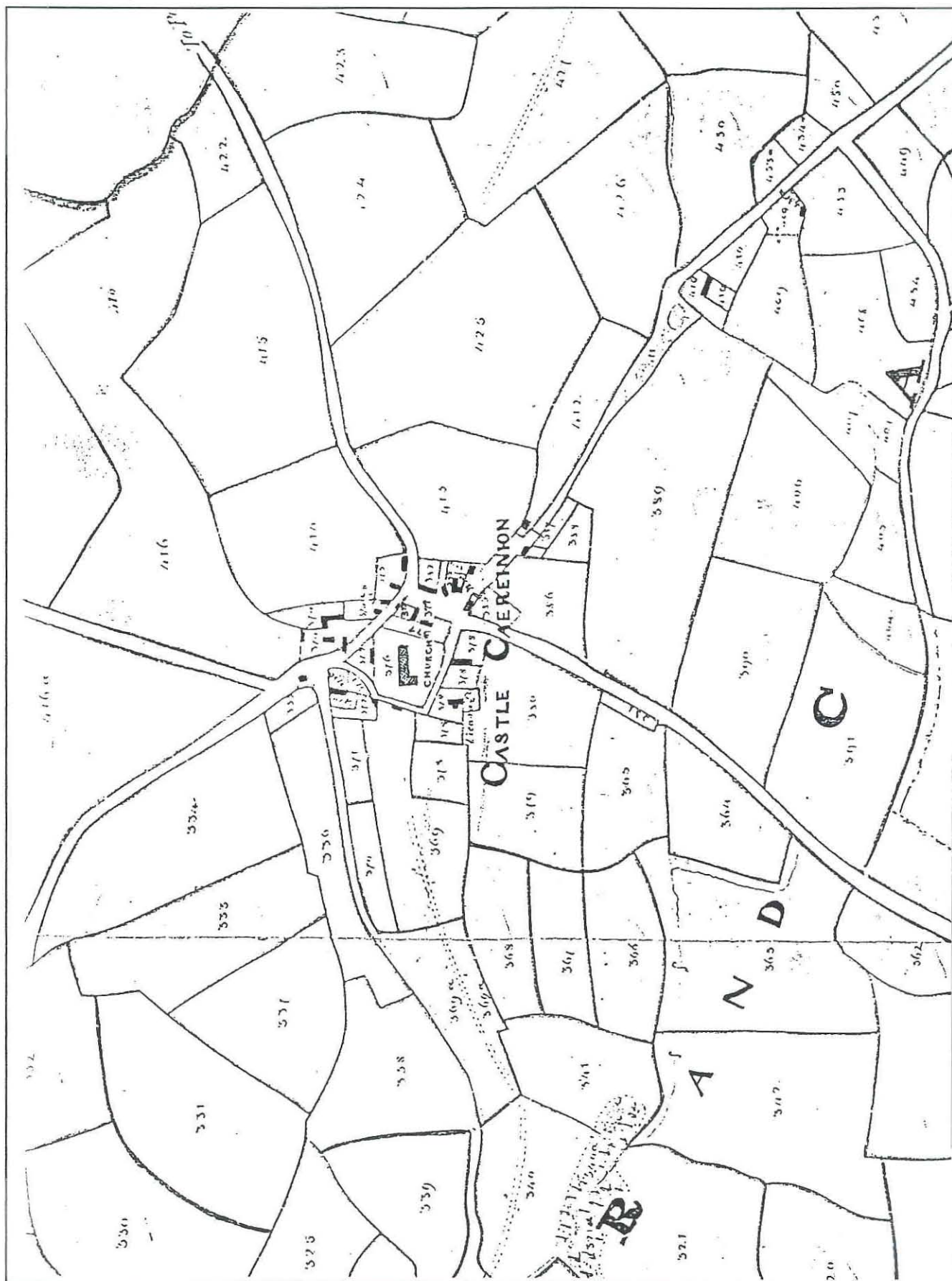


Fig 5 1839 Castle Caereinion Tithe map

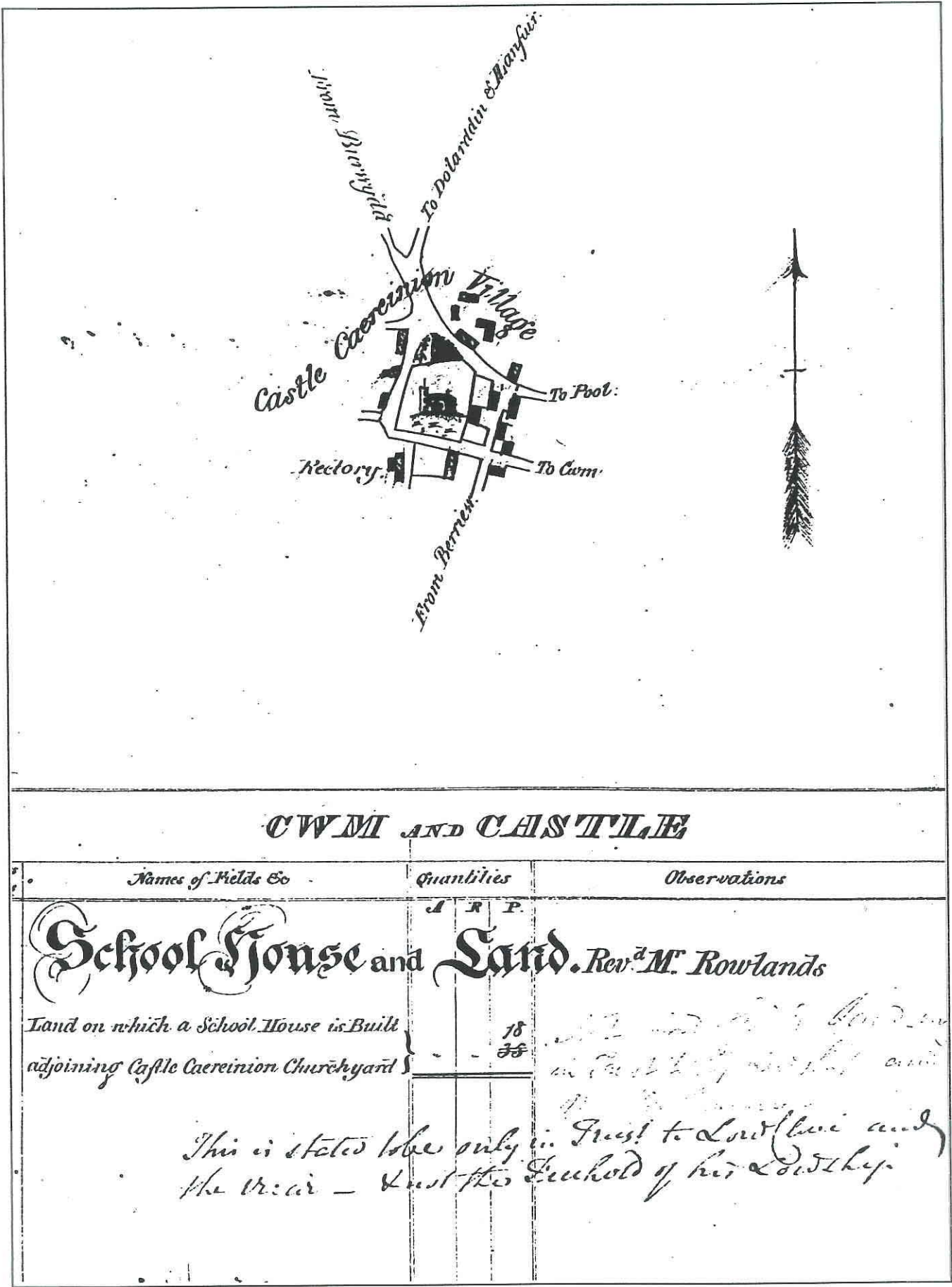


Fig 6 1817 NLW Powis Castle M27

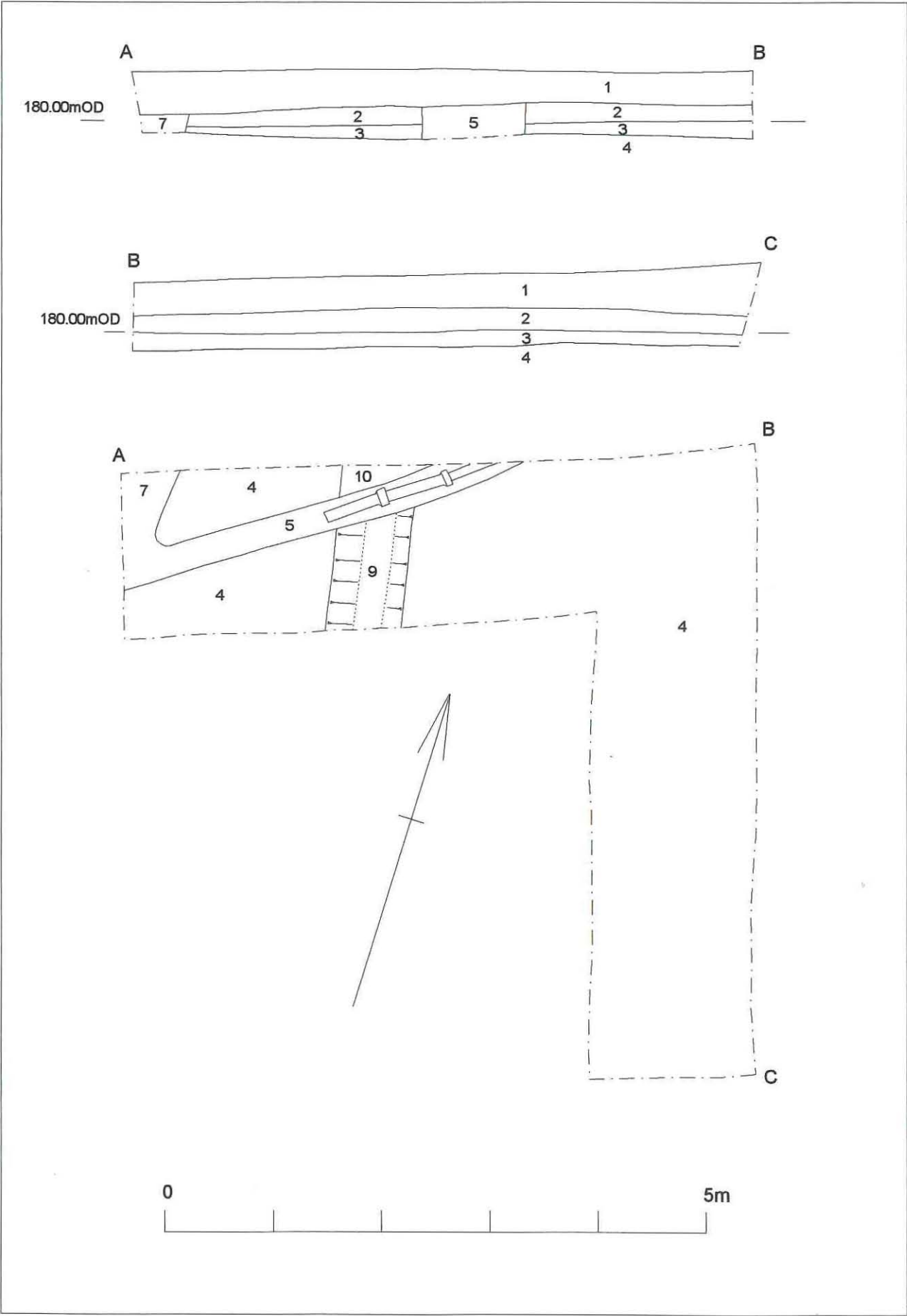


Fig. 7 Trench plan and sections, scale 1:50



Plate 1 South-east facing arm of trench from north-west. Photo CPAT 1113.04



Plate 2 South-west arm of trench from north-east. Photo CPAT 1113.05