

A470 Cardiff - Glan Conwy Trunk Road, Improvements South of Builth Wells, Powys

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT
FINAL REPORT



CPAT Report No 429.1

**A470 Cardiff - Glan Conwy Trunk Road,
Improvements South of Builth Wells,
Powys
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FINAL REPORT**

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September 2002

Report for Powys County Council

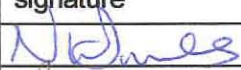

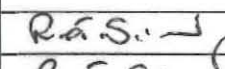
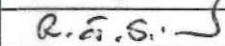
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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The proposed development involves improvements to the A470 Cardiff to Glan Conwy Trunk Road to the south of the town of Builth Wells in southern Powys. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT), acting in its capacity as archaeological advisors to the local authority, determined that an archaeological assessment should be undertaken to assess the potential impact of the road improvement proposals on the archaeological resource of the area. Accordingly, a brief (dated May 2001) was prepared by the Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency in conjunction with the Curator which detailed the works required, these initially comprising a desktop study and field survey. Following the completion of these studies and the submission of a preliminary report (CPAT Report no 429; October 2001), the Curatorial Section of CPAT determined that further assessment would be necessary within two fields affected by the proposals at Alltmawr, and a second brief (EVB 436) was prepared (dated November 2001).
- 1.2 The following report constitutes a revised version of the preliminary report submitted in October 2001. It takes account of the further works conducted under the second brief, EVB 436, and is thus a complete statement of the archaeological implications of the A470 improvement proposals in the area to the south of Builth Wells.

2 THE STUDY AREA

- 2.1 Three separate sections of the A470 are involved along a length of some 6km, the most northerly commencing about 3km beyond the town of Builth Wells on the route to Abergavenny and Brecon. These sections are depicted on Fig. 1, and are at Christmas Pitch (SO 072456 to SO 076444), Alltmawr (SO 072475 to SO 072457), and Ysgiog (SO 065496 to SO 068478).
- 2.2 The present road follows the western side of the Wye valley, is set above the river's floodplain and in places is terraced into the slope of the valley side. To the west of the present alignment the valley side frequently rises steeply, while to the east the land generally falls to the valley floor. Due to the meandering nature of the river the present road runs close to the river at several points.
- 2.3 The proposed improvements straighten the road in the vicinity of Ysgiog farm and relocate it to the west of Abernant cottage at Alltmawr. The remainder of the route follows the existing road alignment.
- 2.4 The underlying geology of the area consists of siltstones and mudstones belonging to the Ludlow Series of the Silurian period. The soils in this area consist of brown earths of the Denbigh 1 Association in the area of Ysgiog, and brown podzolic soils of the Manod Association around Alltmawr and Christmas Pitch. Brown alluvial soils of the Terme Association cover the valley floor (Rudeforth *et al.* 1984).

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The methodology adopted for the phased assessment consisted in order of completion: a desktop study; a field survey; a geophysical survey; and trial excavation. The first two approaches were undertaken in July and August 2001, and provided the information for the assessment report produced in October 2001 (CPAT Report 429). The geophysical survey was completed in June 2002 and the trial excavations in August 2002, and both of these have been integrated into this report. The assessment area was defined in the original brief prepared by the archaeological curator. It comprised a corridor 200m wide, centred on the proposed new road alignment (Fig. 1). For the purposes of the clarity in the descriptions that follow the three separate improvement areas are defined together as 'the study area'.
- 3.2 The desktop study involved the examination of all the readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial and photographic sources. Repositories consulted included: the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), held by CPAT at Welshpool; the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth; the National Monuments Record (NMR), held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) in Aberystwyth; Powys County Archives in Llandrindod Wells; and records held by the Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency. The National Monuments

Record (NMR), RCAHMW, Aberystwyth, was closed for a prolonged period during the summer of 2001 and it was not possible to consult their records for the original assessment. With its re-opening, this situation has now been rectified, and the results from the consultation of that archive have been incorporated into the present report.

- 3.3 The field survey included the whole of the assessment area, and took the form of a walked transect survey along the road corridor, undertaken in late August 2001. All archaeological sites were recorded on standard CPAT site visit forms, the data including: an accurate location using a hand-held global positioning system (GPS); a written description of character, function, condition, vulnerability, dating etc; the attribution of a unique primary record number (PRN); and the completion of sketch surveys where appropriate. Each extant site was also photographed in 35mm format black and white, colour print and colour slide.
- 3.4 The geophysical survey was undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica (of Shrewsbury, Shropshire), on behalf of CPAT, during June 2002, and employed a caesium vapour magnetic gradient survey at 1m line separation within the area defined in the curatorial brief. Full technical details and explanations can be found in the separate report submitted by ArchaeoPhysica to CPAT but are not included in this report for reasons of conciseness.
- 3.5 The trial excavation in August 2002 consisted of 13 trenches, the varying size and location of which were determined by the archaeological curator on the basis of the geophysical survey. All the trenches were initially machine excavated under close archaeological supervision, and all subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand. A full drawn, written and photographic record was maintained throughout.
- 3.6 All archaeological sites already known, or identified during the assessment, are given Primary Record Numbers (PRNs), unique numbers by which they are referred to in the relevant Sites and Monument Record and in all reports. The features revealed by the trial excavation have been grouped together under a single PRN (82140) until their nature is more fully understood.

4 DESKTOP STUDY

- 4.1 A search of the SMR yielded only fourteen recorded sites within the study area, while the NMR contained no additional information. However, this sparse number is almost certainly a reflection of the lack of fieldwork in the area rather than an indication of the potential archaeological resource.
- 4.2 The earliest tangible evidence for occupation within the study area dates to the medieval period. The nave of St Mauritius' Church in Alltmawr (SO 07344687; PRN 20152) is of a basically medieval plan, although much of the fabric dates from the 18th and 19th centuries, including the whole of the chancel. However, the sub-circularity of the churchyard together with the church location close to the river and perhaps the unusual dedication indicate that the origins of the church are probably much earlier, perhaps in the 7th to 11th centuries (Silvester 1999).
- 4.3 In a field to the south of the church and adjoining the A470 to the east (centred at SO 073468), a series of earthworks are visible (Fig. 2). These had been interpreted as former building platforms sited adjacent to a trackway leading south from the direction of the church (Martin & Walters 1993; Jones 1993). It had also been assumed in the past that the platforms might be associated with medieval settlement centred on the church whilst the trackway could define the former route of the main road. The recent field survey and more specifically the trial excavations, however, have demonstrated that one of these earthwork 'platforms' was the result of modern dumping, while the remainder are seemingly of geological origin. No convincing evidence has been found of the possible trackway (see para 7.10 below).
- 4.4 On the opposite side of the valley, Aberedw may also have been occupied during the early medieval period, since the church is dedicated to St Cewydd, a 6th century saint. The strategic location was clearly of significance during the 12th century when a motte (PRN 944) was constructed, later to be replaced by a masonry castle (PRN 945) dating from about 1284 (Silvester 1994, 12-13).

- 4.5 It is unfortunate that apart from the details given above virtually nothing is known about this part of the Wye Valley during the medieval period, and it is not until the post-medieval era that information on the history and landscape of this area begin to emerge. The Tithe Maps and Apportionments for the parishes of Alltmawr, Gwenddwr and Llanddewi'r Cwm (Figs 3-5), include details of land tenure and usage within the area in the mid 19th century. Of fourteen farms listed in the Apportionments, thirteen are extant. Land use, as would be expected, was either pasture or meadow or woodland, and field names which were mainly Welsh were essentially descriptive either in terms of their topographical location, their size or the land use. Of interest are two apportionments for Chapel Farm in Alltmawr. The first refers to buildings, pleasure ground, gardens and orchard to the north of the farmhouse and reference to the Tithe map clearly shows the layout of a formal garden (PRN 81238). To the east of the main road, adjacent to these gardens, is a field bounded on its eastern side by the River Wye called Boat field (PRN 81237). Although there are no references to boat building there, the possibility that it did occur cannot be discounted. Alternatively, this may be a reference to a ferry crossing of the Wye.
- 4.6 The Wye valley does form a natural routeway which may well have been used since prehistoric times, although the only documented evidence relates to the past three centuries. It would seem probable that at least during the medieval period the main communications route along the valley followed the eastern side of the river, through Aberedw. Ogilby's mapped survey of 1675 (published 1971) have no record of any through-route along valley, and in particular does not depict a road leaving Builth Wells along the present line of the A470. A road to Hereford is shown, however, heading south along the east side of the valley from the Brecon to New Radnor road. In the 17th century the main route from Builth Wells to Brecon followed the higher ground through Upper Chapel, well to the west of the valley.
- 4.7 The present line of the A470 is likely to have been established as a turnpike road constructed during the second half of the 18th century. In part this may have utilised existing local routes, but as a through route along the Wye valley this was an entirely new venture. Coltman's 2nd edition Map of South Wales in 1798 (Fig. 6) shows that the road was certainly in existence by this date, and the most likely date for its origination is in the late 1760s or 1770s. An Act of Parliament in 1782 refers to the Builth to Hay turnpike as already in existence (Jones 1959, 43) and it was probably constructed under the general Act for Brecon roads, passed in 1767 (Pawson 1977, 353).
- 4.8 There are a number of features shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey maps (Figs 7-12) which relate to the establishment of this road, including five milestones and two bridges. There are also a number of small quarries which are likely to have been used to provide stone for the construction and maintenance of the road, as well as for building locally. Two fords are also shown crossing the Wye, which may have been historic crossing points.
- 4.9 An examination of available borehole and test pit data for the proposed route revealed no obvious potential for palaeoenvironmental deposits.

5 FIELD SURVEY

- 5.1 In addition to those sites already recorded by the SMR and those identified during the desktop study, a further seven previously unrecorded sites of archaeological interest were recognised during the field survey. The survey also shed further light on the earthworks to the south of the church at Alltmawr (PRN 2684). Although these had been previously interpreted as possible building platforms with associated trackways, it now seems possible that the upper track is actually a leat (PRN 81262) which supplied water to Chapel House, while the recorded platforms themselves do not appear to be entirely convincing as the bases for houses (see para 4.3, above).
- 5.2 Details of all the sites identified in existing records and those found during the field survey are given in Appendix 1.

6 GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY (Fig. 16)

- 6.1 The geophysical survey was undertaken by ArchaeoPhysica, on behalf of CPAT, with the full results presented under separate cover (Roseveare 2002) and they are only summarised here for the essential purposes of this assessment. The magnetic gradient survey extended across two fields at Alltmawr on the west side of the A470, to the south and south-east of the church (Fig. 16). The survey was conducted using caesium vapour gradiometry, with readings at a resolution of 0.15m along lines 1m apart tied into a fixed grid which was established using total station surveying. Numbers in brackets refer to features depicted in Fig. 16, and are relevant to the geophysical survey alone.
- 6.2 The results were generally good, with evidence of archaeological potential identified in both fields, as well as the presence of a water pipe (3). The northern field contained an area of enhanced magnetic gradient (4) associated with a strong linear feature (5), and these were interpreted as implying the presence of a small structure. No other features of archaeological potential were identified.
- 6.3 The results from the southern field were adversely affected by fenced stock enclosures, although their impact was very localised. Potentially significant anomalies were identified in the northern part of this field, and were interpreted as pits and small gullies, possibly including part of an agricultural enclosure (29 and 30). Although no conclusive evidence of settlement was revealed by the geophysics, a possible hearth (24) was identified, although alternatively the feature might be a large pit.
- 6.4 The resulting report from the geophysical survey (Roseveare 2002) was presented to the curator to assist him in determining a strategy for trial excavation. A revision to the brief was subsequently issued (dated 2nd July 2002), presenting an excavation strategy consisting (initially) of 14 trial trenches, designed to test the archaeological potential of those anomalies identified by the geophysics, together with the recorded earthworks in the southern field.

7 EXCAVATION (Fig. 17)

- 7.1 The excavation was undertaken over a four-week period, between 5th and 30th August 2002. A detailed examination of the topography within the southern field suggested that the postulated earthwork platforms might be the result of natural rock outcropping. Accordingly, two trial pits were excavated by hand (Fig. 17, A and B), and the results from these confirmed that the features were indeed of natural origin. Following discussions with the curator it was subsequently agreed that the proposed trial trench (trench 12) in this area could be omitted from the programme of work.
- 7.2 A total of 13 trenches were then machine excavated to remove overburden onto the top of the first recognisable archaeological horizon. The overburden was removed by layer and consisted of topsoil, an underlying stone layer which was present in most of the trenches, and a basal silt deposit which is thought to represent hillwash. Subsequent excavation was undertaken by hand, with a full drawn, written and photographic record being maintained throughout the work. Each trench was located accurately in relation to existing field boundaries by total station survey. A single Primary Record Number (PRN 82140) has been attributed to all features revealed by the excavations.
- 7.3 A total of five trenches (Fig. 17, trenches 1, 4, 5, 8, 9) produced no evidence for any archaeological features and are not discussed further here, although some conclusions have been drawn from artefactual material contained in the overburden. Full details of each excavation trench are available in the site archive. Figures in brackets refer to context and layer numbers given during the excavation. Although each of the trenches had been located to test a potentially significant anomaly identified by the geophysical survey, the excavation results suggest that the geophysics may have been identifying variations in the subsoil or the changing depth of the bedrock, rather than any archaeological feature. A sixth trench (Fig. 17, trench 14) had been sited to test a surface feature recorded by the original topographical survey (Jones 1993), but this proved to be a mound of spoil, forming part of the topsoil (35), believed by the landowner to have been dumped in the 1930s.
- 7.4 Trench 2 (Fig. 18; 6.2m by 1.7m)
Removal of the overburden by machine revealed a single linear feature crossing the trench, approximately at right-angles, which corresponded with anomaly 28 of the geophysical survey. The linear feature was excavated by hand and consisted of a gully (84), containing a stone surface (81)

resting on clay (82). The resulting feature had been subsequently filled by a charcoal-rich clay silt (80) which contained a few fragments of calcined bone.

7.5 Trench 3 (Fig. 19; 6.7m by 1.8m)

Removal of the overburden by machine revealed a composite feature, consisting of two thin layers of gravel (49 and 50), which crossed the line of the trench. Separating the layers, and underlying them, was a layer of greyish-yellow clay (51). No finds were recovered from the feature, and its precise function could not be determined from the small section revealed by the trench. It does, however, appear to correspond broadly with anomaly 20 of the geophysical survey and may represent a track or path.

7.6 Trench 6 (Fig. 20; 11.6m by 1.9m)

Removal of the overburden by machine revealed two gullies crossing the line of the trench which corresponded with anomalies 25 and 27 of the geophysical survey. Anomaly 25 appeared to be a gully (57), 1.3m wide, while anomaly 27 was proved by hand excavation to be a larger gully (59), 2.6m wide by up to 0.8m deep, whose fill (58) contained some pieces of iron smithing slag and a single fragment of what appeared to be fired clay, probably daub with a stick impression.

7.7.1 Trench 7 (Fig. 21; 4.1m by 4.0m)

Removal of the overburden by machine showed a group of features, some crossing and others entirely within the trench. The main features recognised included: a gully (67), approximately 1.1m wide, which contained some iron smithing slag and fragments of burnt stone, and appeared to be the northern continuation of gully 57 in Trench 6; a pit (69), up to 1.8m in diameter, which contained charcoal and possibly burnt clay and appeared to cut the fill of gully 67; a probable stone-filled gully (74), 0.3m wide; and four sub-circular areas of soil (70, 71, 72 and 75), between 0.3m and 0.5m in diameter, which may represent post-holes. Pit 69 appeared to correspond with anomaly 24 which had been identified as a hearth or pit by the geophysical survey.

7.7.2 Consultations on site with the curator regarding the most suitable course of action led to the preservation in-situ of the deposits revealed in this trench, in order that they might be properly investigated in any future excavations.

7.8 Trench 10 (Fig. 22; 7.8m by 1.8m)

Removal of the overburden by machine and subsequent hand excavation revealed a single, U-shaped, linear gully (15), 5.4m wide and approximately 1.5m deep. This feature crossed the trench at right-angles and its fill (14) contained pieces of iron smithing slag, suggesting perhaps that it might be a continuation of the lower gully (59) in Trench 6. The gully appears to correspond with anomaly 17 which had been identified as a magnetic spread by the geophysical survey.

7.9 Trench 11 (Fig. 23; 9.2m by 1.7m)

Removal of the overburden by machine revealed a possible gully (9), 0.8m deep, running south-west to north-east. This was relatively amorphous and may be a result of previous erosion, but it appeared to run at right-angles to the contours. It was largely filled by a charcoal-rich clay silt deposit (8), perhaps originating upslope, which continued beyond the south-east end of the trench. It is possible that the fill of the gully created the magnetic spread (anomaly 4) picked up by the geophysical survey, but there was no trace of an adjacent masonry feature (anomaly 5) which had been suggested by the geophysicists. A single sherd of medieval pottery was recovered from a stony silt layer (7) which sealed the charcoal-rich deposit (8).

7.10 Trench 13 (Fig. 24; 9.1m by 1.9m)

This trench had been sited to investigate the line of the possible trackway mentioned in paragraph 4.3, above. The surface features which had suggested that a trackway was present proved to be contained entirely within the overburden and appeared to be of relatively modern date. Removal of the overburden by machine and subsequent hand excavation revealed a gully (20), 1.1m wide by 0.25m deep, at the south-west end of the trench. Finds in the fill (21) of the gully included pieces of iron smithing slag and a biconical lead weight. On the north-east side of the gully, part of a probable pit (22) was revealed, the remainder being beyond the south-east section of the trench. The fill (23) of the pit included large amounts of charcoal and some iron smithing slag. To the north-east of the pit, the surface of the natural subsoil (24) sloped steeply down towards the north-east end of the trench; some pieces of iron smithing slag from the hillwash layer (19) above appeared to have been pressed into the surface of the subsoil.

8 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUMMARY (Figs 13-15)

- 8.1 A gazetteer of sites is provided in Appendix 1. Each site has been classified according to its perceived significance. The categories are those given in the Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments draft *Archaeology and the Trunk Road Programme in Wales: a Manual of Best Practice*.

Category A sites of National importance. It is presumed that sites in this category will be preserved and protected *in situ*.

Category B sites of regional or county importance which are of particular importance within the region. Preservation *in situ* is the preferred option for these sites, but if loss or damage is unavoidable, appropriate detailed recording should be undertaken.

Category C sites of district or local importance which are not of sufficient importance to justify preservation if threatened, but which merit adequate recording in advance of loss or damage.

Category D minor and damaged sites which do not merit inclusion in a higher category, and for which rapid recording should be sufficient.

Category E sites whose importance could not be fully determined as a result of the assessment and may warrant further evaluation.

Category A sites

- 8.2.1 There are two category A sites within the assessment area, St Mauritius Church, Alltmawr (PRN 20152) and its churchyard (PRN 2683).

PRN	Name	Type	Period	Form	Condition	Impact
2683	Alltmawr Churchyard	Churchyard	Medieval	Structure	Intact	Setting
20152	Alltmawr Church	Church	Medieval	Building	Intact	Setting

- 8.2.2 Although neither site will be directly affected by the proposals, there is likely to be an impact on the visual setting of the church and its churchyard (plates 1-2).

Category B sites

- 8.3.1 There are 15 Category B sites within the area of the assessment, 11 of which are buildings. As has been noted above (in paragraph 3.6), the features revealed by the trial excavation have been grouped together under a single PRN (82140) until their nature is more fully understood.

PRN	Name	Type	Period	Form	Condition	Impact
2685	Alltmawr Chapel House	Building	19th Century	Building	Intact	Setting
2686	Alltmawr Chapel House Farm	House	Post Medieval	Building	Intact	Unaffected
81236	New Garden house	House	Post Medieval	Building	Intact	Unaffected
81245	Cwrt Gwenddwr	Building	Post Medieval	Building	Intact	Unaffected
81246	Abernant bridge	Bridge	19th Century	Structure	Near intact	Unaffected
81247	Abernant Mill	Mill	Post Medieval	Building	Damaged	Unaffected
81248	Glanwey House	House	Post Medieval	Building	Intact	Unaffected
81251	Glanwey Lodge	Lodge	19th Century	Building	Intact	Unaffected
81252	Ysgiog Farm	House	Post Medieval	Building	Intact	Unaffected
81254	Bridge End platform	Platform	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Damaged	Unknown
81257	Abernant House	House	19th Century ?	Building	Intact	Unaffected
81258	Abernant outbuildings	Farm	19th Century ?	Building	Near intact	Part loss/Setting
81259	Abernant kitchen garden	Garden	19th Century ?	Structure	Intact	Part loss
81260	Abernant Cottage	House	19th Century	Building	Intact	Setting
82140	Alltmawr excavation features	Earthworks	Early medieval ?	Earthwork	Near intact	Loss

- 8.3.2 The only Category B sites which are likely to be significantly affected by the proposals are all in Abernant and Alltmawr. The collection of farm buildings (PRN 81258) associated with Abernant

House will be directly affected with the loss of some of the smaller buildings (plates 5-6). The kitchen garden (PRN 81259) may also be directly affected, with the possible loss of the western boundary wall (plate 7). Any such impact would have a detrimental effect on the group value and the setting of the complex as a whole. Although Abernant Cottage (PRN 81260; plate 8) will not itself be affected, the proximity of the proposed road would inevitably affect the setting of the house. This is also true for Chapel House (PRN 2685; plates 1-2). Eight of the buildings are likely to be unaffected by the proposals, as is Abernant Bridge (PRN 81246). The impact on Bridge End platform (PRN 81254; plate 11) is currently unknown as although the site lies just outside the proposed route, its proximity could still lead to it being affected.

- 8.3.3 The group of archaeological features (PRNs 82140) uncovered by the trial excavations are likely to be completely removed if the proposal is implemented. All features appear to be of at least regional importance, particularly in view of the apparent relationship with iron working in the vicinity, and as such will merit appropriate detailed excavation and recording prior to any disturbance. The lack of associated datable finds and particularly pottery suggests that it is probably unlikely that the features can be attributed to activity in the medieval or Roman periods and accordingly, though their date has not yet been determined, a potential early medieval date has been suggested. Samples of charcoal have been taken, from which a radiocarbon date might be obtained, if this is deemed appropriate, prior to any future work. The relatively large quantities of iron working slag which were obtained during the excavations demonstrate that smithing, and potentially some smelting, was being carried out on the site, and there is evidently a significant potential for the discovery of features and structures associated with this activity in the area. The distribution of slag in secondary contexts suggests that this activity is probably centred in the northern part of the field to the north of Abernant Cottage.

Category C sites

- 8.4.1 Only three sites have been assigned to Category C.

PRN	Name	Type	Period	Form	Condition	Impact
81234	Glanwey milestone	Milestone	19th Century	Structure	Intact	Unaffected
81238	Chapel House gardens	Garden	19th Century	Structure	Near intact	Unaffected
81253	Ty bach water tank	Water tank	19th Century	Structure	Near intact	Loss

- 8.4.2 One site, Ty bach water tank (PRN 81253; plate 12), is likely to be directly affected by the proposals and may be completely destroyed. The remaining two sites appear to be unaffected by the proposals.

Category D sites

- 8.5.1 There are 17 Category D sites within the area of the assessment, of which four have already been destroyed and two (PRNs 2684 and 81261) discounted following trial excavation.

PRN	Name	Type	Period	Form	Condition	Impact
2684	Alltmawr earthworks	Non antiquity	Not recorded	Landform		Not applicable
22365	Glanwey quarry	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Unknown	Loss
22366	Ysglog Farm quarry	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Unknown	Unaffected
22367	Henallt Wood quarry	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Unknown	Damage/ part loss
22368	Chapel Plantation quarry	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Unknown	Unaffected
22405	Wyeside quarry	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Unknown	Unaffected
81231	Alltmawr milestone	Milestone	19th Century	Document	Destroyed	Already destroyed
81233	Henallt Wood quarry	Quarry	Post Medieval	Document	Unknown	Unaffected
81237	Boat field fieldname	Fieldname	Post Medieval	Placename	Unknown	Unaffected
81239	Aberedw ford	Ford	Post Medieval	Document	Damaged	Unaffected
81241	Bridge End bridge	Bridge	19th Century	Structure	Near destroyed	Unaffected
81244	Bridge End footbridge	Footbridge	19th Century	Document	Destroyed	Already destroyed
81249	Glanwey boat house	Boat house	19th Century	Structure	Destroyed	Already destroyed
81250	Glan Wye pump house	Pumphouse	Post Medieval	Structure	Destroyed	Already destroyed
81255	Ysglog quarry I	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Intact	Damage/part loss
81256	Ysglog quarry II	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Intact	Damage/part loss
81261	Alltmawr track	Non antiquity	Not recorded	Landform		Not applicable

- 8.5.2 Four small quarries (PRNs 22365, 22367, 81255 and 81256) are likely to be directly affected by the proposals, which could lead to part or complete loss of the sites. Sites in this category are, however, considered to be of minor importance. The remaining sites appear to be unaffected by the proposals.

Category E sites

- 8.6.1 There are eight sites whose importance could not be fully determined as a result of the assessment and may warrant further evaluation, although four of the sites are likely to be unaffected by the proposals.

PRN	Name	Type	Period	Form	Condition	Impact
950	Maes y Gaer placename	Hillfort ?	Iron Age	Placename	Unknown	Unknown
81230	Bridge End milestone	Milestone	19th Century	Document	Unknown	Unknown
81232	Ysgiog milestone	Milestone	19th Century	Document	Unknown	Unknown
81235	Ty Bach house	House	Post Medieval	Document	Unknown	Unknown
81240	Ysgiog ford	Ford	Post Medieval	Document	Unknown	Unaffected
81242	Tre-gaer bridge	Bridge	19th Century	Structure	Unknown	Unaffected
81243	Tre-gaer milestone	Milestone	19th Century	Document	Unknown	Unaffected
81262	Alltmawr leat	Leat ?	Post Medieval	Earthwork	Damaged	Unaffected

- 8.6.2 The field survey failed to identify any surface remains of Ty bach house (PRN 81235), although subsurface remains may well survive. Two milestones (PRNs 81230 and 81232) were not identified during the field survey due to health and safety considerations and dense vegetation, although they may still survive.

Historic Hedgerows

- 8.7 The assessment has not examined in any detail the historic hedgerows of area as this was not a requirement of the curatorial brief. However, the results from the desktop study and field survey have indicated that the existing field system within the study area is likely to be of post-medieval origin. It is possible, nevertheless, that earlier boundaries have been preserved beneath the existing boundaries. None of the hedgerows form part of any known estate boundary and none are associated with any recorded archaeological sites.

9 IMPACTS

- 9.1 The present A470 appears to have originated as a turnpike road constructed during the 18th century and as such is essentially an historical feature in itself. Although the road has been modified over the last two hundred or more years original features such as milestones and bridges do survive. A number of small roadside quarries may also date from the construction of the road, but these are considered to be of only minor significance.
- 9.2 As noted above the proposed improvements affect three sections of the road and the archaeological resource and the potential impact of the proposals is outlined for each of these below.

Ysgiog Section (Fig. 13)

- 9.3 The assessment has identified few sites within the area and the only sites of significance, Glanwye House and Lodge (PRNs 81248, 81251) and Ysgiog Farm (PRN 81252) are unlikely to be affected by the proposals. The only recorded sites which may be directly affected are four quarries (PRNs 81255-6, 22365 and 22367) which may relate to the construction of the turnpike road and are considered to be of only minor significance. In addition, a milestone (PRN 81232) may survive south of Ysgiog, although this was not identified during the field survey.

Alltmawr Section (Fig. 14)

- 9.4.1 The settlement of Alltmawr is considered to be of considerable archaeological significance with a high potential for further unrecorded buried features. Consequently an area of sensitivity has been defined on plan. It has been suggested too that Alltmawr may have medieval origins (Martin & Walters 1993) and the area around the village contains a number of sites of archaeological and historical significance. St Mauritius' Church (PRN 20152) is a Grade II listed building, and although substantially restored in the 19th century, its origin may well go back into the early medieval period. Adjacent to the church are Chapel House (PRN 2685) and Chapel House Farm (PRN 2686), both of which are probably 19th-century in date. The house originally had gardens described as 'pleasure grounds' (PRN 81238) lying further to the north. The proposals will not have a direct effect on these sites, but will impact on the setting of both the church and Chapel House.

- 9.4.2 The recent trial excavations (PRN 82140) have uncovered a series of buried archaeological features, which are likely to be completely destroyed if the proposal is implemented. The features could reflect enclosures, settlement evidence, iron working structures and trackways, and represent only a sample of the buried archaeological evidence in this area of sloping ground to the north of Abernant Cottage. The dating of these features has not yet been determined, although charcoal samples have been taken from a limited number of features to obtain a radiocarbon date, should this be deemed appropriate, prior to any further work being carried out. The relatively large quantities of iron working slag which were obtained during the excavations demonstrate that smithing and potentially some smelting was being carried out on the site, and there is evidently a significant potential for the discovery and dating of features and structures associated with both this, and other forms of, activity in the area. The distribution of slag in secondary contexts suggests that the iron working activity is probably centred in the northern part of the field to the north of Abernant Cottage and if, as has been tentatively suggested here, the features are of early medieval date, they are likely to be of considerable archaeological interest.
- 9.4.3 A number of farm buildings (PRN 81258) associated with Abernant House, together with the walled kitchen garden (PRN 81259), form a coherent group considered to be of regional significance (category B). It would appear that the proposals may result in the loss of some of the smaller buildings, together with the possible loss of the western boundary wall of the garden. Any such impact would have a detrimental effect on the group value and the setting of the complex as a whole.
- 9.4.4 At the northern end of the section the former house site of Ty bach (PRN 81235) now has no visible remains, and has perhaps been removed in the course of past road widening or improvement, although it is possible that limited sub-surface remains may survive. The significance of this site and the potential impact of the proposals cannot be determined from the available evidence. A stone-built water tank (PRN 81253) on the opposite side of the road may be destroyed by the proposed works.

Christmas Pitch Section (Fig. 15)

- 9.5.1 There are few archaeological sites which have been identified as above-ground remains along this section, and none of these appear to be directly affected by the proposals. A building platform (PRN 81254) close to the northern end of the section may be at risk, however, due to its proximity to the road corridor.
- 9.6 In addition to those sites identified during the assessment, there is always a potential for unrecorded buried archaeological remains to survive along each section of the route, for which there is now no visible surface trace.

10 MITIGATION

- 10.1 The potential impact on the known archaeology has been considered above and appropriate mitigation measures are outlined in this section.

Site-specific Mitigation

- 10.2 The majority of sites identified will not be affected by the proposals and therefore require no specific mitigation measures. The assessment has, however, identified potential impacts on the following recorded sites and mitigation measures are proposed for each, initially in tabulated form, and thereafter in extended text.

PRN	Name	Type	Period	Form	Category	Impact	Mitigation
950	Maes y Gaer placename	Hillfort ?	Iron Age	Placename	Unknown	Unknown	Initial watching brief
2683	Alltmawr Churchyard	Churchyard	Medieval	Structure	A	Setting	Sympathetic planting
2685	Alltmawr Chapel House	Building	19th Century	Building	B	Setting	Sympathetic planting
20152	Alltmawr Church	Church	Medieval	Building	A	Setting	Sympathetic planting
22365	Glanwye quarry	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	D	Loss	Rapid record
22367	Henallt Wood quarry	Quarry	Post Medieval	Earthwork	D	Damage/part loss	Rapid record
81230	Bridge End milestone	Milestone	19th Century	Document	E	Unknown	Record/relocate
81232	Ysgiog milestone	Milestone	19th Century	Document	E	Unknown	Record/relocate
81235	Ty Bach house	House	Post Medieval	Document	E	Unknown	Initial watching brief
81253	Ty bach water tank	Water tank	19th Century	Structure	C	Loss	Drawn record
81254	Bridge End platform	Platform	Post Medieval	Earthwork	B	Unknown	Avoid site/mark out buffer zone
81255	Ysgiog quarry I	Quarry	Post Medieval ?	Earthwork	D	Damage/part loss	Existing record sufficient
81256	Ysgiog quarry II	Quarry	Post Medieval ?	Earthwork	D	Damage/part loss	Existing record sufficient
81258	Abernant outbuildings	Farm	19th Century ?	Building	B	Part loss/Setting	Record
81259	Abernant kitchen garden	Garden	19th Century ?	Structure	B	Part loss/Setting	Record
81260	Abernant Cottage	House	19th Century	Building	B	Setting	Sympathetic planting
82140	Alltmawr excavation features	Earthworks	Early medieval ?	Earthwork	B	Loss	Total excavation

PRN 950 Maes y Gaer placename

- 10.2 A watching brief during overburden stripping may reveal further information which relates to the placename. If any features are revealed, sufficient time and funding should be made available to investigate their nature and dating. Depending on the results of the investigation, further mitigation may then be required.

PRN 2683 Alltmawr Churchyard

- 10.3 The visual setting of the churchyard will be affected by the proposed scheme. Some sympathetic tree planting in the vicinity may reduce this visual impact.

PRN 2685 Alltmawr Chapel House

- 10.4 The visual setting of the house will be affected by the proposed scheme. Some sympathetic tree planting in the vicinity may reduce this visual impact.

PRN 20152 Alltmawr Church

- 10.5 The visual setting of the church will be affected by the proposed scheme. Some sympathetic tree planting in the vicinity may reduce this visual impact.

PRN 22365 Glanwye quarry

- 10.6 In view of the minor importance of the site, a rapid written and photographic record should provide sufficient mitigation against the likely impact.

PRN 22367 Henallt Wood quarry

- 10.7 In view of the minor importance of the site, a rapid written and photographic record should provide sufficient mitigation against the likely impact.

PRN 81230 Bridge End milestone

- 10.8 Prior to works commencing the opportunity should be taken to determine whether the milestone survives and record as appropriate. If the milestone survives, it should be carefully removed and subsequently replaced as near as possible to its original location.

PRN 81232 Ysgiog milestone

- 10.9 Prior to works commencing the opportunity should be taken to determine whether the milestone survives and record as appropriate. If the milestone survives, it should be carefully removed and subsequently replaced as near as possible to its original location.

PRN 81235 Ty Bach house

- 10.10 A watching brief during ground disturbance work in this area may reveal sub-surface remains of the house. If any features are revealed, sufficient time and funding should be made available to investigate their nature and dating. Depending on the results of the investigation, further mitigation may then be required.

PRN 81253 Ty bach water tank

- 10.11 In view of the local importance of this site, a drawn plan should be produced by means of measured survey, prior to the commencement of earthmoving operations. The watching brief recommended for ground disturbance work in the vicinity of PRN 81235 should also be extended to cover this site.

PRN 81254 Bridge End platform

- 10.12 This site lies just beyond the boundary of the proposed road improvement work. In order that it does not suffer accidental damage during construction work, a buffer zone, 50m in diameter, should be used which can then be marked out using easily visible and identifiable means, if necessary. Plant and machinery operators should be made aware of the marked out area used as a buffer zone around the site, and the need to avoid it, prior to work commencing in the vicinity.

PRN 81255 Ysgiog quarry I

- 10.13 This site has already been described, sketched and photographed as part of the initial archaeological assessment. Further work is not necessary.

PRN 81256 Ysgiog quarry II

- 10.14 This site has already been described, sketched and photographed as part of the initial archaeological assessment. Further work is not necessary.

PRN 81258 Abernant outbuildings

- 10.15 Any of the buildings which are scheduled for demolition should be appropriately recorded prior to their loss. As a minimum this should include a photographic survey of all external elevations, but could also incorporate a photogrammetric survey of buildings which are considered to be of particular interest.

PRN 81259 Abernant kitchen garden

- 10.16 A written and photographic record of the western boundary wall of the garden should be carried out if it has to be demolished in the course of the implementation of the scheme.

PRN 81260 Abernant Cottage

- 10.17 The visual setting of the cottage will be affected by the proposed scheme. Some sympathetic tree planting in the vicinity may reduce this visual impact.

PRN 82140 Features revealed by the Alltmawr trial excavations

- 10.18 The trial excavations at Alltmawr have revealed a series of buried archaeological features, consisting mainly of gullies, pits, and post-holes. Total excavation of this area should be carried out in advance of any road improvement works in order to record these features and any others not yet identified,

prior to their destruction. This excavation should consist of the initial mechanical stripping of overburden onto the surface of the archaeological deposits under close archaeological supervision, followed by the total excavation of all features revealed. A phase of post-excavation work should be incorporated in the programme to allow for the study of any artefacts, environmental or metallurgical samples, the dating of relevant materials, and the production of the site archive. The results should be published in an appropriate journal.

General Mitigation

- 10.19 In addition to the site-specific mitigation proposed above a watching brief should be maintained during all groundworks to allow for the identification and appropriate recording of any significant archaeological features and artefacts which may be revealed. An appropriate procedure for allowing time to carry out recording should form part of the project design.

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Aerial photographic sources

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95-C-343 to 347

95-13-20 to 22

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<i>Library No</i>	<i>Sortie</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Print nos</i>
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8907		1989	36-37

APPENDIX 1

GAZETEER OF SITES

Prn 950	Maes y Gaer placename	Ngr	SO07154646
Type Hillfort ?	Period Iron Age	Form Placename	Condition Unknown
Section Alltmawr	Category E	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Name suggests defended site. No further detail

Prn 2683	Alltmawr Church (St Mauritius), yard	Ngr	SO07344687
Type Churchyard	Period Medieval	Form Structure	Condition Intact
Section Alltmawr	Category A	Predicted impact	Setting

The church sits within an irregular stone walled churchyard (PAR2683) lying on a moderately steep east-facing slope. This enclosure is curvilinear on the north and east but straight on the west, where it abutts Chapel House Farm, and on the south, where it borders a modern garden. This sub-circularity, albeit truncated, may be indicative of an early medieval origin, though this is rather tenuous. (SMR, 1995)

Prn 2684	Alltmawr earthworks	Ngr	SO073468
Type Non	Period Not recorded	Form Landform	Condition Unknown
Section Alltmawr	Category E	Predicted impact	Damage/part loss

Two building platforms together with three tracks or hollow ways. Possible remains of single farmstead.

Platform 1 0.1m high, c10 x6m; Platform 2 on terrace levelled into spur c10m x 5m, probably associated with lynchet 6. (Jones, N W 1993d, 4).

Platform 1 appears to be only a mound, probably near circular c.7m diameter x 0.2m high. Certainly not a typical platform; Platform 2 could be a natural terrace on the spur. The interior has an appreciable slope to the E and measures c.13m N/S x 8m. Again no form which confirms site as a platform. The upper track may in fact be a leat which used to supply Chapel House (CPAT, 2001)

This record has been discounted following trial excavation (CPAT Project 1001).

Prn 2685	Alltmawr, Chapel House	Ngr	SO0735646923
Type Building	Period 19th Century	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Setting

A late 19th century creation in the "arts and crafts" style, set in heavily landscaped gardens.

Present owner believed original date to be 1780 (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 2686	Alltmawr, Chapel House Farm	Ngr	SO0731346886
Type House	Period Post Medieval	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Chapel House Farm abuts the churchyard on the north. It is essentially a post medieval building, although possibly with earlier elements, now incorporated into the Chapel House estate.

Prn 20152	Alltmawr Church (St Mauritius)	Ngr	SO0733846879
Type Church	Period Medieval	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Alltmawr	Category A	Predicted impact	Setting

St Maritus' Church (PAR20152), comprises a nave, hexagonal chancel, porch and bellcote, and at only

10.5m long is one of the smallest parish churches in Wales. The plan of the nave is basically medieval, although much of the fabric dates from early C19th restoration. The chancel is a modern addition although it may be reflecting an earlier structure. (SMR, 1995)

Prn 22365	Glanweye quarry (dis)	Ngr	SO0654149252
Type Quarry	Period Post Medieval	Form Earthwork	Condition Unknown
Section Ysgiog	Category D	Predicted impact	Loss

Quarry, captured from 1:25,000 map (OS, 1988)

Prn 22366	Ysgiog Farm quarry (dis)	Ngr	SO0645948938
Type Quarry	Period Post Medieval	Form Earthwork	Condition Unknown
Section Ysgiog	Category D	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Quarry, captured from 1:25,000 map (OS, 1988)

Prn 22367	Henallt Wood quarry (dis)	Ngr	SO0673247968
Type Quarry	Period Post Medieval	Form Earthwork	Condition Unknown
Section Ysgiog	Category D	Predicted impact	Damage/part loss

Quarry, captured from 1:25,000 map (OS, 1988)

Prn 22368	Chapel Plantation quarry (dis)	Ngr	SO0682947592
Type Quarry	Period Post Medieval	Form Earthwork	Condition Unknown
Section Alltmawr	Category D	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Quarry, captured from 1:25,000 map (OS, 1988)

Prn 22405	Wyeside quarry (dis)	Ngr	SO0772144479
Type Quarry	Period Post Medieval	Form Earthwork	Condition Unknown
Section Christmas Pitch	Category D	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Quarry, captured from 1:25,000 map (OS, 1988)

Prn 81230	Bridge End milestone	Ngr	SO07204555
Type Milestone	Period 19th Century	Form Document	Condition Unknown
Section Christmas Pitch	Category E	Predicted impact	Unknown

Milestone shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6". Built 5 Hay 14. Not seen during field survey, though possibly masked by dense undergrowth on road verge. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81231	Alltmawr milestone	Ngr	SO07404710
Type Milestone	Period 19th Century	Form Document	Condition Destroyed
Section Alltmawr	Category D	Predicted impact	Already destroyed

Milestone shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6". Built 4 Hay 16. No longer extant at given NGR. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81232	Ysgiog milestone	Ngr	SO06644847
Type Milestone	Period 19th Century	Form Document	Condition Unknown
Section Ysgiog	Category E	Predicted impact	Unknown

Milestone shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6". Built 3 Hay 16.

Not seen during field survey at given NGR. However, this section of road is particularly dangerous and the

search was consequently rapid. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81233	Henallt Wood quarry II	Ngr	SO06914771
Type Quarry	Period Post Medieval	Form Document	Condition Unknown
Section Alltmawr	Category D	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Quarry shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6".

Difficult to separate this quarry from work associated with previous road improvements. Probably only for local building stone. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81234	Glanwye milestone	Ngr	SO06615005
Type Milestone	Period 19th Century	Form Structure	Condition Intact
Section Ysgiog	Category C	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Milestone shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6", bearing the legend Hay 17 Built 2. Leans against the stone wall outside Glan Wye lodge. Painted white with characters highlighted in black. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81235	Ty Bach house	Ngr	SO07094755
Type House	Period Post Medieval	Form Document	Condition Unknown
Section Alltmawr	Category E	Predicted impact	Unaffected

House shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6"

No surface trace evident. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81236	New Garden house	Ngr	SO07304498
Type House	Period Post Medieval ?	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Christmas Pitch	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

House shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6" . Former keepers lodge constructed of dressed stone with slate roof. Probably 18th century in origin from appearance. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81237	Boat field fieldname	Ngr	SO07504710
Type Fieldname	Period Post Medieval ?	Form Placename	Condition Unknown
Section Alltmawr	Category D	Predicted impact	Unknown

Boat field fieldname listed in tithe apportionment for Alltmawr parish, 1840. No relevant surface features apparent. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81238	Chapel House gardens	Ngr	SO07354700
Type Garden	Period 19th Century	Form Structure	Condition Near intact
Section Alltmawr	Category C	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Gardens associated with Alltmawr house, listed as 'pleasure grounds' in tithe apportionment 1840.

Number of surviving features related to the tithe record. Most notable is a circular flat-topped mound, 15m diameter x 2.5m high, with a stone flagged path leading N to it from Chapel House. Second smaller mound, 10m diameter x 1.5m high, on edge of road cutting c.15m to the E. Area around the mounds appears to have been levelled, and it could be that the probable leat (PRN 2684(7)) could have provided a water supply for associated ornamental features. There is an ornamental pond at the S end of the flagged path. In addition there are terraced gardens to the E of the house, above the main road. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81239	Aberedw ford		Ngr SO07404738
Type Ford	Period Post Medieval	Form Document	Condition Damaged
Section Alltmawr	Category D	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Ford shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6" Access track visible on Aberedw side, but no specific remains present in area. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81240	Ysgiog ford		Ngr SO06864855
Type Ford	Period Post Medieval	Form Document	Condition Unknown
Section Ysgiog	Category E	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Ford shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6"

Not examined as outside survey area. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81241	Bridge End bridge		Ngr SO07214559
Type Bridge	Period 19th Century	Form Structure	Condition Near destroyed
Section Christmas Pitch	Category D	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Former bridge carrying main road. Probably destroyed by or subsumed beneath later road improvements. Entrance to culvert beneath road (on W) and parapet could be part of the bridge but this seems unlikely; they appear to be contemporary with the road improvements. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81242	Tre-gaer bridge		Ngr SO07924416
Type Bridge	Period 19th Century	Form Structure	Condition Unknown
Section Christmas Pitch	Category E	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Outside area and not visited. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81243	Tre-gaer milestone		Ngr SO07864420
Type Milestone	Period 19th Century	Form Document	Condition Unknown
Section Christmas Pitch	Category E	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Milestone shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6" . Outside area and not visited. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81244	Bridge End footbridge		Ngr SO07294563
Type Footbridge	Period 19th Century	Form Document	Condition Destroyed
Section Christmas Pitch	Category D	Predicted impact	Already destroyed

Footbridge shown on Ordnance Survey prov. ed. 6". Not seen in steep sided gorge. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81245	Cwrt Gwenddwr		Ngr SO07274615
Type Building	Period Post Medieval	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Substantial former farmhouse with ranges of buildings. Private house with the land being let separately. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81246	Abernant bridge		Ngr SO07334665
Type Bridge	Period 19th Century	Form Structure	Condition Near intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Road bridge carrying the A470 over stream at Abernant. Stone arch with parapets on both sides. Information from nearby resident that the parapets were raised by the Council on safety grounds. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81247	Abernant Mill	Ngr	SO07074683
Type Mill	Period Post Medieval	Form Building	Condition Damaged
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Mill shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6". Former corn mill, apparently consolidated by the landowner in the mid-20th century. Outside area of study so not visited - information from local residents. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81248	Glanwye house	Ngr	SO06444977
Type Country	Period Post Medieval	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Ysgiog	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Large country house with ornamental gardens etc. Tenant named original owners as the Vaughan family, it was then taken over by the Glanusk estate, before being sold by them in the 20th century. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81249	Glanwye boat house	Ngr	SO06524936
Type Boat house	Period 19th Century	Form Structure	Condition Destroyed
Section Ysgiog	Category D	Predicted impact	Already destroyed

Boat house shown on Ordnance Survey prov. ed. 6". Wooden shed probably related to fishing activities in approx location, but this is modern and there is no evidence of a boat shed now visible. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81250	Glan Wye pump house	Ngr	SO06464952
Type Pump	Period Post Medieval	Form Structure	Condition Destroyed
Section Ysgiog	Category D	Predicted impact	Already destroyed

Pump house shown on Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6". Not seen during survey, though in wooded ground. Probably no longer extant. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81251	Glanwye Lodge	Ngr	SO06605006
Type Lodge	Period 19th Century	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Ysgiog	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Lodge shown on OS 1st ed 1891. Stone built estate lodge. Coat of arms (probably Glanusk). Porch with a slit window hinting at the style of a castle. Good example of a 19th century estate lodge. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81252	Ysgiog Farm	Ngr	SO06534894
Type House	Period Post Medieval	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Ysgiog	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Farm identified from Ordnance Survey. Not visited during survey. (CPAT 2001).

Prn 81253	Ty bach water tank	Ngr	SO07174751
Type Water tank	Period 19th Century	Form Structure	Condition Near intact
Section Ysgiog	Category C	Predicted impact	Loss

Water tank in corner of field constructed of slate slabs. Approx rectangular, 4m NW-SE x 3m x 1m deep. Water enters from NW side via pipe under road and leaves on NE to leat leading to river. Poss associated with former house Ty bach, now lost. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81254	Bridge End platform	Ngr	SO07284557
Type Platform	Period Post Medieval	Form Earthwork	Condition Damaged
Section Christmas Pitch	Category B	Predicted impact	Unknown

Rectangular terrace aligned N-S on gentle slope. Site of house? , terraced into slope on W and has bank on

W and S, probably forming a drainage hood. Slightly raised apron on E side but has been disturbance there. Some stone present in banks. Possible slight trace of a building on S part of terrace. Trackway leads N across stream. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81255	Ysgiog quarry I	Ngr	SO06624871
Type Quarry	Period Post Medieval ?	Form Earthwork	Condition Intact
Section Ysgiog	Category D	Predicted impact	Damage/part loss

Large quarry pit 50m diam x 10m deep cut into terrace above valley floor. Entered from SE - trackway associated. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81256	Ysgiog quarry II	Ngr	SO06634849
Type Quarry	Period Post Medieval ?	Form Earthwork	Condition Intact
Section Ysgiog	Category D	Predicted impact	Damage/part loss

Quarry pit 30m diam x 7m deep cut into edge of terrace above valley floor. Entered from SE. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81257	Abernant house	Ngr	SO07344660
Type House	Period 19th Century ?	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Unaffected

Former fishing lodge converted to country house in 1920s. Ornamental gardens include some moulded masonry from Eton College. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81258	Abernant outbuildings	Ngr	SO07314665
Type Farm	Period 19th Century ?	Form Building	Condition Near intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Part loss/Setting

Series of outbuildings associated with Abernant, centred on courtyard on W side of A470. Mostly stone-built apart from a small steel Dutch barn and a small building with brick quoins at W end of yard. Cottage built into corner adjacent to road. Some brick and concrete block rebuilding but essentially untouched early-mid 20th century estate buildings, possibly 19th century origins. The courtyard adjoins kitchen garden. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81259	Abernant kitchen garden	Ngr	SO07314663
Type Garden	Period 19th Century ?	Form Structure	Condition Intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Part loss/Setting

Stone wall surrounds kitchen garden on opposite side of A470 to Abernant house. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81260	Abernant cottage	Ngr	SO07324667
Type House	Period 19th Century	Form Building	Condition Intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Setting

Stone-built cottage with slate roof. Datestone of 1846. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 81261	Alltmawr track	Ngr	SO07374675
Type Non	Period Not recorded	Form Landform	Condition Unknown
Section Alltmawr	Category E	Predicted impact	Loss

Probable terraced former trackway running from Abernant to Chapel House Farm. Terrace slopes to E and is c 5m wide. Cut by modern lane to N. (CPAT, 2001)

Discounted as an archaeological feature following trial excavation (CPAT Project 1001).

Prn 81262	Alltmawr leat	Ngr	SO07284680
Type Leat ?	Period Post Medieval	Form Earthwork	Condition Damaged
Section Alltmawr	Category C	Predicted impact	Part loss

Formerly described as trackway, appearance of S end suggests a leat, presumably running from stream to Chapel House Farm. Channel c. 2m wide x 0.5m deep, with leat c. 5m wide overall. (CPAT, 2001)

Prn 82140	Alltmawr excavation features	Ngr	SO07324675
Type Earthwork	Period Dark Age ?	Form Earthwork	Condition Near intact
Section Alltmawr	Category B	Predicted impact	Loss

Group of features comprising gullies, pits, post-holes and surfaces found during Alltmawr evaluation (CPAT Project No 1001).

APPENDIX 2

A470 CARDIFF TO GLAN CONWY TRUNK ROAD IMPROVEMENTS SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT BY THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The proposed development involves improvements to the A470 Cardiff to Glan Conwy Trunk Road to the south of Builth Wells, Powys. Three separate sections are involved, at Christmas Pitch (SO 72456 to SO 076444), Ysgiog (SO 065496 to SO 068478), and Alltmawr/Abernant (SO 072475 to SO 072457). The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, acting as archaeological advisors to the local authority, have determined that an archaeological assessment should be undertaken to assess the potential impact of the proposals on the archaeological resource. Accordingly, a Brief has been prepared by Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency in conjunction with the Curator, which details the works required.
- 1.2 Information held within the Regional Sites and Monuments Record indicates that there are a number of recorded archaeological sites within the area of the scheme. However, the distribution of known sites reflects the lack of prior systematic archaeological survey in the area.
- 1.3 The following specification concerns only stages 1 and 2 of the Brief.

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 survey, 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 Part 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; records held by Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency.
- 3.2 Part two will take the form of a field survey of the whole of the proposed construction area. This will take the form of a walked transect along the road corridor. All archaeological sites will be recorded together with any potential environmental deposits. Each site will be recorded on standard CPAT site visit forms including: an accurate location using GPS; photography in 35mm format black and white and colour print and colour slide; sketch surveys as appropriate; written description of character, function, condition, vulnerability, dating etc; unique primary record number (PRN).
- 3.3 Following the on-site work an illustrated and bound report will be prepared according to the principles laid out in the Brief (section 7), incorporating the results from stages 1 and 2. This will be in A4 format and contain sections on: Summary; Methodology; Site location; Topography and Geology; Desk Top Study; Field Survey; Conclusions and Recommendations and References; together with a gazetteer of archaeological sites, archive deposition statement and archive list. A map or maps will be included within the report showing the location of all sites recorded during the assessment, and where possible,

their extent. Captioned colour photographs will be included to illustrate all extant sites identified during the field survey. Archaeological site data will be provided in database format in accordance with the requirements of the Regional SMR, together with any digital data resulting from the project. Three copies of the draft report will be forwarded to the client prior to submission of the final report, of which four copies will be provided.

- 3.4 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 assessment will be undertaken by a small team of skilled archaeologists under the direct 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 assessment will be completed within 5 days, the field survey will be completed in 2 days, and the report will be completed within 5 days. The curator will be informed of the timetable in order to arrange for monitoring.
- 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, as well as Professional Indemnity insurance.

N.W. Jones
8th May 2001

APPENDIX 3

A470 CARDIFF TO GLAN CONWY TRUNK ROAD, ALLTMAWR IMPROVEMENT REVISED SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The proposed development involves improvements to the A470 Cardiff to Glan Conwy Trunk Road to the south of Builth Wells, Powys. Three separate sections are involved, at Christmas Pitch (SO 72456 to SO 076444), Ysgiog (SO 065496 to SO 068478), and Alltmawr/Abernant (SO 072475 to SO 072457). A Stage 1 Assessment was undertaken by the Contracts Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, information from which has been used to determine a second stage of evaluation for the Alltmawr section. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, acting as archaeological advisors to the local authority, have produced a brief which details the works required.

2 Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the evaluation are:
 - 2.1.1 to locate and sample, by means of geophysical prospecting and strategic trial trenching, all archaeological features within the area of the route corridor, as indicated in the brief, in so far as these aims are possible;
 - 2.1.2 to prepare a report outlining the results of the evaluation, 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 Part one of the evaluation involved a detailed magnetometer survey of area indicated in the brief, totalling approximately 0.9ha. The survey took readings at a resolution of 0.15m along lines 1m apart with respect to a fixed grid established using total station surveying, tied in to field boundaries. Draft copies of the geophysical survey report were provided to the client and curator.
- 3.2 Part two will take the form of trial excavation: the number, location and size of the trenches were determined following discussion of the geophysical survey results with the client and curator. A revised brief issued by Mr M Walters required the excavation of a total of 14 trenches to investigate anomalies identified by the geophysical survey, together with slight earthworks previously identified.
- 3.3 Prior to the excavations, all trenches will be marked out and agreed with the client. The excavations will be conducted in a series of 4 phases with the turf being removed using a mechanical turf-cutter provided by PCC, with operator, prior to the excavations commencing. On completion of each phase the trenches will be reinstated and returfed. Each phase will last no more than 5 days in all.
- 3.4 The excavations will be undertaken using a mini excavator with a flat, 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. The excavations are intended to be essentially non-intrusive, although all significant 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. The level of sampling will be determined by the site supervisor and will depend on the nature, extent and depth of features and deposits identified.
- 3.5 Following discussions with Mr P Hoskins, PCC, it has been determined that an initial phase of excavation will be conducted comprising the excavation of Trench 1, measuring approximately 10 x 1.5m. Phase 2 will involve the excavation of Trenches 10, 11, 12 and 13; Phase 3 will involve the excavation of Trenches 2, 3, 6, 7; Phase 4 will involve the excavation of Trenches 4, 5, 8, 9 and 14.

- 3.6 Contexts will be recorded on individual record forms and be drawn and photographed as appropriate. Artefacts will be related to the contexts from which they were derived. All photography will be in 35mm format black and white and colour print and colour slide. The trenches will be located using total station surveying to relate them to buildings and boundaries identified on modern Ordnance Survey maps, with levels related to Ordnance Datum if possible. Site planning will be undertaken either digitally, by means of total station survey, or by hand at an appropriate scale.
- 3.7 Following the on-site work an illustrated and bound report will be prepared according to the principles laid out in the Brief (section 7), incorporating the results from stages 1 and 2. This will be in A4 format and contain sections on: Summary; Methodology; Site location; Topography and Geology; Geophysical Survey; Field Survey; Conclusions and Recommendations and References; together with an archive deposition statement and archive list. A copy of the draft report will be forwarded to the curator prior to submission of the final report.
- 3.8 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 geophysical survey has been sub-contracted to ArchaeoPhysica, 77a High Street, Newport, Shropshire. The excavation 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 The timetable for the excavation is as follows:

Marking-out	week commencing 29 July
Phase 1	5-7 August
Phase 2	12-16 August
Phase 3	19-23 August
Phase 4	26-30 August

It has been assumed that all stock will have been removed from the relevant areas for the duration of each phase of excavation and that fencing will not be required.

- 4.4 A draft report will be completed within 10 days of the completion of fieldwork. The curator will be informed of the timetable in order to arrange for monitoring.
- 4.5 Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 4.6 CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance, as well as Professional Indemnity insurance.

N.W. Jones
18th July 2002

APPENDIX 4

PROJECT ARCHIVE

Assessment

Site visit forms
1 black and white negative film
1 colour slide film
1 colour print film
photographic catalogue

Trial excavations

Site Archive

84 context record forms
2 black and white negative films
2 colour slide films
2 colour print films
photographic catalogue
1 A2 site drawing
Digital trench and site plans (Penmap): Alltmawr.pts

Finds

Unstratified (Trench 13)

35 pieces of slag
3 pieces of furnace lining

Context 2 (Trench 1) *Not retained*

1 Fe nail
2 shards of bottle glass

Context 7 (Trench 11)

1 piece of slag
1 Fe nail
1 sherd of medieval pottery - probably 13th-14th century and of local manufacture

Context 8 (Trench 11)

1 small piece of slag

Context 14 (Trench 10)

1 undiagnostic sherd of pottery (coarse fabric)
17 pieces of slag (including one hearth bottom)

Context 19 (Trench 13)

73 pieces of slag
6 pieces of furnace lining

Context 21 (Trench 13)

27 small pieces of slag
3 pieces of furnace lining
1 biconical lead weight

Context 23 (Trench 13)

54 pieces of slag
3 pieces of furnace lining

Context 29 (Trench 9)

- 1 fragment of slag
- 1 possible Fe object (nail ?)
- 1 undiagnostic sherd of pottery

Context 35 (Trench 14) *Not retained*

- 4 pieces of bottle glass
- 7 sherds of a cream ware vase (1750s-early 19th century)
- 1 sherd of a pearl ware plate (1780-early 19th century)
- 1 sherd of local red ware (post-medieval)
- 3 sherds of developed white ware (19th-20th century)

Context 37 (Trench 14)

- 1 fragment of Fe nail
- 19 pieces of slag
- 3 pieces of furnace lining

Context 40 (Trench 5) *Not retained*

- 1 shard of blue glass

Context 43 (Trench 4) *Not retained*

- 1 sherd of grey stone ware (18th-20th century)

Context 54 (Trench 6)

- 1 piece of furnace lining

Context 58 (Trench 6)

- 1 piece of (burnt ?) daub with a possible stick impression
- 5 pieces of slag

Context 63 (Trench 7)

- 1 piece of slag
- 2 pieces of furnace lining

Context 66 (Trench 7)

- 2 fragments of burnt stone
- 3 pieces of slag

Context 77 (Trench 2) *Not retained*

- 2 sherds of local red ware (post-medieval)
- 1 Fe horseshoe

Context 80 (Trench 2)

- 4 fragments of calcined bone

Samples

Context 23

- 4 bags of charcoal and possible metalworking debris

Context 58

- 1 bag of charcoal

Context 80

- 1 large bag (environmental sample)

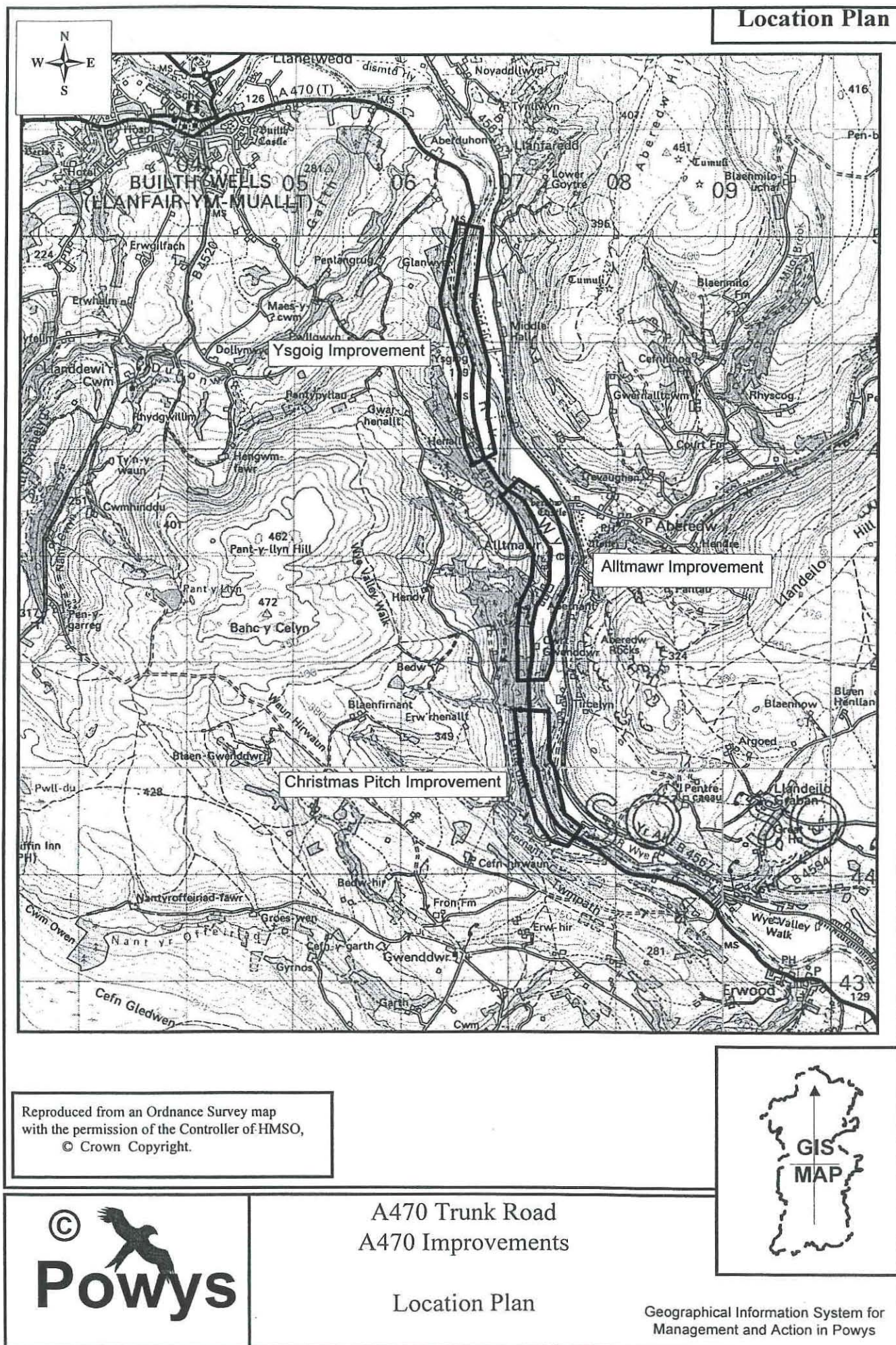


Fig. 1 Site location.

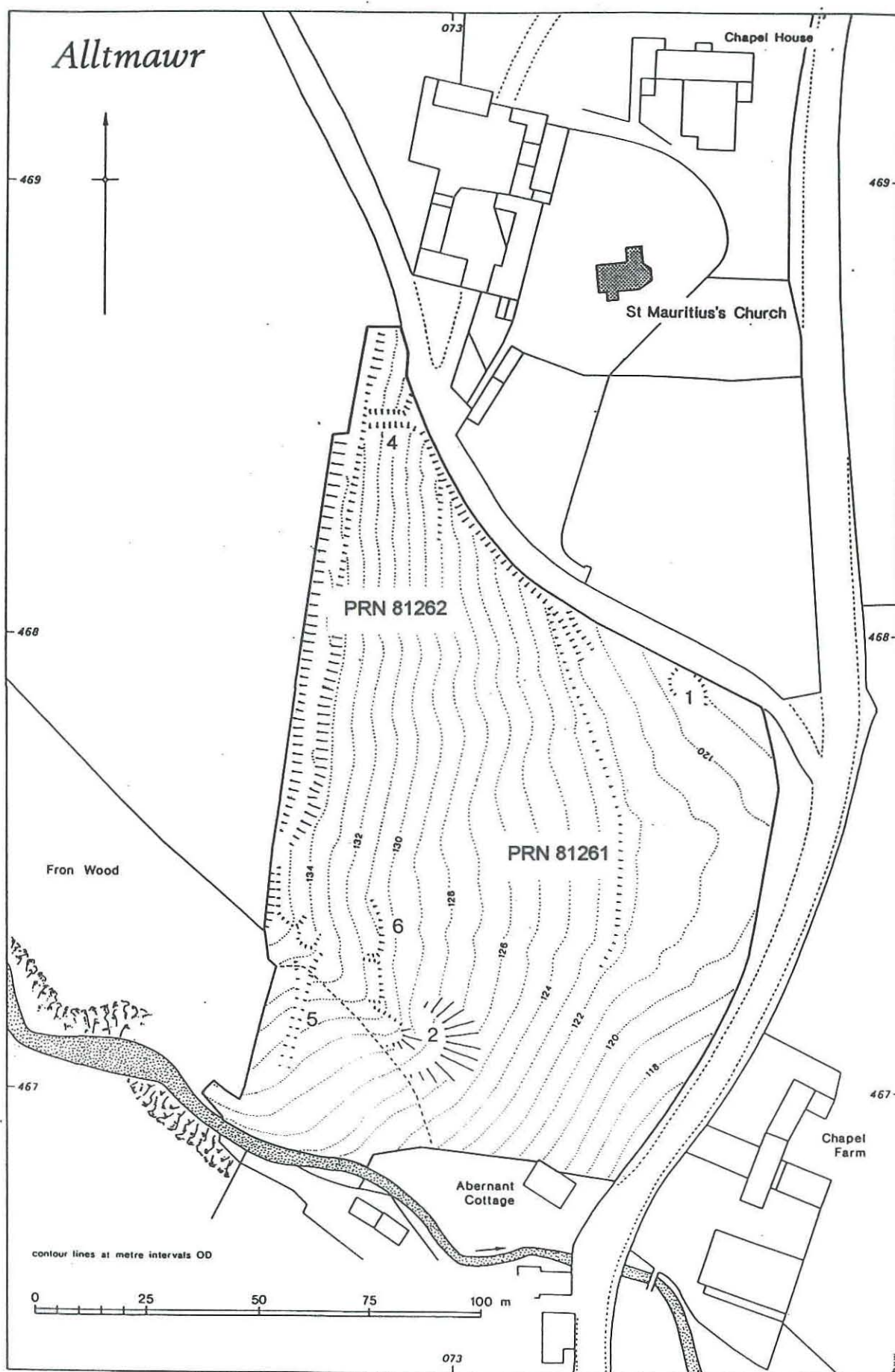


Fig. 2 Survey of settlement earthworks at Alltmawr (Jones 1993)



Fig. 3 Tithe survey of Llanddewi'r cwm parish, 1840

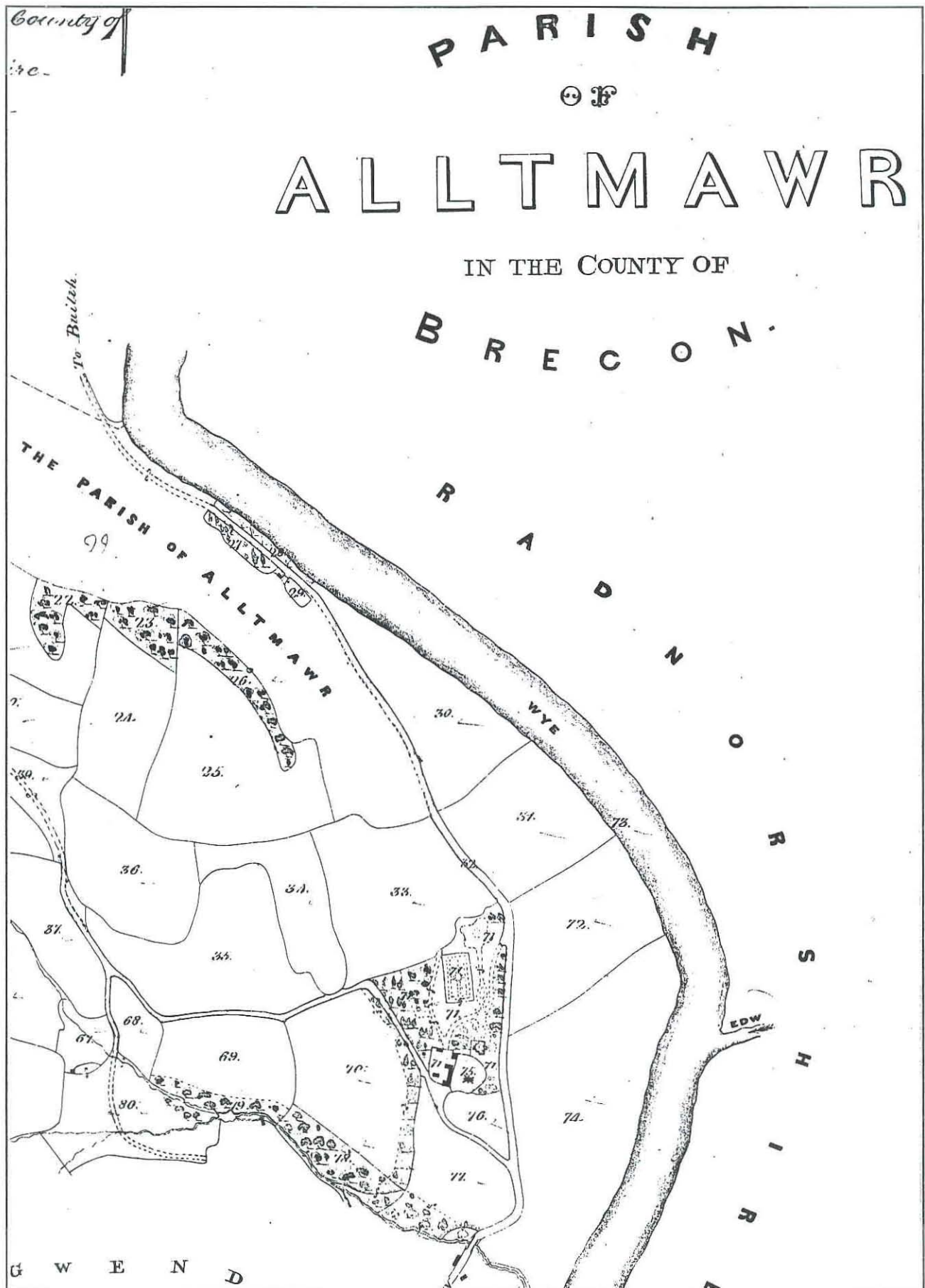


Fig. 4 Tithe survey of Alltmawr parish, 1842



Fig. 5 Tithe survey of Gwenddwr parish, 1841

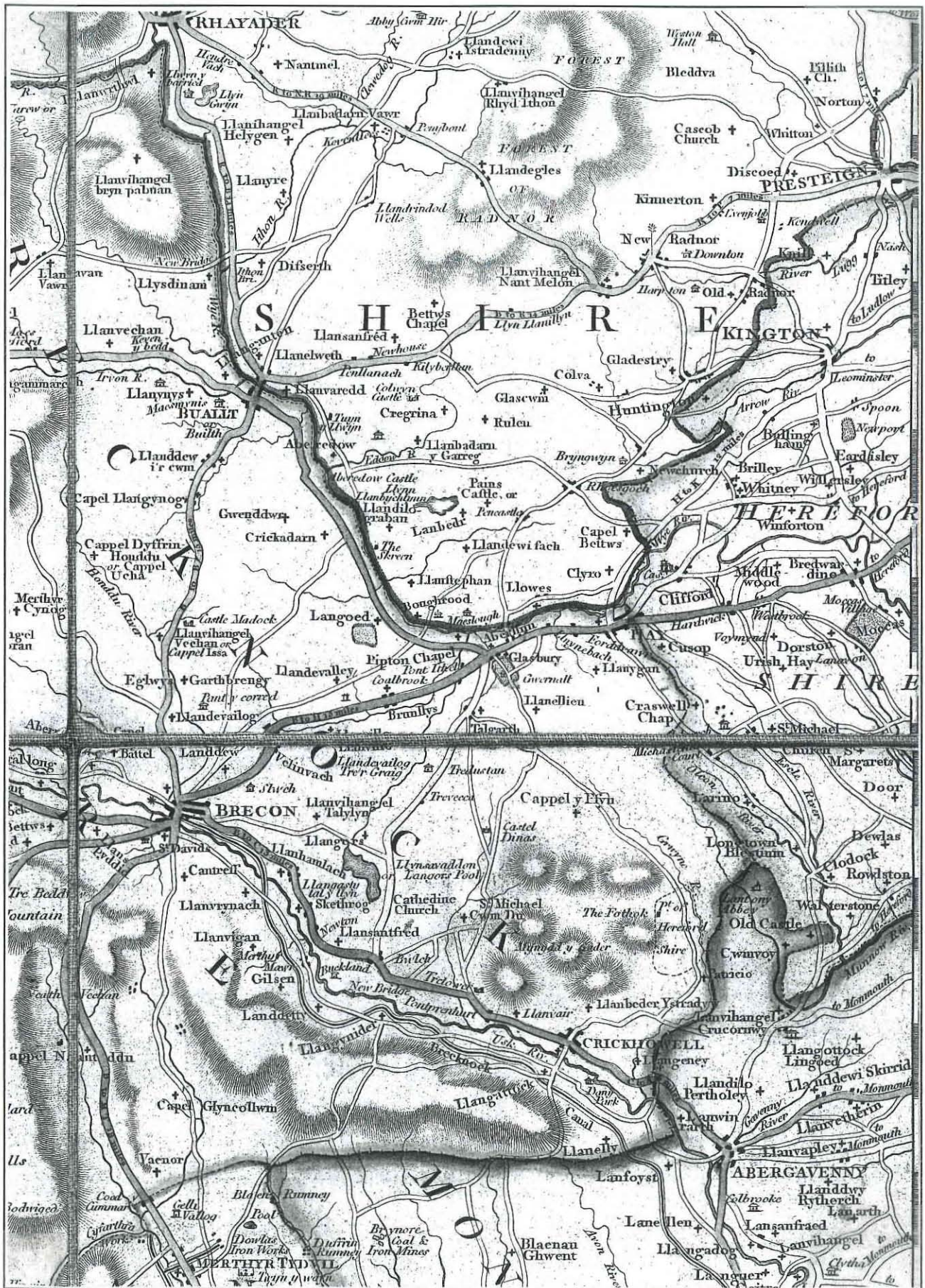


Fig. 6 Extract from Nathaniel Colman's map of South Wales, 2nd edition 1798

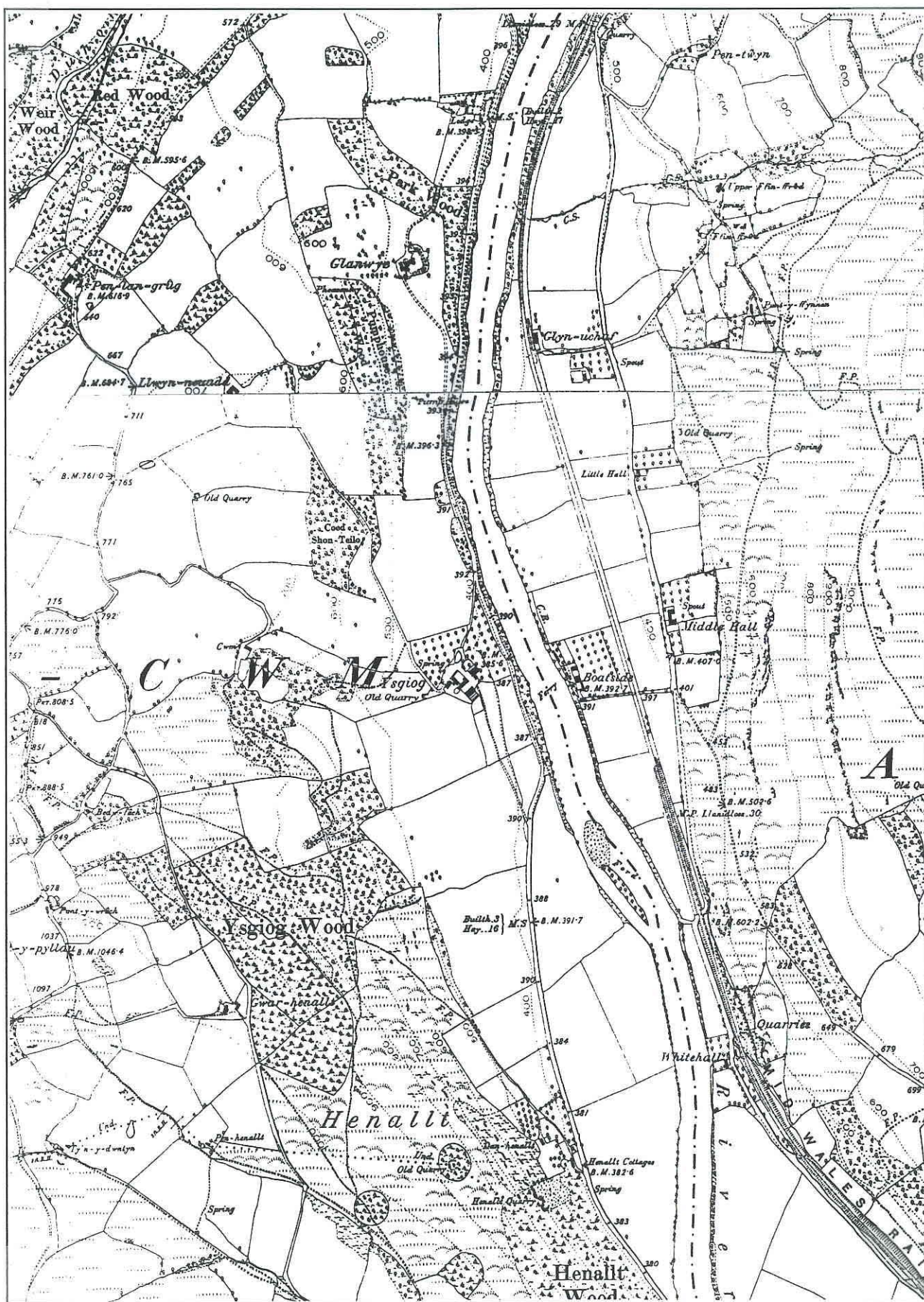


Fig. 7 Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6" 1890: Ysgiog section



Fig. 8 Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6" 1890: Alltmawr section

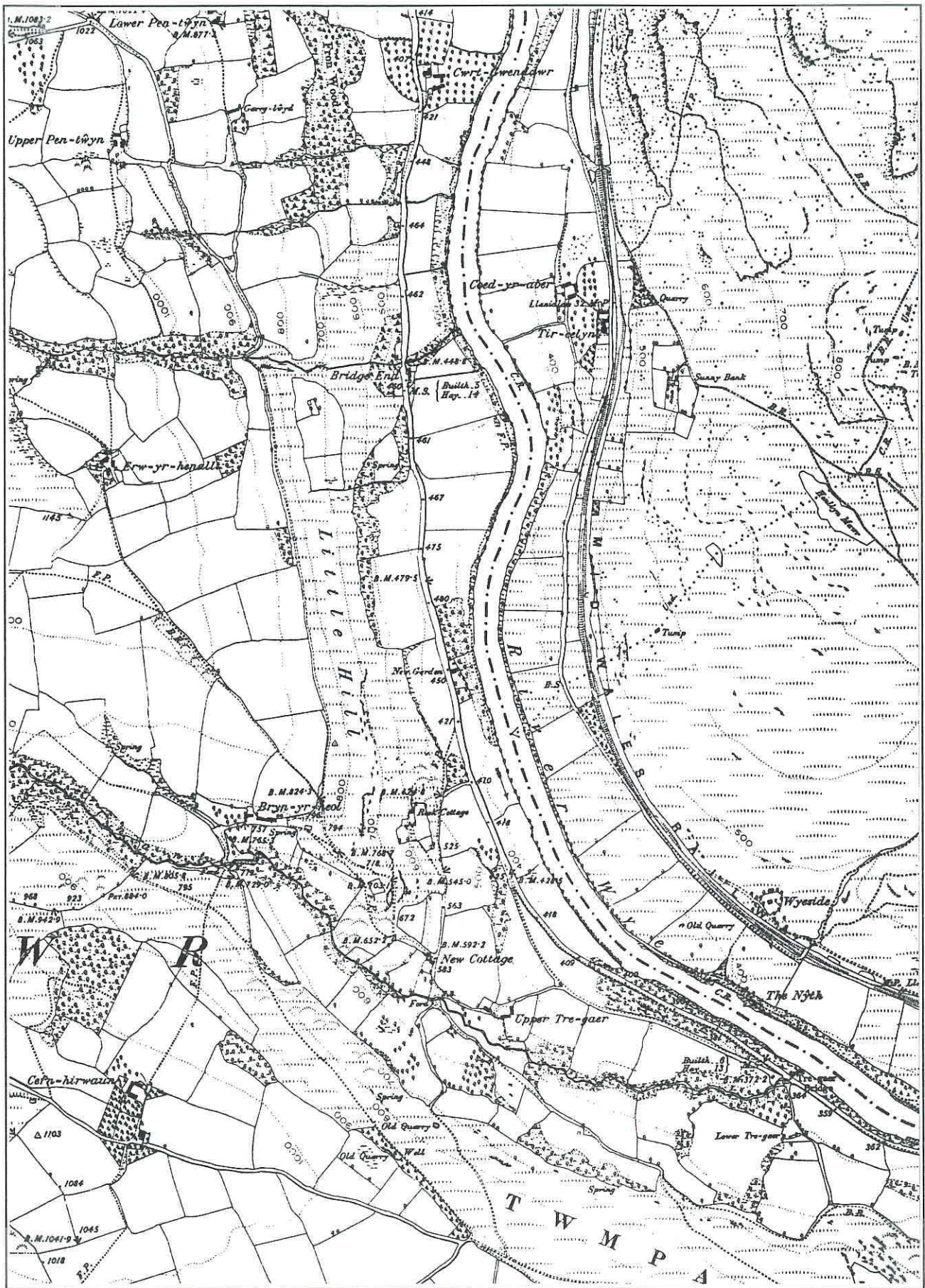


Fig. 9 Ordnance Survey 1st ed. 6" 1890: Christmas Pitch section

Fig. 10 Ordnance Survey provisional ed. 6": Ysgiog section

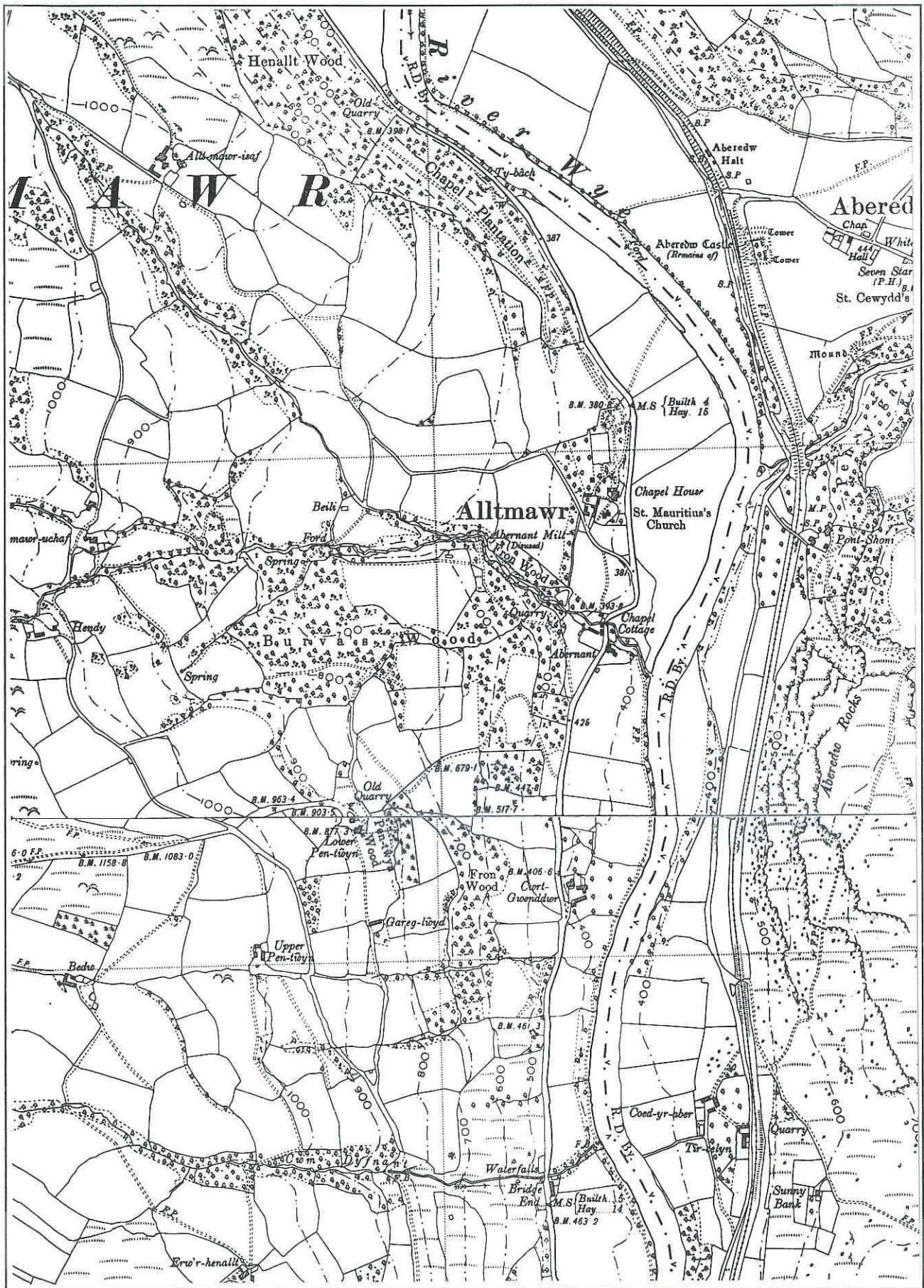


Fig. 11 Ordnance Survey provisional ed. 6": Alltmawr section

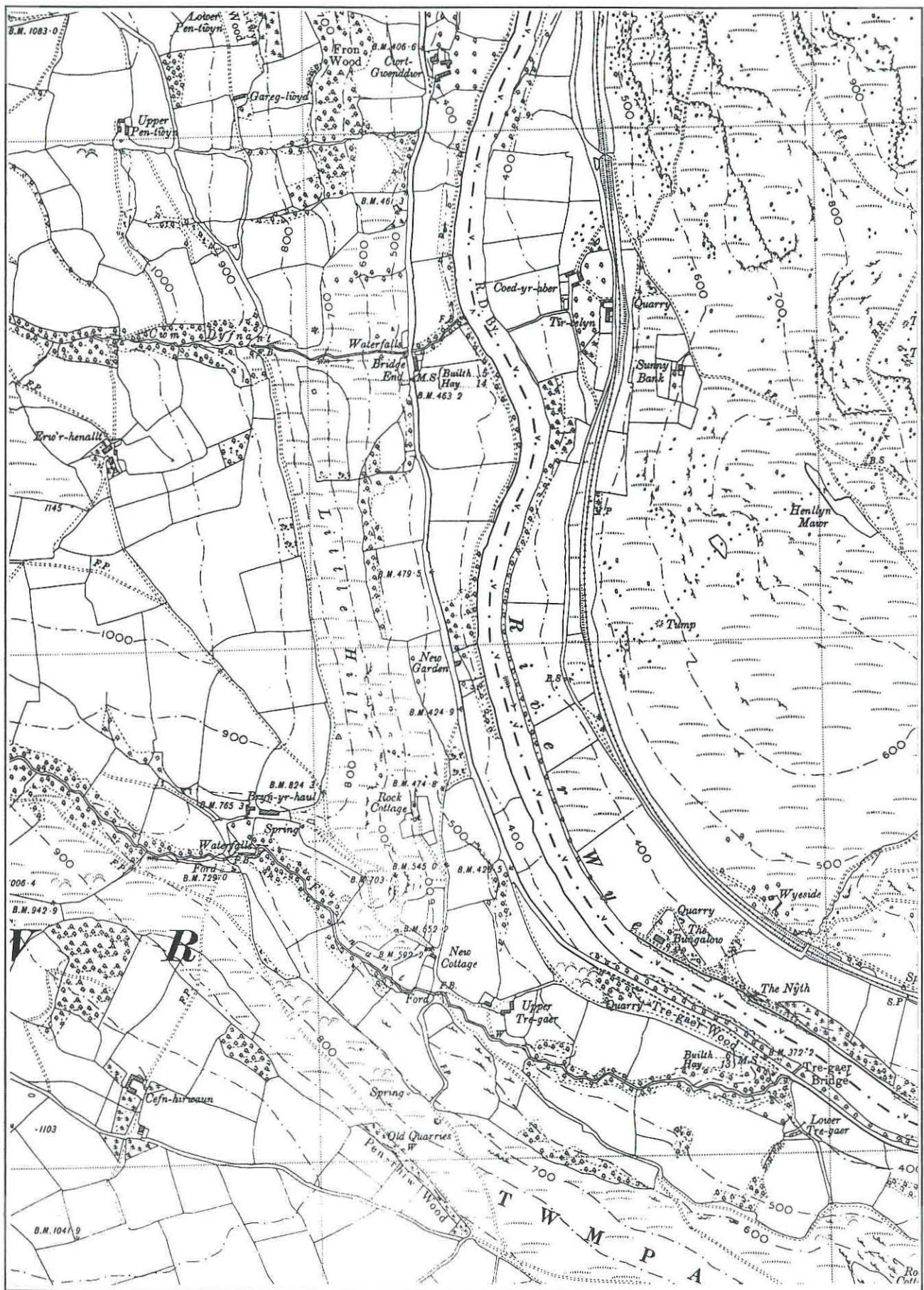


Fig. 12 Ordnance Survey provisional ed. 6": Christmas Pitch section

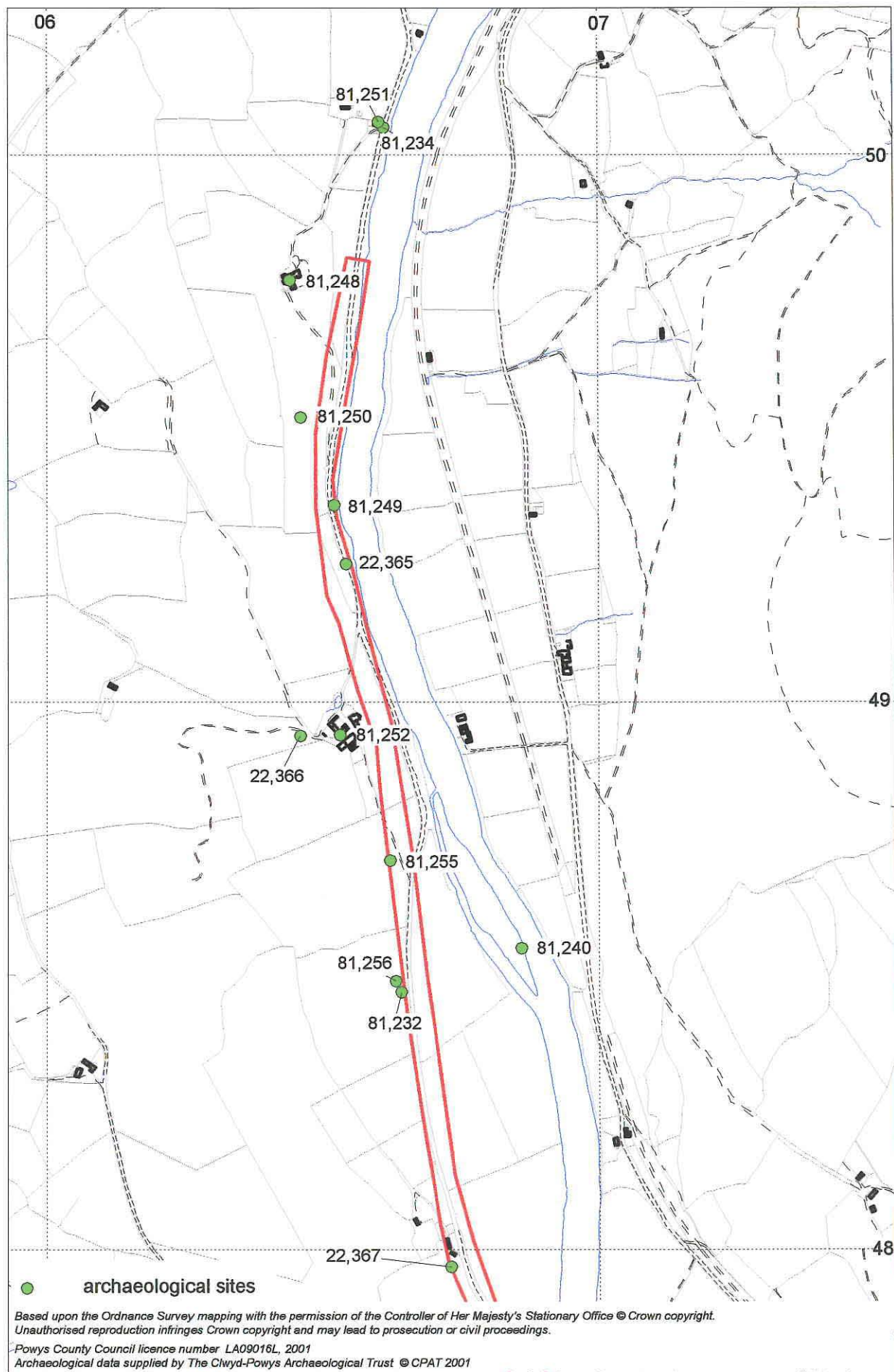


Fig. 13 Ysgiog Section: archaeological sites

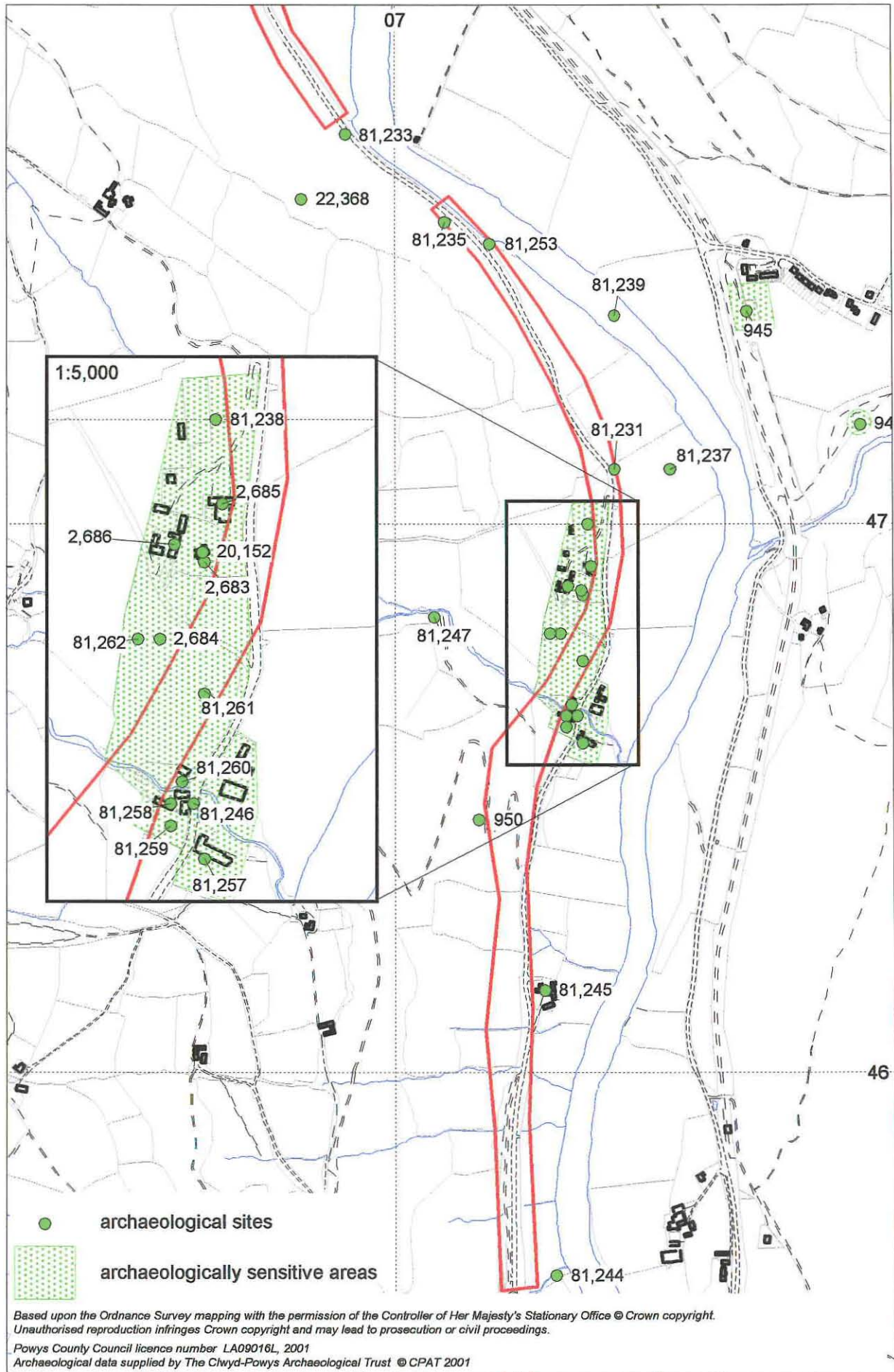


Fig. 14 Alltmaur Section: archaeological sites

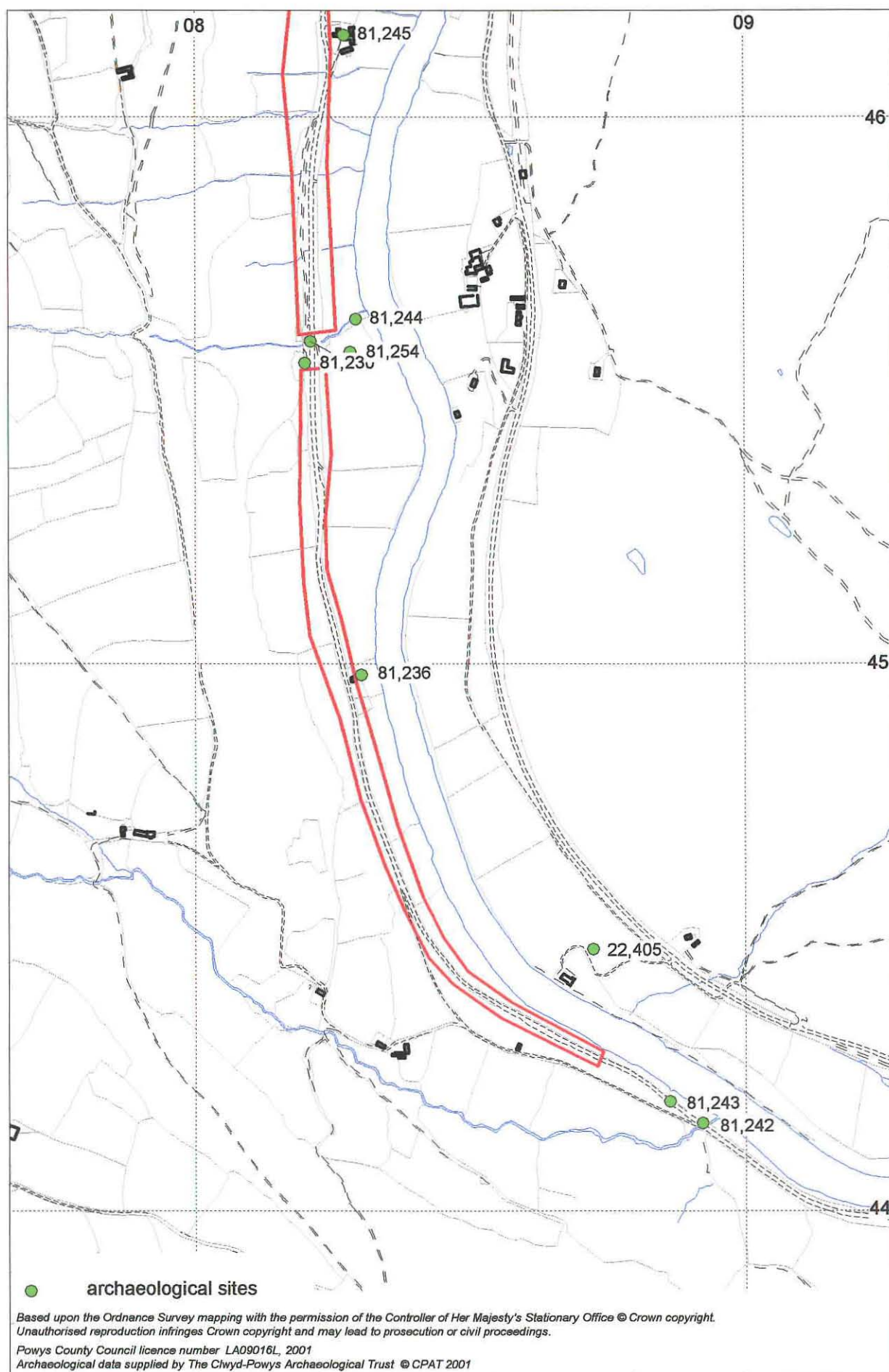


Fig. 15 Christmas Pitch Section: archaeological sites

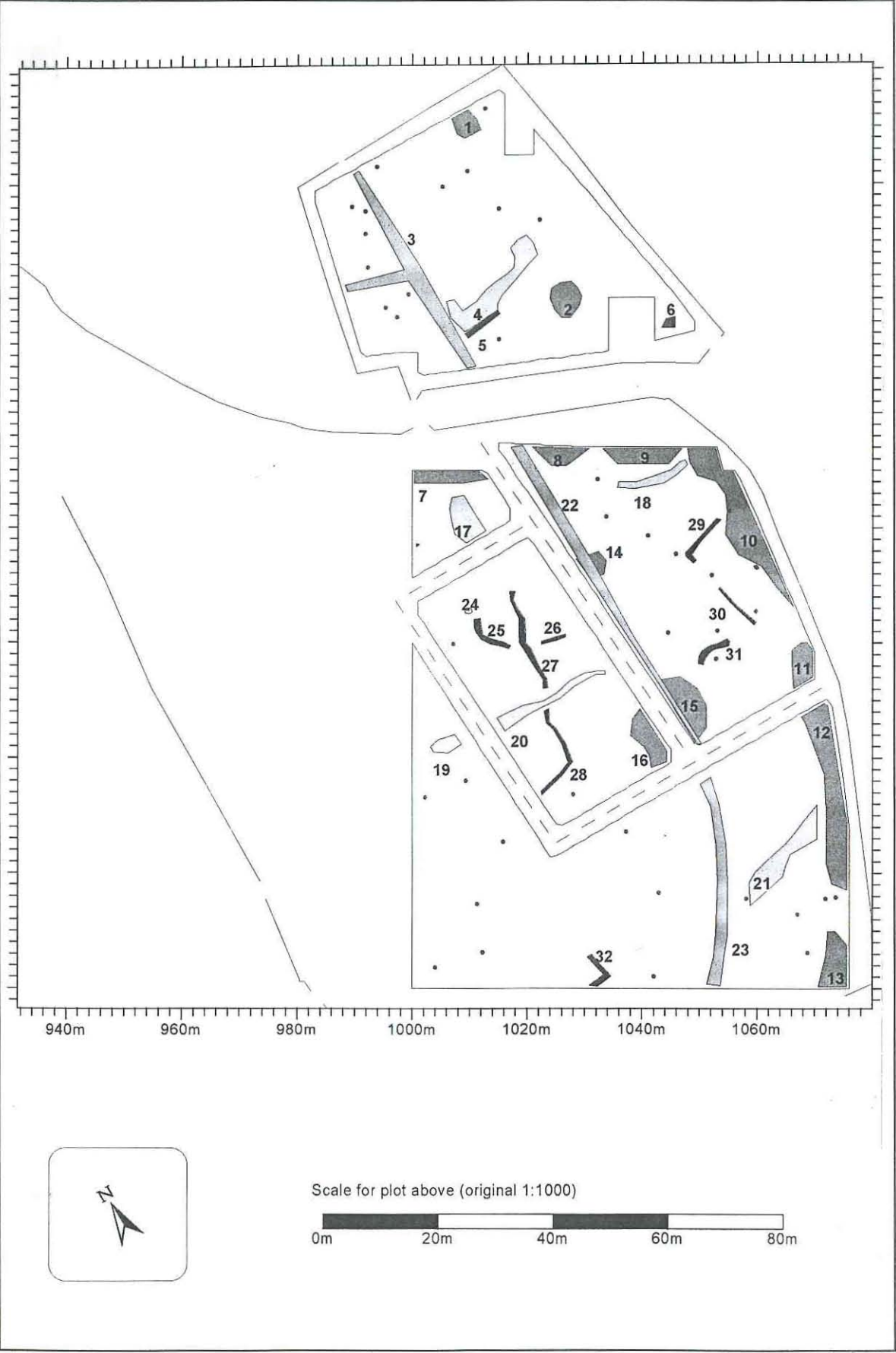


Fig. 16 Geophysical survey results

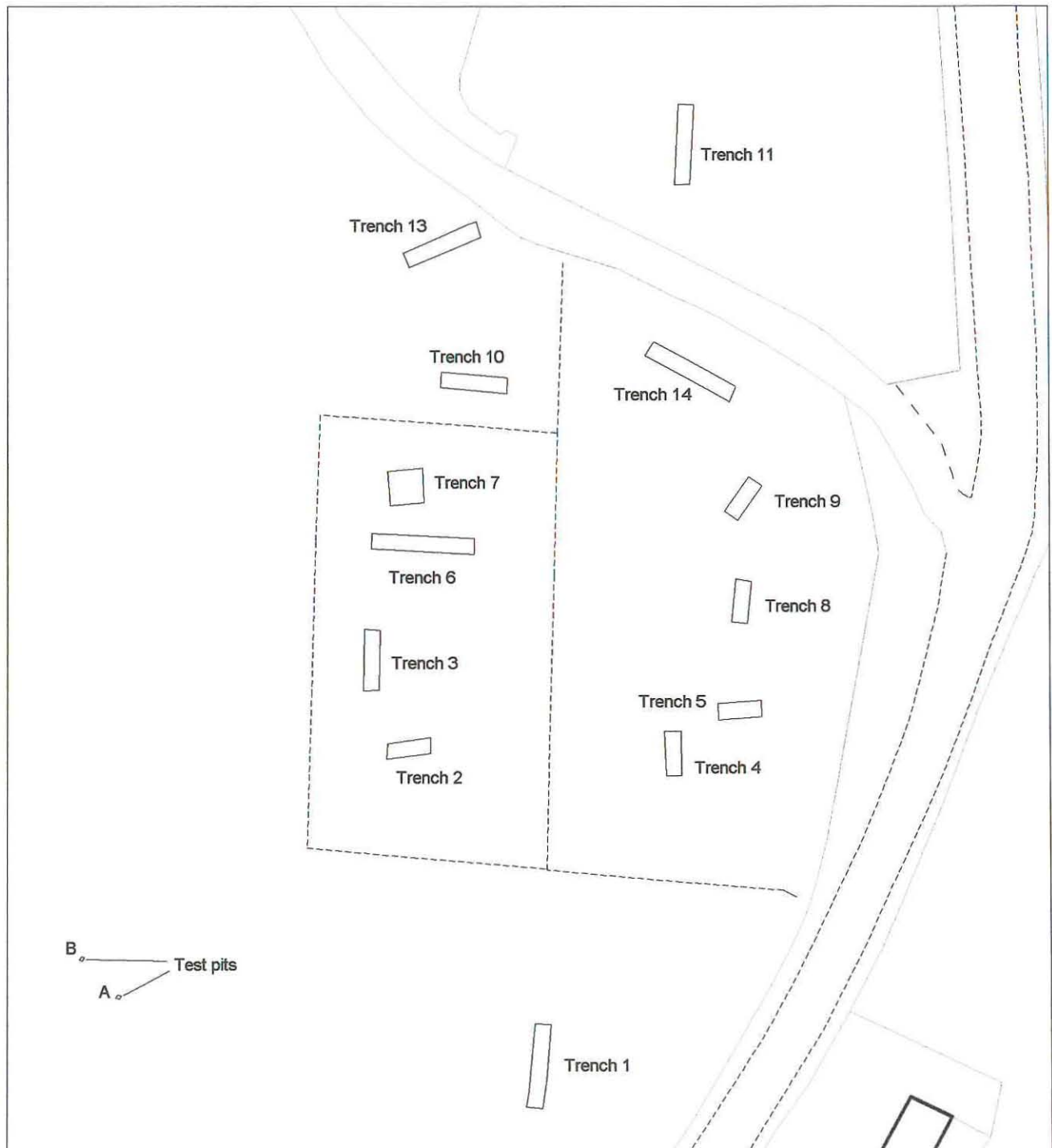


Fig. 17 Plan of excavation trenches, scale 1:7,000

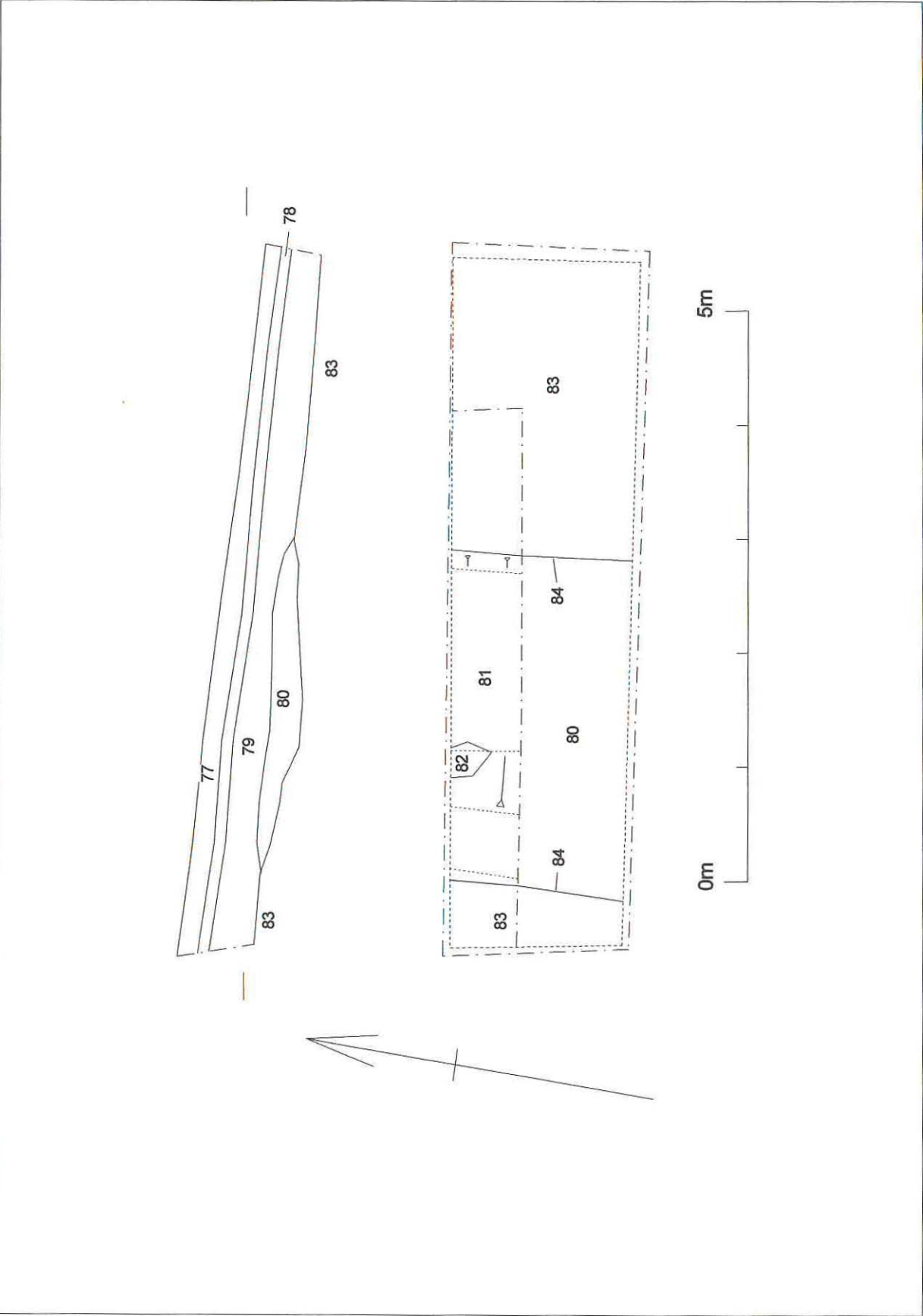


Fig. 18 Trench 2 plan and section, scale 1:50

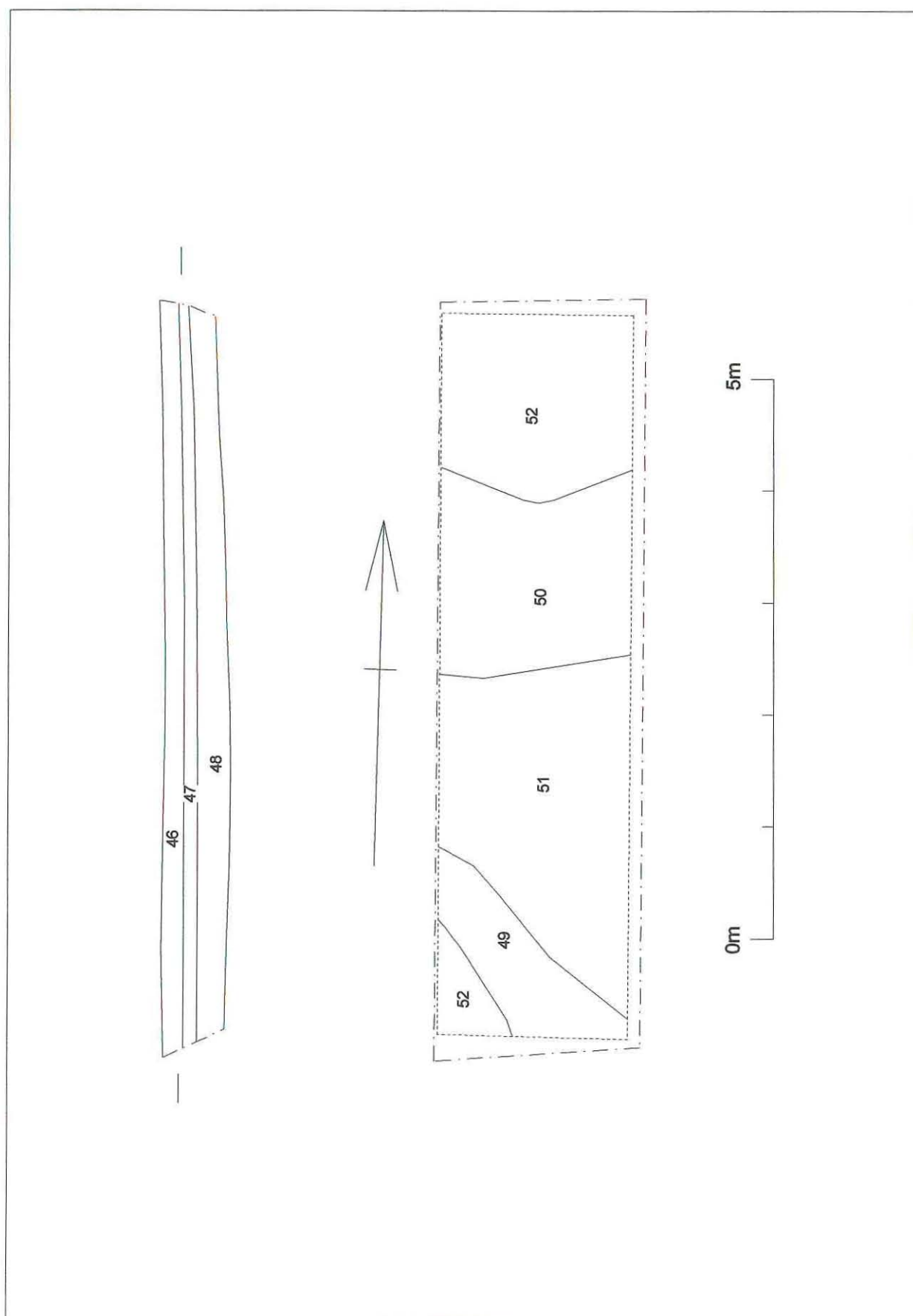


Fig. 19 Trench 3 plan and section, scale 1:50

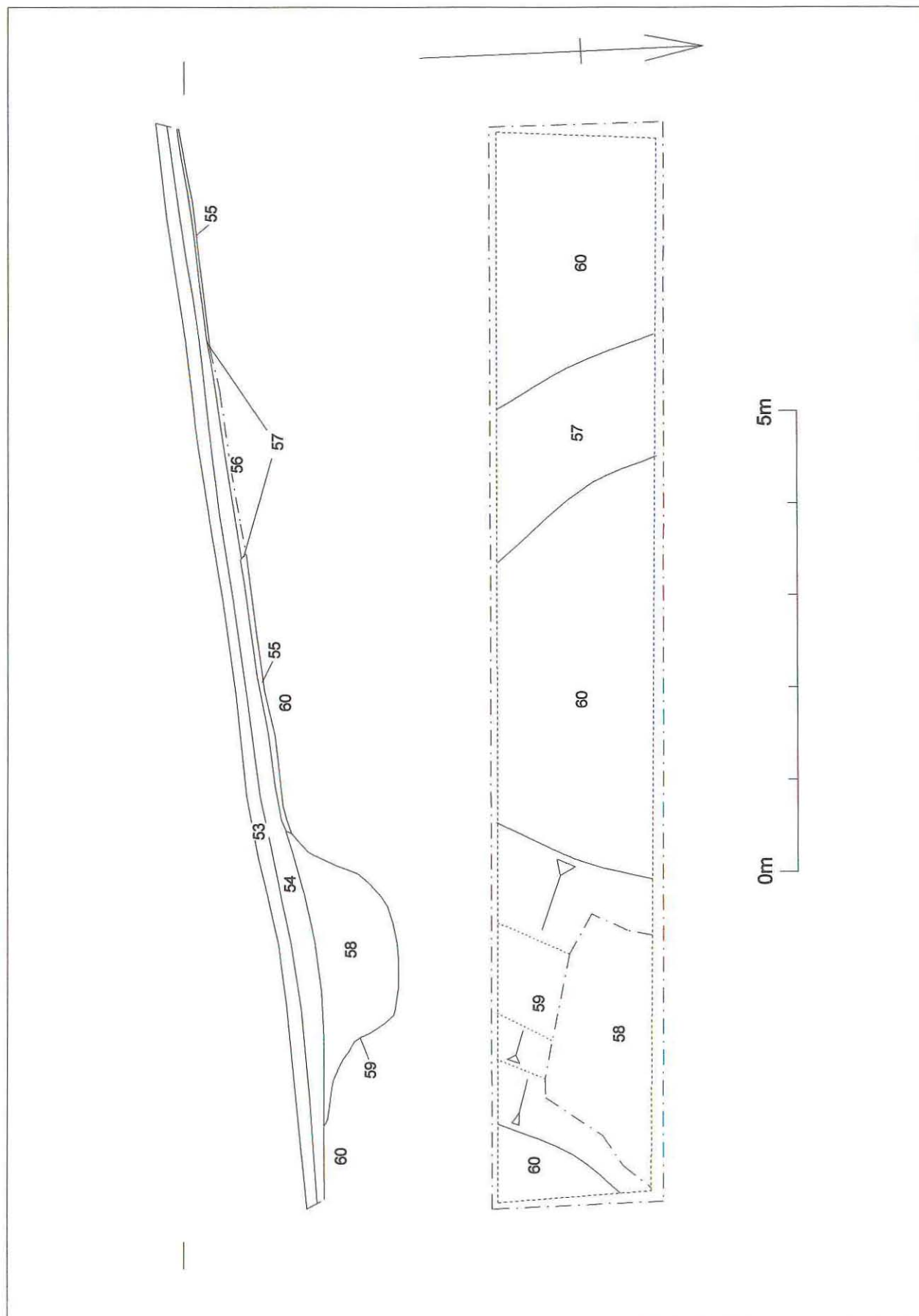


Fig. 20 Trench 6 plan and section, scale 1:60

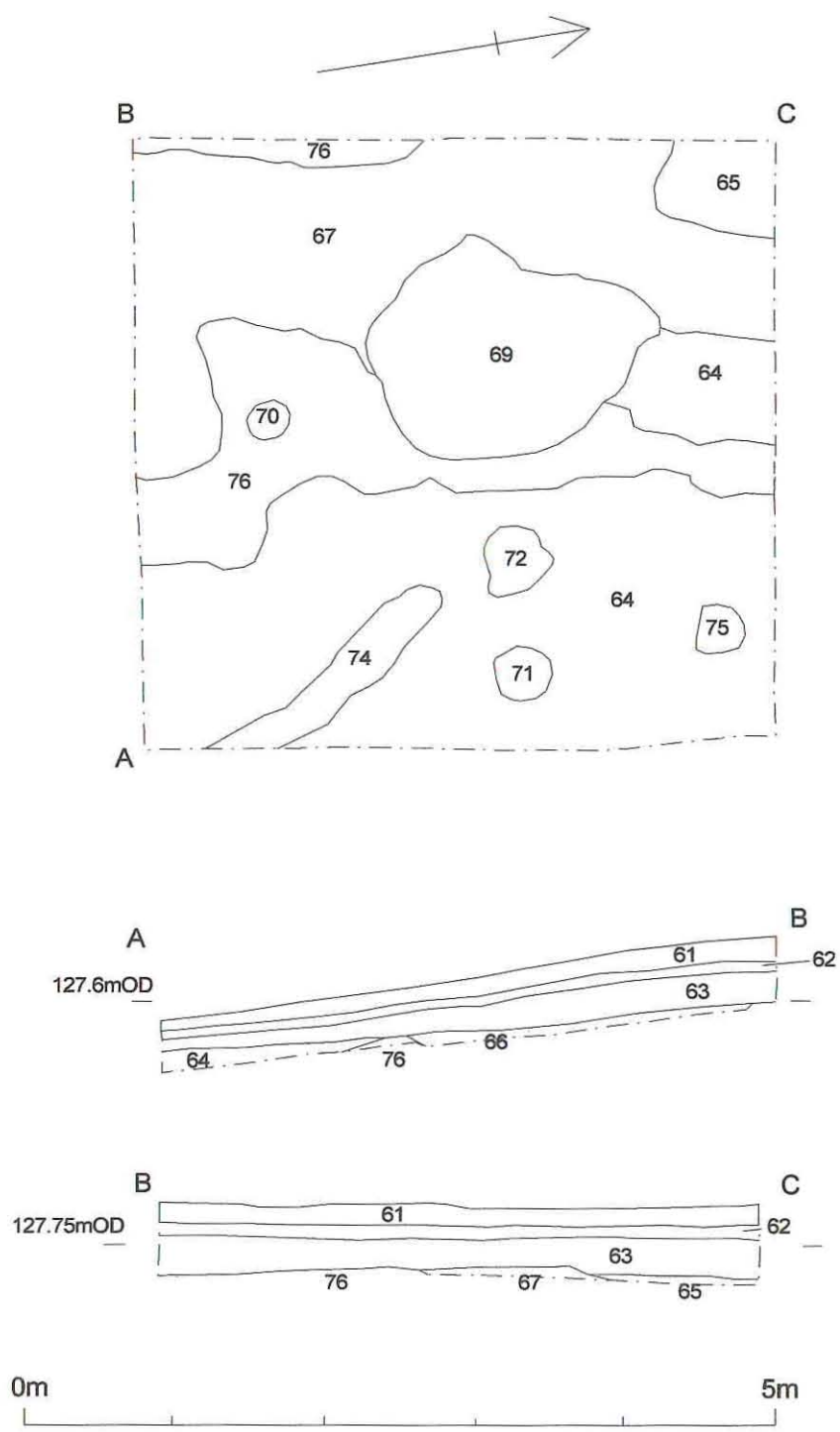


Fig 21 Trench 7 plan and sections, scale 1:50

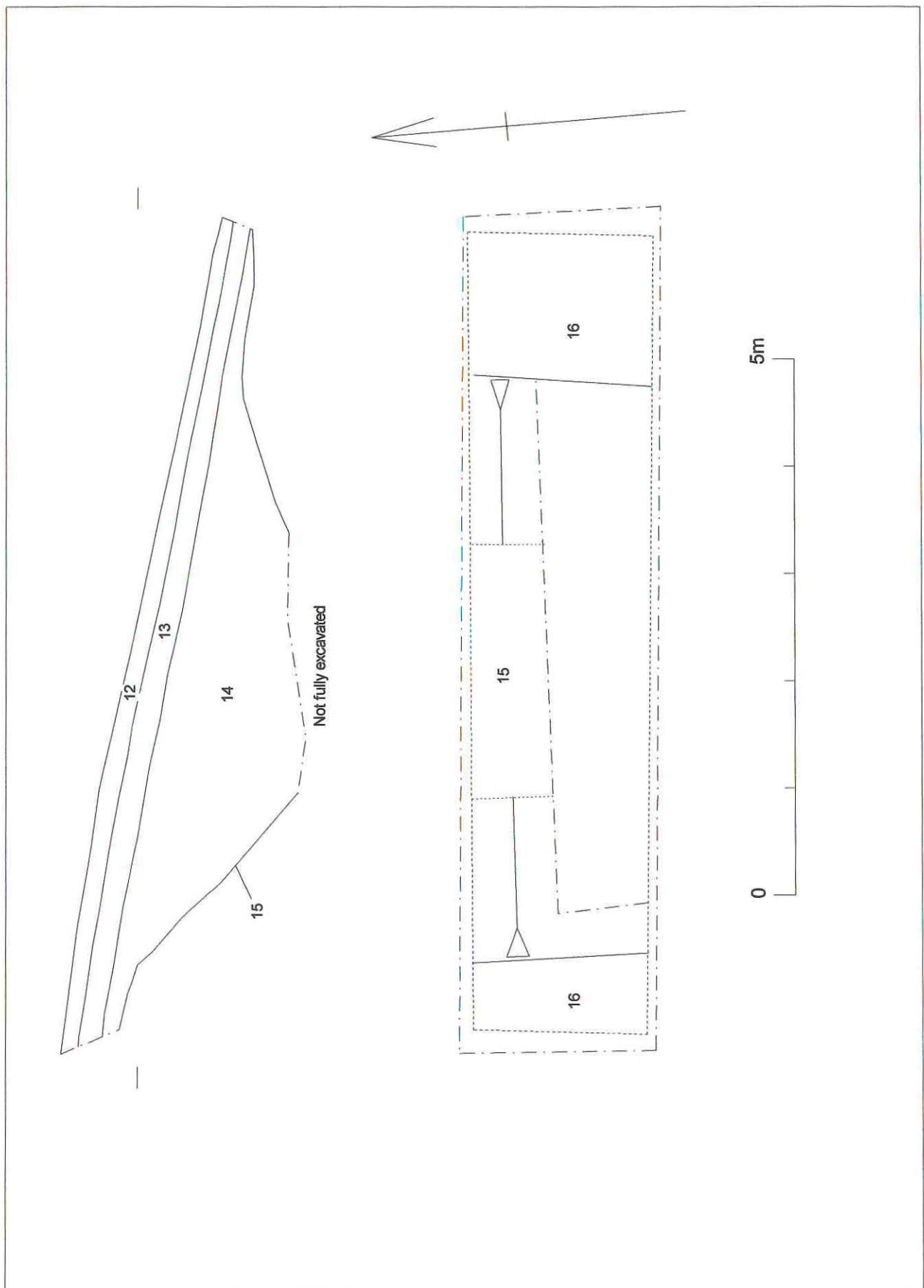


Fig. 22 Trench 10 plan and section, scale 1:50

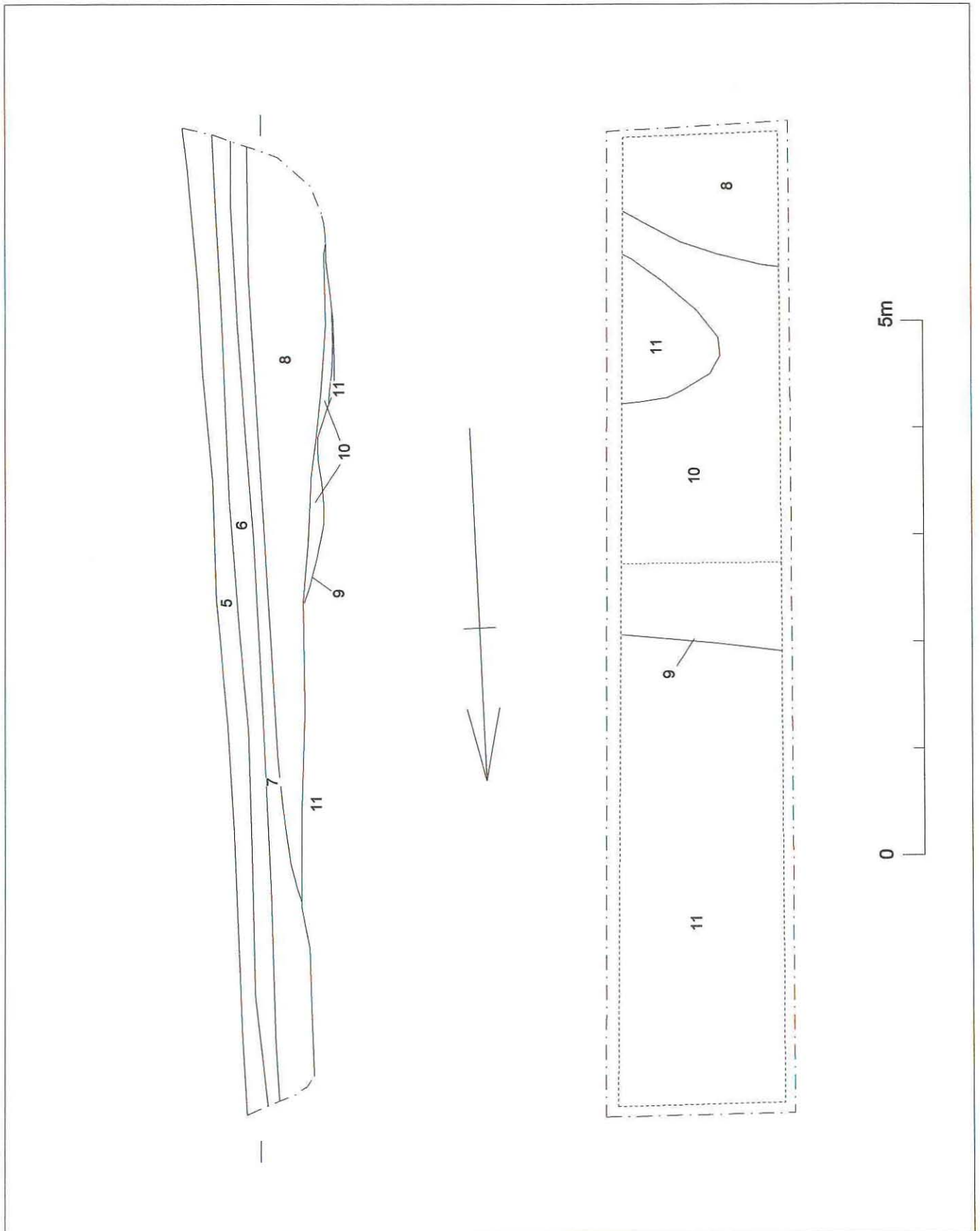


Fig. 23 Trench 11 plan and section, scale 1:50

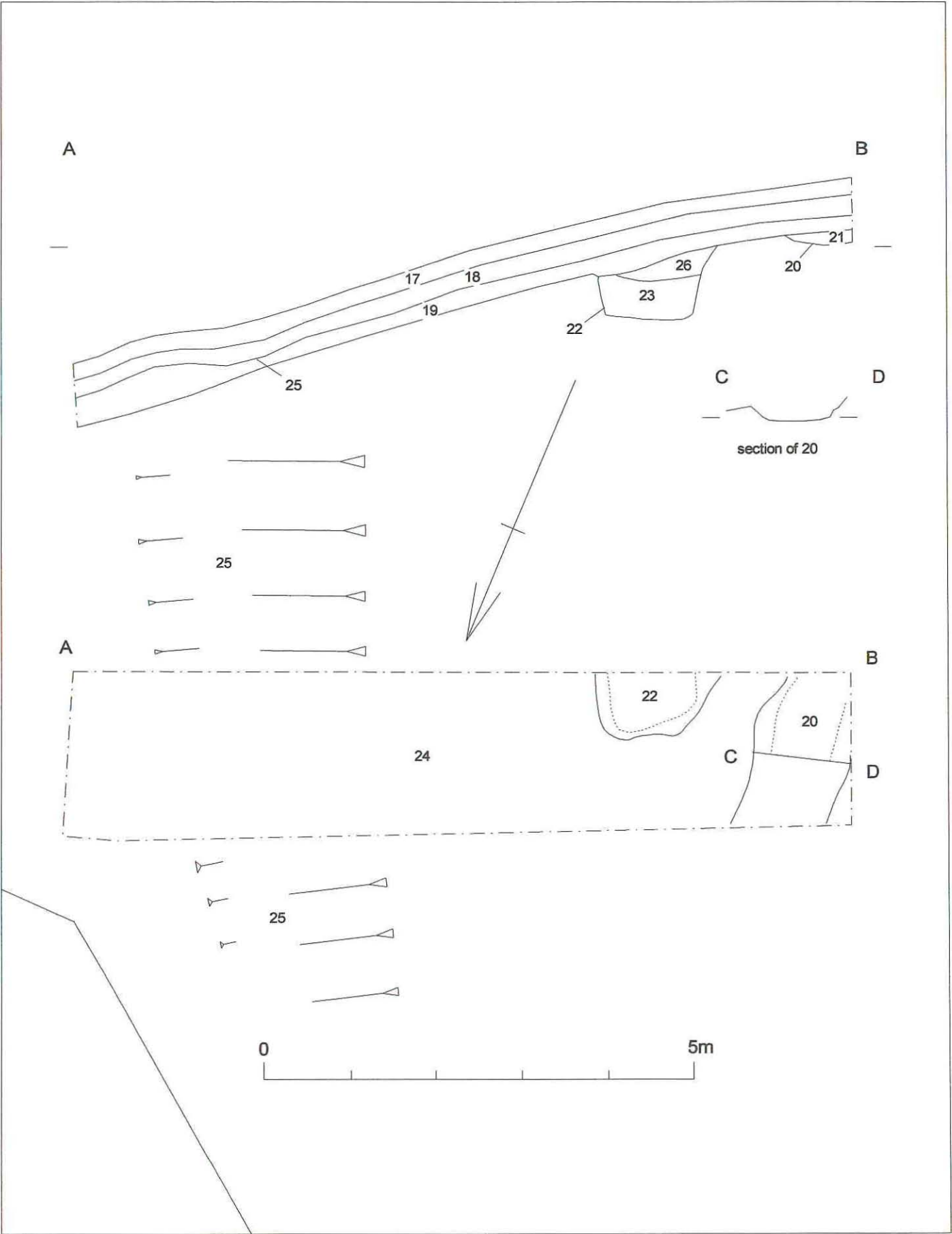


Fig. 24 Trench 13 plan and section, scale 1:60



Plate 1 St Mauritius Church, Alltmawr (PRN 20152) and Chapel House (PRN 2685). Photo CPAT cs-95-345



Plate 2 St Mauritius Church, Alltmawr (PRN 20152) and Chapel House (PRN 2685). Photo CPAT cs-95-347



Plate 3 Alltmawr track (PRN 81261). Photo CPAT 1098.4



Plate 4 Alltmawr leat (PRN 81262). Photo CPAT 1098.3



Plate 5 Abernant outbuildings (PRN 81258). Photo CPAT 1098.12



Plate 6 Abernant outbuildings (PRN 81258). Photo CPAT 1098.14



Plate 7 Abernant kitchen garden (PRN 81259). Photo CPAT 1098.11



Plate 8 Abernant cottage (PRN 81260). Photo CPAT 1098.15



Plate 9 Ysgiog quarry I (PRN 81255). Photo CPAT 1098.18



Plate 10 Ysgiog quarry II (PRN 81256). Photo CPAT 1098.19



Plate 11 Bridge End platform (PRN 81254). Photo CPAT 1098.9



Plate 12 Ty bach water tank (PRN 81253). Photo CPAT 1098.5



Plate 13 Trench 2 after excavation. Photo CPAT 1226.17



Plate 14 Trench 3 after excavation. Photo CPAT 1226.12



Plate 15 Gully 59 in Trench 6. Photo CPAT 1226.16



Plate 16 Trench 7 after excavation. Photo CPAT 1226.14



Plate 17 Gully 15 in Trench 10. Photo CPAT 1225.15



Plate 18 Trench 11 after excavation. Photo CPAT 1225.10



Plate 19 Gully 20 in Trench 13. Photo CPAT 1225.14



Plate 20 Pit 22 in Trench 13. Photo CPAT 1225.16