

THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Ty-draw, Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, Powys:

INTERIM REPORT ON SURVEY AND EXCAVATION IN 2002/03



CPAT Report No 541

CPAT Report No 541

Ty-draw, Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, Powys:
INTERIM REPORT ON SURVEY AND EXCAVATION IN 2002/03

W J Britnell
May 2003

Report for Graham Moss

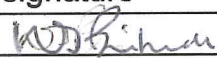


The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust
7a Church Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DL
tel (01938) 553670, fax (01938) 552179
© CPAT

CPAT Report Record

Report and status

CPAT Report Title	Ty-draw, Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr, Powys: Interim Report on Survey and Excavation in 2002-03		
CPAT Project Name	Ty-draw		
CPAT Project No	1029	CPAT Report No	541
Confidential (yes/no)	No	draft/final	Final

Internal control

	name	signature	date
prepared by	W J Britnell		09/05/03
checked by	N W Jones		09/05/03
approved by	W J Britnell		09/05/03

Revisions

no	date	made by	checked by	approved by

Internal memo

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust
7a Church Street Welshpool Powys SY21 7DL
tel (01938) 553670, fax 552179
© CPAT

CONTENTS

1	INTRODUCTION
2	BACKGROUND
3	SUMMARY OF SURVEY AND EXCAVATION
4	FURTHER WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN
5	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
6	REFERENCES
APPENDIX 1 SITE ARCHIVE	

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In May 2002 the Contracting Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) was approached by Mr Graham Moss to provide a specification for undertaking a programme of archaeological survey and excavation at Ty-draw, Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr. The work in question related to proposals for the re-construction of a former listed medieval hallhouse. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, acting in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, had previously determined that an such a programme should be undertaken prior to any building works commencing, and this was duly attached as a condition to the planning consent. Subsequently, a design brief was prepared (EXC 455, dated 16 May 2002) which detailed the archaeological works to be undertaken.
- 1.2 CPAT were contracted to undertake the archaeological works in October 2002, with excavations being carried out during December 2002 and January 2003. The following report presents an interim statement of the results from the survey and excavation. A programme of further post-excavation analysis is currently in preparation which will lead to publication in due course.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Ty-draw lies around 730m west of the small hamlet of Llanarmon Mynydd Mawr and 1.9km north of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant (SJ12812792). The site is approached by a narrow road which contours around the south-west slopes of Mynydd Mawr, overlooking the Afon Iwrch.

Summary of the original survey in the 1950s

- 2.2 The first survey of the hall-house was undertaken by Peter Smith and Douglas Hague of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) in the 1950s (fig. 1). Much more of the building still survived at that time, concealed within a stone-walled and corrugated-iron roofed barn. Before commencing a description of the results of excavation it is worthwhile summarizing the description and interpretation of the building in the 1950s, published in *Archaeologia Cambrensis*, especially since some elements of the building which are now missing were still surviving then.
- 2.3 The house lay on a levelled platform, partly excavated out of a hillside and partly built up on a stone base, the main axis being roughly north-south, at right-angles to the contour, on the south-west slope of Mynydd Mawr at an altitude of about 850 ft. It was originally of four bays formed by five cruck trusses, numbered A–E from south to north in the original survey, all of which survived to varying degrees with the exception of that on the downhill gable end (truss A). This gable had been replaced by a stone gable pierced by ventilation slits. The corresponding truss at the northern, uphill end (truss E), appeared to have been considerably repaired. An stone building had been added at this end, dug out of the hillside, which was thought to be 'probably a hovel to house a shepherd or a herdsman'. The timber building was seen to consist of a two-bay hall, probably with a central open hearth, with a slightly narrower upper bay and a slightly deeper lower bay. The upper bay was entered by two arched doorways in the dais partition (truss D), suggesting two ground floor rooms (cellars), though the door on the northern side had evidently been blocked with a wattle and daub panel at an early date, suggesting that a single room was soon established on the ground floor. Mortises in the tie-beam of truss D indicated an upper floor (solar), possibly with an opening on the upper floor overlooking the hall. This had probably been reached from one of the ground floor chamber directly below, since there was neither evidence of a door from the hall at first-floor level nor from the outside. The lower panels of the dais partition, below the level of the tie beam, had been filled with tongue-and groove panelling, one panel of which survived, but the upper panels of this truss, the upper panels of truss B at the lower end of the hall, above the tie-beam, and most of the panels of the upper end truss (truss E), with the exception of a possible window, were evidently filled with wattle and daub, indicated by stave holes. The only other exception noted during survey in the 1950s were the panels just below the tie-beam of truss B. The framing here indicated a central door represented by vertical posts between sill-beam and tie-beam,

with missing mid rails between the door posts and the crucks, the opening being considered to be too wide for an ordinary door by Smith and Hague. The absence of stave holes or grooves in the soffit of the tie-beam suggested that the panels to either side of the door and below the tie-beam, had originally been left unfilled, and although the original surveyors considered that 'drapery hangings may have served instead' there was 'no evidence of fittings to take them'. The upper end truss (truss E) had evidently undergone considerable repair and alteration, and included some reused timber, possibly from the removed lower end truss (truss A), including the posts below the tie-beam. The tie-beam here had been reinforced by an additional beam above, and the absence of housings for joists to match those in truss D suggested that even the lower tie-beam had been replaced. The infill panels in this truss had evidently also been replaced since the staves were entwined with laths rather than the rods or twigs that it was felt would have been used when the building was built.

- 2.4 The outer walls had been rebuilt in stone, and although the position of the original doors and windows remained uncertain a general reconstruction of the framing of earlier timber walls was based upon wall-plates on each of the long sides, which had mortises indicating vertical studs and by small upright posts standing on each cruck which had joints indicating the position of a mid rail. The original sill-beams on each of the long sides has also disappeared, but their position was indicated by joints at the base of the crucks of truss C and by lap joints in the lateral sill-beams of trusses B, D and E.
- 2.5 Of the roof, only the lower purlins were considered to be original. Mortises in the purlins and in the cruck trusses indicated large windbraces which had disappeared. The positions of rafters were indicated by housings in the wall-plates. There was no surviving evidence for the original roofing material, though thatch (or similar material) was considered to be most probable.
- 2.6 Much of the timberwork was evidently fairly plain, with the exception of concave chamfering on the soffit of truss C at the centre of the hall and similar chamfering on the jambs of the pointed arched doorways in truss D, these two trusses being considered to be distinguished by high-quality workmanship. Befitting its conspicuous position over the hall, truss D was further ornamented by a pair of cusped struts above an arched collar beam and by the carving of a flower on the soffit of the arch. The focus on the upper end of the hall was also emphasised, it was suggested, by the fact that the fair faces of trusses C and D were arranged to be visible from the upper end of the hall, from a position adjacent to the dais partition. The focal significance of the dais partition was further emphasized by boards with carved billets and mouldings attached to the mid rail (from an original dais canopy?).

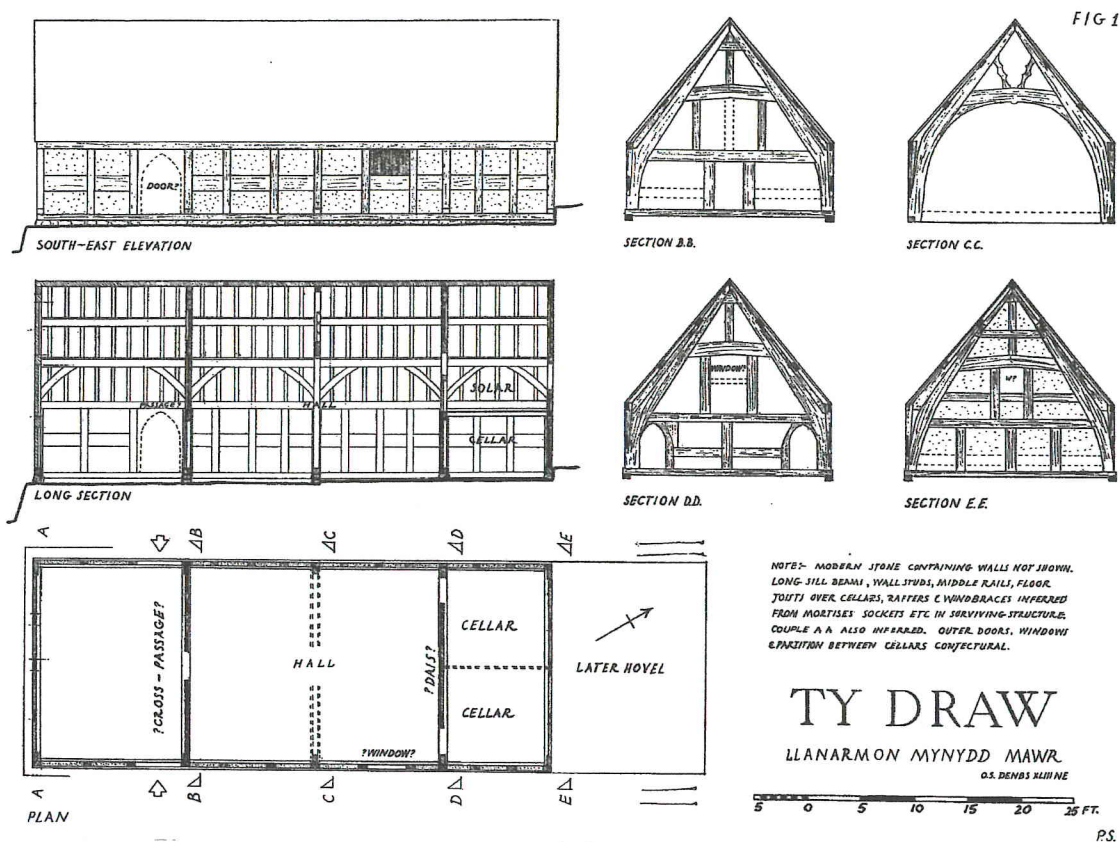


Fig. 1 Plan and elevations from survey undertaken by Peter Smith and Douglas Hague in the 1950s, published in *Archaeologia Cambrensis*. Note that recent survey has resulted in changes to a number of the details shown here.

- 2.7 Some attention was devoted to the physical setting of Ty-draw. It was considered unusual 'to find a building of such quality on a mountainside at a height of 850 ft. Yet it is clearly no 'Hafod' for temporary summer occupation'. Studies by Cyril Fox and Colin Gresham elsewhere in Wales had suggested that the reason why, as here, medieval houses had been built into the hillside, with the long axis at right-angles to the contour, had been to reduce penetration by surface water. Ty-draw was seen as one of the very few surviving examples of a lesser fourteenth- to fifteenth-century house belonging to the Welsh rural middle class. 'Small, yet exhibiting great refinement of craftsmanship, and preserving in its cruck couples splendid specimens of a rare and archaic construction' it was felt to merit 'consideration by the appropriate authorities for preservation'.
- 2.8 A number of questions remained unresolved. Notable amongst these were the position of the cross-passage and the purpose of the end bays, though it was concluded, in the absence of evidence of any direct evidence, that the lower bay was wider because it consisted of a cross-passage and service area. The lack of evidence for the infilling of the panels below the tie-beam of truss B, together with other evidence, suggested to the original surveyors that the hall-house may have remained unfinished. Other features taken to suggest that the building may have been incomplete were the plain doorway in truss B, the rough and incomplete appearance of the backs of the arched doorways in truss D, and the fact that 'the floor level seems never to have been made up . . . to the level of the sill-beams' which it was 'impossible to believe that it has merely been washed away'. It was suggested that 'it is hence perhaps not being too romantic to put forward the hypothesis that Ty Draw was erected shortly before Glyndwr's rebellion and abandoned incomplete because of this upheaval. The nearby sixteenth-century house Plas-yn-Glyn may represent the reoccupation of the farm and the district more than a century later', the old house being found unsuitable for conversion. It was felt that 'this

would explain why the house has been so little damaged, why there are no farm-buildings such as would be expected to be associated with what was clearly the centre of an important farm, and why the later house was not built near its predecessor, which is usually the case.'

Recent evidence relating to late medieval halls in the Welsh borderland

- 2.9 Notable advances have been made in our understanding of the structural history, dating and social context of buildings of this kind in the half-century since the original survey was undertaken at Ty-draw, many of which are detailed in Peter Smith's authoritative survey, *Houses of the Welsh Countryside*, first published in 1975 and revised in 1988. Significantly, Ty-draw can now be seen to belong to a small but distinctive group of late medieval halls in the central borderland area having partition trusses with low, open panels between passage and a lower byre or cowbay, the passage having acted as a feed passage as well as affording the primary access to the house. Analogy with similar buildings elsewhere suggests the byre would probably have been entered by means of a door in the middle of the eastern side of the lower bay.
- 2.10 This group of buildings currently have radiocarbon dates spanning the period between the 1430s and the 1550s, and cover a broad social spectrum including high-status spere-truss halls, two-bayed 'gentry' halls, and single-bayed 'peasant' halls.
- 2.11 The cultural significance of this building form has been recently examined by Richard Suggett of the RCAHMW, who has noted the following:

The range in social status of these hallhouse-longhouses from aisled hall to peasant dwelling is quite remarkable. However, the social range – which is also a chronological progression – illustrates the way in which lesser hallhouses were miniature versions of greater halls. The arrangements of a mid-sixteenth-century peasant hallhouse reflected the planning of a mid fifteenth-century gentry hallhouse. It is not improbable that the gentry hall in its turn may have reflected the planning of an aristocratic hall of the fourteenth century. It is not incongruous that a gentry dwelling could have taken the form of a hallhouse-longhouse. The social importance of cattle in late-medieval Wales has to be appreciated and the longhouse plan reflected the significance of cattle as a primary form of wealth. It is reasonable to suppose that for convenience and security the best cattle and horses (a form of capital) would be kept close at hand, especially when over-wintered. The hierarchical planning of the hallhouse made it appropriate that the cowhouse should have been located in the lower-end bay.

- 2.12 Archaeological excavation recently undertaken at two of these buildings within this group – the aisle-truss hall at Ty-mawr, (Castle Caereinion) and at Tyddyn Llwydion (in the modern community of Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant) – have provided some evidence for the function of different bays which has confirmed and expanded interpretations that have been reached from an analysis of the surviving structural evidence, including simple open hearths on the earthen floors towards the middle of each of the original halls. In both instances patterns of stakeholes probably representing hurdling were found in the lower end bays, seemingly confirming that these bays were used for housing stock.

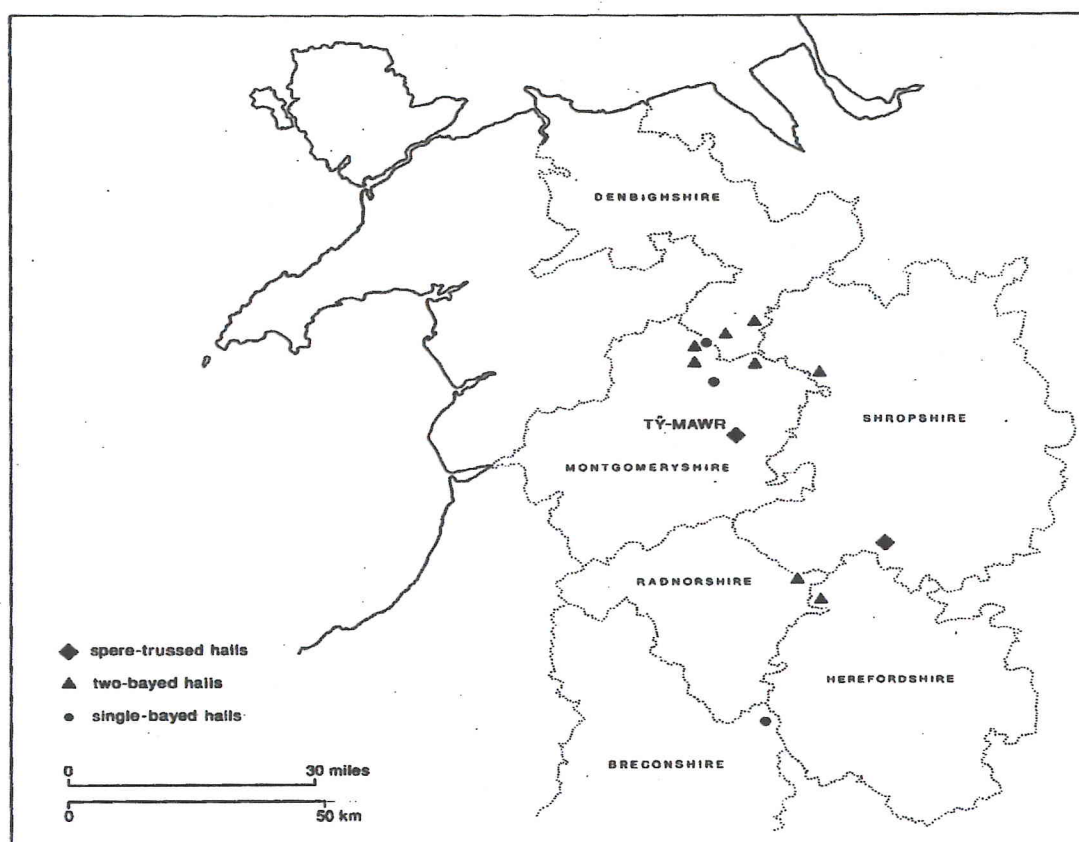


Fig. 2 Distribution of late-medieval halls having partition trusses with low, open panels between passage and cowbay, from survey by Richard Suggett, published in the *Montgomeryshire Collection*. Ty-draw is the southernmost of the buildings shown in former county of Denbighshire.

- 2.13 A number of other features which had been taken to suggest that the building was incomplete would today be seen to be unexceptional. Now, for example, it would be assumed that the sill-beams below trusses B and D were set above floor level on a low stone sill wall, rather than being buried, as suggested in the 1950s. In addition, now that the building form can be seen to be multi-functional – combining both domestic and agricultural activities – it would now no longer be essential to assume that the house was necessarily accompanied by other agricultural buildings.

Dendochronological dating of Ty-draw

- 2.14 Dendochronological dating of timbers from Ty-draw was undertaken by Daniel Miles of the Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory on behalf of RCAHMW, the results of which have yet to be fully reported upon. Provisional results suggest a felling dated for the central cruck (truss C) of 1479/80, but with a date of c. 1640 for the wall-plates, suggesting that the building was reframed in the seventeenth century.

3 SUMMARY OF SURVEY AND EXCAVATION IN 2002/03

Field survey

- 3.1 Excavation has shown that the house overlies a pre-existing field lynchet, up to about a metre high, which runs along the contour of the hill, and which partly takes the place of an artificial platform normally thought to underlie this kind of structure. The lynchet evidently forms part of a more extensive field system, presumably of medieval date, pre-dating the present field pattern which shown on the tithe map and earlier editions of the Ordnance Survey. The earlier field system is illustrated in some detail on a map of the 1750s in the Chirk Collection held by the National Library of Wales (information from Bob Silvester, CPAT). Further fieldwork recording is continuing on the early field system and its relationship to a number of other medieval houses and building platforms in the vicinity, as part of a wider landscape study which has been part-funded by Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments as part of the pan-Wales Deserted Rural Settlements initiative, which has included a detailed topographical survey of the environs of the house.

Building survey

- 3.2 The photographic element of a rectified photographic survey has been undertaken on the surviving internal and external elevations of the stone walling which replaced the outer walls of the original timber structure.
- 3.3 Two or possibly three phases of stonework are evident in the surviving structure. An earlier phase is represented by the now ruinous southern stone gable, which was originally pierced by two tiers of ventilation slits, largely built from newly-quarried stone bonded with lime mortar. There is evidence to suggest that the stone gable is earlier than the remaining stonework and was added in perhaps the 18th century while the reframed (see below) timber-framed outer walls were still standing.
- 3.4 A second phase of stone building relates to the replacement of the timber-framed side walls by stone and the conversion of the former house into a barn with perhaps two openings in the eastern wall and one opening in the western wall, possibly at the same time that a small dwelling ('later hovel') was added to the uphill, northern end of the hall-house, probably in the later eighteenth or earlier nineteenth century. The only external timber framing of the external wall to be retained was the northern gable end (truss E). The basal courses of parts of this structure, which were of orthostatic construction, appear to have replaced the original sill walls for the timber-framed building on the two long sides of the building. Much of the barn was built of stone derived from field clearance or from the demolition of the stone fireplace noted above whereas the small dwelling was built of newly-quarried material. Many of the original crucks were encased in stone, with the exception of the eastern crucks of trusses C, D and E, which were to be left exposed in openings.
- 3.5 A definitive record has also been made of the surviving remains of the timber structure itself, in conjunction with recording work undertaken by the architect. This has revealed a number of important details not recorded in the building survey undertaken in the 1950s, including evidence for the sequence of construction. A more detailed examination of the wall-plates is consistent with the evidence from dendrochronological dating in suggesting, as noted above, that the building was reframed in the early seventeenth century.

Archaeological excavation (fig. 4)

- 3.6 As noted above, excavation has revealed that the original building was superimposed upon an earlier field lynchet up to a metre deep at the southern end, which forms part of a relict medieval field system evident from surface indications in the surrounding fields. The location of the lynchet may itself have been determined by the large natural boulder below the south-west corner of the house, which seems too large to have been move there by human agency, and may have been simply squared up *in situ*. The lower end of the building had evidently been built on a revetment wall constructed at the lower edge of the field lynchet, the earlier field surface being overlain by a relatively thin clay floor, the make-up for which increased in thickness to the south, filling the gap between the top of the revetment wall and the edge of the lynchet. In constructional terms, the building platform at Ty-draw is quite distinct from the artificial platforms revealed by

excavation of similar medieval buildings at Tyddyn Llwydion (Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant) and at Ty-mawr (Castle Caereinion), though the end result was not dissimilar. The upper end of the platform was dug in a similar fashion to these other sites, however, having been terraced into the upper edge of the former field, the floor of the upper end of the house, from about the line of truss C, being formed on the truncated surface of subsoil.

- 3.7 Pollen cores have been taken from the field lynchet below the house which it is hoped will provide a better understanding of the context in which the building was built. It is interesting to note that both Ty-draw and Tyddyn Llwydion were built over earlier arable land, represented by a field lynchet at the former and by ploughmarks in the subsoil at the latter. It is possible, though as yet unproven, that both buildings were built on fields that had been abandoned as arable land some time before, and therefore possibly representing a recovery from a contraction in population levels resulting from the plagues that first struck Britain in the mid fourteenth century.
- 3.8 There is evidence to suggest that, as at both Tyddyn Llwydion and Ty-mawr, the surface of the building platform (and hence the floor in each of the bays) sloped down quite regularly, without any steps, from north to south.
- 3.9 Other results of excavation can be most readily described by reference to each of the bays in turn (the upper bay numbered bay 1, the two-bay central hall numbered bays 2-3, and the lower bay numbered bay 4).
- 3.10 The clay floor of the lower bay had been partly disturbed by rodents and had been repaired on a number of occasions. Numerous small stakeholes were found penetrating the floor, represented either by voids, soil-filled sockets or by surviving wood, some of which fall into lines. Similar evidence was found in the lower bays of the related timber buildings at both Ty-mawr and Tyddyn Llwydion, which is interpreted as representing the use of wickerwork hurdling, confirming that the lower bays of all three buildings had been used as animal byres. No clear evidence was found to indicate the position of a door or doors from the outside of the building, though this does not rule out the possibility that such once existed.
- 3.11 The upper and lower bays of the central two-bay hall had had distinct histories. The original clay floor of the lower bay of the hall survived more or less intact but the surface of the equivalent floor level on the truncated subsoil surface in the northern bay had been disturbed by the insertion of a later cobbled floor. (Traces of a possible early central open hearth are still awaiting examination at the time of writing.)
- 3.12 The early floor surfaces on the western side of the building had been cut through for a stone fireplace, which subdivided the central hall into two unequal halves, more or less on the line of the central cruck, truss C. The foundations of the fireplace, which were formed of massive stone slabs bonded with lime mortar, were laid on a layer of pitched cobbles. The upper part of the chimney was no doubt timber-framed, as at Ty-mawr. The fireplace, which was open to the north, was contemporary with a cobbled floor laid in the larger northern half of the former open hall, whilst the original earthen floor was retained in the smaller southern portion.
- 3.13 The fireplace was subsequently demolished down to the level of the contemporary cobbled floor on its northern side. The cobbled floor and chimney base were then overlain by a low sill wall, which supported a sill beam for a partition inserted between the open cruck of truss C. The southern bay of the original two-bay hall was provided at this period with a cobbled floor partly bonded with reused lime mortar derived from the demolition of the chimney. This floor surface remained virtually intact, and had been overlain in places by a number of large slate slabs, which appeared to have been reused from elsewhere. The cobbled floor in the northern bay of the former hall had been repaired on a number of occasions, most recently by patches of cement mortar. A series of later postholes were identified, some of which belonged to a hay-rack set up on the partition on the line of truss C.
- 3.14 The upper bay of the original hall-house had suffered considerable erosion probably caused by animals and vehicles and as a consequence none of the original surface had

survived. The only features identified here were a number of stakeholes, two of which fall along the axis of the building and may represent a partition wall. No evidence was found for the position of stairs to the upper floor of this bay.

- 3.15 Likewise, no evidence of roofing material of the original building has survived. This probably confirms suggestions that it was probably composed of organic materials, which have decayed and left no trace. Judging by debris found both inside and outside the house, it is evident that whole structure, including the house attached to the northern end, was given a roof of thinly split slates, probably only once the outer walls were fully replaced in stone, probably in the later eighteenth or earlier nineteenth century.
- 3.16 There were no surface indications of any ancillary buildings apart from an annexe at the south-east corner, also shown on the early editions of the Ordnance Survey map. Excavation suggested a possible lean-to structure, possibly originally of timber-framed construction set on a low stone sill wall, with a rough cobbled floor, suggesting a cart-shed or stable. An unpaved yard surface formed on the eroded subsoil surface was identified on the eastern and southern sides of the excavation.
- 3.17 Finds recovered during excavation are still awaiting full analysis (see provisional catalogue below), but it is evident that as at other similar sites, notable Tyddyn Llwydion and Ty-mawr, most if not all belong to the later history of the building

Summary of phasing

- 3.18 The following provisional phases have been identified by a combination of field survey, building survey, dendrochronology and archaeological excavation, which it is anticipated will be refined in due course by study of the artefacts recovered during excavation.

Phase 1 – earlier field system

Medieval field system pre-dating house built in later fifteenth century.

Phase 2 – construction of late medieval hall house

Cruck-built hall-house built in later fifteenth century (1479/80), overlying field lynchet of earlier field system.

Phase 3 – reframing of the side walls, re-roofing and insertion of chimney

Reframing of side walls and insertion of chimney with lobby-entry towards the middle of the east wall in earlier seventeenth century (c. 1640). The south gable wall of this structure replaced in stone in possibly the 18th century.

Phase 4 – conversion of former hall-house to barn and erection of new dwelling

Conversion of former house to barn by demolition of chimney, replacement of side walls in stone, and construction of simple stone dwelling abutting uphill end, and possible lean-to adjacent to the south east corner of the building, though possibly not all simultaneously. The barn and dwelling at least had new slate roofs. These works were possibly contemporary with the reorganization of adjacent field boundaries, in the period between the mid eighteenth century and the mid nineteenth (c. 1750–1840).

Phase 5 – abandonment and collapse

Abandonment of dwelling at uphill end, in late nineteenth to early twentieth century. Re-roofing of former hall-house with corrugated iron. Erection of block wall on the southern face of truss E to help consolidate the structure. Removal of truss D (during 1970s?). Abandonment of barn, and eventual collapse of the two surviving trusses, B and C (during the winter of 2001/02).

4 FURTHER WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN

- 4.1 The next stage in the project will be the production of a post-excavation research design to be agreed with the archaeological curator in due course. At this stage it is anticipated that a more detailed publication of the results of both field survey and excavation in an appropriate academic journal will be worthwhile.

5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 5.1 Thanks are due to the following for their help, assistance and advice during the course of the project: Graham Moss (architect); Richard Suggett (RCAHMW); Astrid Caseldine (University of Wales, Lampeter); Daniel Miles (Oxford Dendrochronology Laboratory); Jenny Britnell, Ian Grant, Fiona Johnson, Nigel Jones, Bob Silvester (CPAT); and Brian Williams (draftsman).

6 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Britnell, W.J. & Dixon, P.W., 2001. 'Archaeological excavations at Ty-mawr, Castle Caereinion', *Montgomeryshire Collections* 89 (2001), 55–86.
- Britnell, W.J. & Suggett, R., forthcoming. 'A sixteenth-century peasant hallhouse in Powys: survey and excavation of Tyddyn Llwydion, Pennant Melangell, Montgomeryshire', *Archaeological Journal*.
- Smith, P., 1988. *Houses of the Welsh Countryside*, RCAHMW.
- Smith, P., 2001. 'Ty-mawr, Castle Caereinion, and the aisle-truss houses of Wales', *Montgomeryshire Collections* 89 (2001), 201–18.
- Smith, P. & Hague, D.B., 1958. 'Ty Draw: a fourteenth-century cruck-hall', *Archaeologia Cambrensis* 107, 109–20.
- Suggett, R., 2001. 'Recent emergency building recording in Wales', *Ancient Monuments Society Transactions* 45, 81–108.
- Suggett, R., 'Ty-mawr in context', *Montgomeryshire Collections* 89 (2001), 219–28.

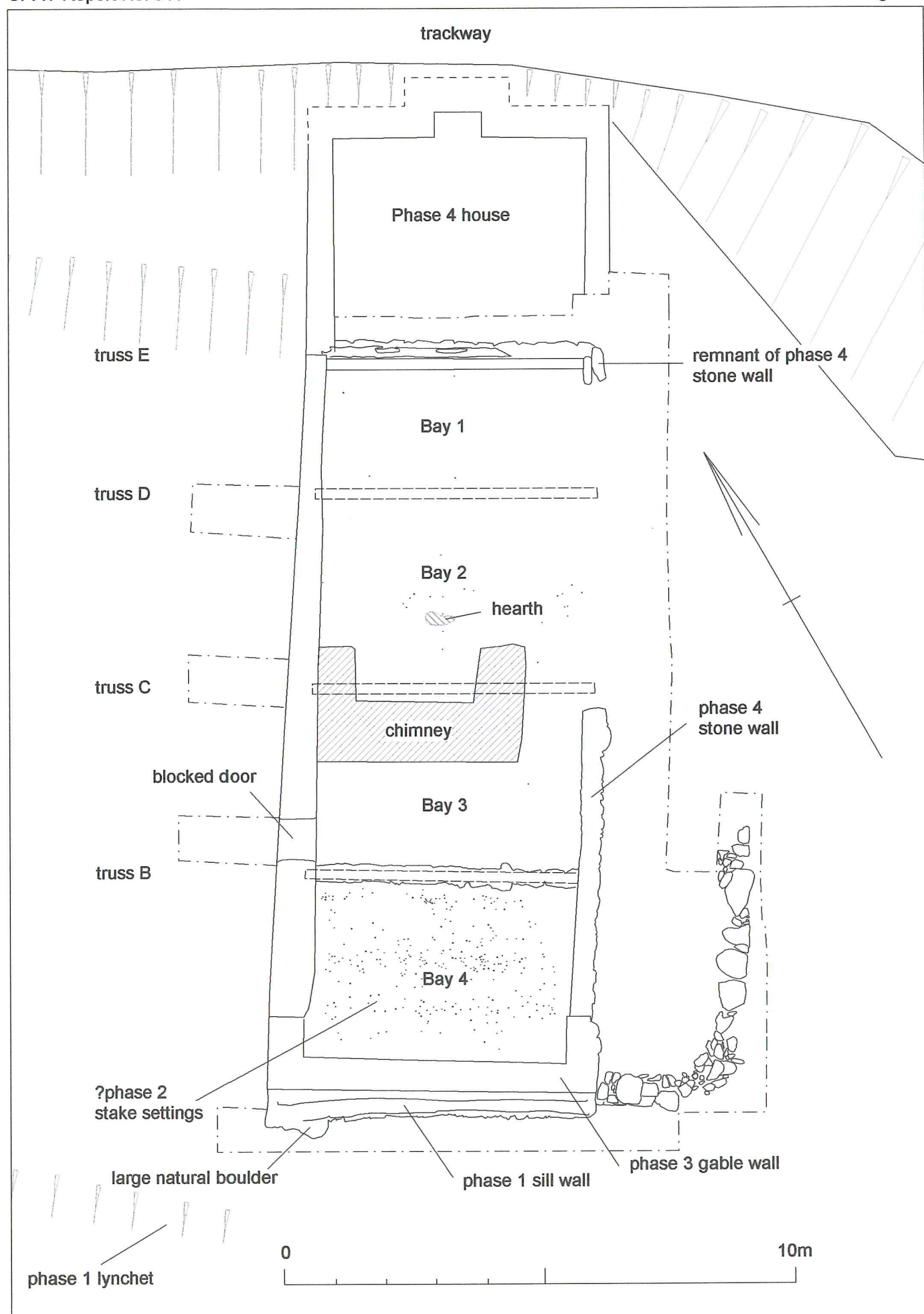


Fig. 4 Summary of main excavated features, scale 1:100



Fig. 5 South end of building showing ruinous ?18th-century stone gable overlying earlier stone sill of the 15th-century cruck-framed hall. The stone sill was dug into a pre-existing field lynchet, the large stone to the left perhaps being a natural boulder. *Photo CPAT 1319.15.*



Fig. 6 Interior of the house during the course of excavation, showing cobbled floor contemporary with the inserted ?17th-century chimney. *Photo CPAT 1319.2.*



Fig. 7 Monolith 1. Photo CPAT 1321.0A

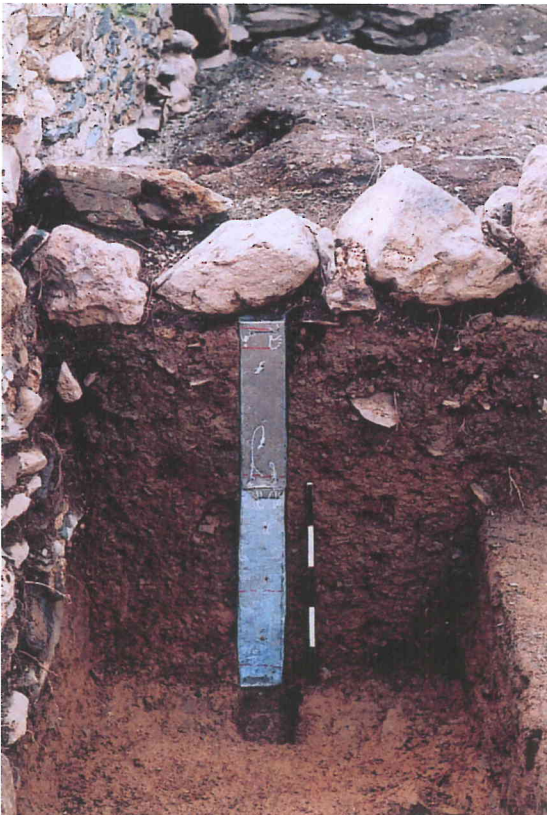


Fig.8 Monolith 1. Photo CPAT 1321.3.

APPENDIX 1**SITE ARCHIVE****PROJECT ARCHIVE**

The project archive current consists of the following elements:

Project Risk Assessment
 35mm building photographic survey black and white negatives
 PenMap data files – EDM survey
 Context record forms
 7 A1 excavation plans and sections
 5 A1 drawings of surviving timbers
 Levels records
 Excel data file of reduced levels
 35mm excavation black and white negatives
 35mm excavation colour print negatives
 Copies of photographic prints from RCAHMW
 Copy of architects drawings
 Copies of interim notes (dated January 2003, April 2003)
 Miscellaneous correspondence

CONTEXT CATALOGUE

The following tables provide a provisional catalogue of contexts recorded during excavation, together with an interim indication of phasing and an indication of the presence of catalogued finds.

Area A: Later house

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
1	A	wall	4	
2	A	chimney	4	
3	A	housing for floor joist	4	
4	A	housing for floor joist	4	
5	A	collapse/rubble	5	*
6	A	cobble surface	4	*
7	A	gravelly layer	3-4	*
8	A	slate setting	4	*
9	A	sill beam	2	
10	A	sill wall	2-3	
11	A	base of cruck blade	2	
12	A	modern building block wall	5	
13	A	cobble surface	4	*
14	A	soil layer	2-3	
15	A	subsoil surface	-	

Area B: bay 1 (original upper bay)

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
100	B	truncated subsoil surface	5	

Area C: bays 1-2 (original two-bay hall)

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
200	C	concrete slab	5	

201	C	concrete slab	5	
202	C	sill wall remnant	5	*
203	C	sill wall remnant	5	*
204	C	stakehole	5?	
205	C	posthole	5	
206	C	stakehole	5	
207	C	stakehole	5	
208	C	cobble surface	3	*
209	C	cobble patch	3?	*
210	C	chimney base (part)	3	
211	C	slate slab setting	3	
212	C	clay layer	4?	*
213	C	cobble surface	4	*
214	C	erosion hollow	5?	
215	C	erosion hollow	5?	
216	C	truncated subsoil surface	-	
217	C	clay layer	5?	
218	C	cobble patch	3	
219	C	wall (north wall of stone barn)	4	
220	C	sill wall base	5	
221	C	stakehole	5?	
222	C	chimney base (part)	3	
223	C	chimney base	3	
224	C	clay layer	3	*
225	C	burnt layer	3	*
226	C	cobble surface (burnt)	3	
227	C	stone setting	3	
228	C	ash and coal patch	5?	
229	C	cobble repair	4?	*
230	C	cobble repair	4?	*
231	C	stakehole	5?	
232	C	floor make-up	4	*
233	C	floor surface	3	
234	C	floor make-up	3	
235	C	cobble surface	3	
236	C	blocking wall	5	
237	C	wall footings	4	
238	C	clay layer	3	*
239	C	clay layer	4?	*
240	C	posthole	5?	
241	C	posthole	5?	
242	C	truncated subsoil surface	-	
243	C	foundation trench	4	
244	C	soil layer	3?	
245	C	cobble surface	3	
246	C	wood impression	3	
247	C	stakehole	5?	
248	C	stakehole	5?	
249	C	stakehole	5?	
250	C	stakehole	5?	
251	C	soil layer	3?	
252	C	stakehole	5?	
253	C	platform make-up	2	

254	C	buried soil	1
255	C	subsoil surface	-
256	C	hearth	3
257	C	stakehole setting	5?
258	C	stone setting	3
259	C	floor surface	3
260	C	foundation trench	4
261	C	platform make-up	2
262	C	buried soil	1
263	C	subsoil surface	-
264	C	foundation trench for chimney base	3
265	C	stakehole	?
266	C	floor surface remnant	?
267	C	posthole	5
268	C	posthole?	5 *
269	C	posthole	5 *
270	C	posthole	5 *
271	C	posthole	5
272	C	floor surface	2
273	C	burnt area	2
274	C	clay layer	3
275	C	finds location	2? *
276	C	stake setting	5?
277	C	cut edge of levelling	3
278	C	posthole	5?
279	C	stakehole	5?

Area D: bay 4 (original lower bay)

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
300	D	stone rubble	5	*
301	D	soil layer	5	*
302	D	floor surface	2	
303	D	sill wall	2-3	
304	D	wall of barn (south)	4	
305	D	wall of barn (south-east)	4	
306	D	sill wall	2-3	
307	D	wall of barn (north, part)	4	
308	D	stakehole setting (general number)	2?	
309	D	clay layer	2-3?	
310	D	floor layer	2-3?	
311	D	buried soil surface	1	
312	D	foundation trench	4	
313	D	foundation trench	4	
314	D	soil layer	2	

Area E: external area to east of bay 4

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
400	E	topsoil layer	5	
401	E	revetment/sill wall	4	
402	E	revetment/sill wall	4	
403	E	cobble surface	4	*

404	E	erosion hollow	5
405	E	yard surface	4-5

Area F: external area to east of later house and bays 1-3

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
500	F	topsoil layer	5	
501	F	surface outside entrance to later house	4	*
502	F	hollows outside entrance to later house	4	
503	F	fallen orthostat?	4	
504	F	stonehole of fallen orthostat?	4	
505	F	posthole?	5?	
506	F	post	5?	
507	F	stake	5?	
508	F	stake	5?	
509	F	stake	5?	
510	F	fallen orthostat?	4	
511	F	yard surface	5	
512	F	erosion scarp	4-5	

Area G: external area to south

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
600	G	topsoil layer	5	*
601	G	yard surface	4-5	*
602	G	erosion scarp	4-5	
603	G	subsoil surface	-	
604	G	buried soil	1	
605	G	topsoil layer	5	
606	G	soil layer	1	
607	G	sill wall (early, at south end)	2	
608	G	soil layer	1	
609	G	gully	4?	
610	G	soil layer	3-4	
611	G	soil layer	4?	

Area I: northernmost external trench on west side of building

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
800	I	topsoil layer	5	
801	I	soil layer	5	*
802	I	soil layer	4	*
803	I	soil layer	1	
804	I	surface	3-4	
805	I	subsoil surface	-	

Area J: central external trench on west side of building

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
900	J	topsoil layer	5	
901	J	soil layer	5	*
902	J	soil layer	1-2	
903	J	soil layer	1	
904	J	subsoil surface	-	

Area K: southernmost external trench on west side of building

number	area	context type	phasing	finds
1000	K	topsoil layer	5	
1001	K	topsoil layer	5	
1002	K	topsoil layer	5	
1003	K	surface	3	
1004	K	stone setting	3	
1005	K	door blocking	5?	
1006	K	soil layer	1	*
1007	K	soil layer	1	
1008	K	subsoil surface	-	

FINDS CATALOGUE

Ceramics, glass, brick and slate recovered and retained during excavation have been cleaned, bagged. Metalwork finds and plaster samples have been dried and bagged.

The following table provides a provisional catalogue and dating of the finds. Ceramic finds have been categorised according to the CPAT ceramic fabric series.

Key

U/S/YS = Unstratified yard surface

U/S/G = Unstratified general

U/S/T = Unstratified trackway

context	count	weight (g)	description	date
U/S/YS	1	70	brown glazed, coal measures redware	18-19th cent
U/S/YS	1	3	green pearlware	18-19th cent
U/S/YS	1	6	coal measures red slip	17-18th cent
U/S/G	3	41	coal measures red slip	17-18th cent
U/S/G	1	5	coal measures redware	18-19th cent
U/S/T	6	94	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
U/S/T	3	7	coal measures red slip	17-18th cent
U/S/T	2	35	Buckley fineware	18th cent
U/S/T	1	7	high fired purple glazed redware	17-18th cent
U/S/T	1	0.5	developed whiteware	19-20th cent
U/S/T	1	1	Midlands yellow ware	17-18th cent
U/S/T	1	1	creamware	18-19th cent
5	1	6	coal measures red slip	17-18th cent
5	1	2	white teaware	19th cent
5	2	432	lime mortar plaster	Post Med
5	1	302	fragment of coal measures red roofing brick	Post Med
5	1	578	blue/grey slate roofing tile	Post Med
5	1	66	square sectioned iron nail	Post Med
6	1	6	green bottle glass	19-20th cent
6	1	3	tip of a slate pencil	17-18th cent
6	6	14	developed whiteware	19-20th cent
6	7	36	Mocha ware, blue finish	19th cent
6	4	11	industrial slipware	18-20th cent
6	1	3	decorated Ironstone ware	19th cent
6	1	4	press moulded creamware	18-19th cent
6	30	162	creamware	18-19th cent
6	1	7	late yellow ware	19th cent
6	13	263	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	19th cent
6	1	10	coal measures red slip	17-18th cent
6	2	46	high fired brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
6	1	1	coal measures buffware	17-18th cent
6	1	1	refined redware	19-20th cent
6	1	14	coal measures redware	17-19th cent
6	2	21	iron nails	Post Med
6	1	68	square iron bolt/nut	Post Med
6	1	138	iron object, possibly threaded	Post Med
6	1	32	rounded iron nail	Post Med
6	1	650	iron hinge bracket	Post Med
7	2	5	clay pipe stem	17-18th cent
7	1	2	Tin glazed earthenware	17-18th cent
7	4	9	developed whiteware	19-20th cent
7	2	6	creamware	18-19th cent
7	1	2	green pearlware	18-19th cent
7	1	2	mottled brown glazed coal measures buffware	17-18th cent
7	1	2	coal measures buff slipware	17-18th cent
7	2	3	teawares	19th cent
7	1	1	coal measures red slipware	17-18th cent
7	2	17	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-20th cent
8	1	4	black glazed redware	18-19th cent

context	count	weight (g)	description	date
13	1	13	blue pearlware	18-19th cent
202	1	640	fragment of coal measures red brick	17-19th cent
203	1	4	blue pearlware	18-19th cent
203	2	2	creamware	19th cent
208	2	3	creamware	19th cent
209	1	2	developed whiteware	19-20th cent
209	1	3	coal measures red slipware	17-18th cent
212	3	6	clay pipe stem	17-18th cent
212	1	2	brown glazed coal measures redware	19th cent
212	1	3	mottled brown glazed coal measures buffware	17-18th cent
212	1	1	developed whiteware	19-20th cent
212	3	20	square sectioned iron nails	Post Med
213	1	1325	fragment of coal measures red brick	17-19th cent
213	2	7	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
213	1	2	black glazed coal measures buffware	18th cent
213	1	16	coal measures red slipware	17-18th cent
213	1	4	whiteware	19-20th cent
224	1	7	fragment of coal measures red brick	17-19th cent
225	1	12	iron object ? chain link/catch	
229	1	756	fragment of coal measures red brick	17-19th cent
230	1	2	black glazed refined redware	19-20th cent
232	3	27	whiteware	19-20th cent
232	1	10	brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
232	1	2	mottled glazed buffware	17-18th cent
232	1	10	coal measures red slipware	17-18th cent
232	1	10	coal measures buff slipware	17-18th cent
232	1	312	blue/grey slate roofing tile	Post Med
232	1	8	iron nail	
238	1	21	coal measures buff slipware	18th cent
239	1	5	coal measures buff slipware	18th cent
239	3	6	creamware	18-19th cent
239	2	11	brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
268	1	1	copper-alloy stud	
269	1	4	brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
270	7	172	iron objects ?	
275	1	2	coal measures red slipware	18th cent
300	3	55	coal measures red slipware	18th cent
300	3	70	brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
300	1	26	high fired coal measures redware	17-18th cent
300	1	2	coal measures redware	18-19th cent
300	1	10	brown glazed redware	18-19th cent
300	4	33	whiteware	19-20th cent
300	1	14	fragment of upper jawbone ? pig	
301	2	3	clay pipe stem	17-18th cent
301	4	52	pearlware	18-19th cent
301	6	40	white stoneware	19th cent
301	9	16	developed whitewares/teawares	19-20th cent
301	6	4	creamware	17-20th cent
301	1	44	green bottle glass	18-19th cent
301	64	98	brown glazed coal measures buffware	17-18th cent
301	1	22	mottled glazed buffware	18th cent
301	9	316	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
301	1	9	coal measures red slipware	18th cent
301	1	3	refined redware	19th cent
301	1	11	green glazed orange/red sandy micaceous fabric	14-15th cent
301	1	1650	iron object ? fragment of plough share	
301	1	14	iron nail	
403	4	84	green bottle glass	18-19th cent
403	1	17	blue bottle glass	18-19th cent
403	1	2	brown bottle glass	19th cent
403	1	2	clay pipe stem	17-18th cent
403	1	3	black/brown glazed buffware	18 cent

context	count	weight (g)	description	date
403	3	13	Buckley brown glazed fineware	18th cent
403	2	14	coal measures red slipware	18th cent
403	17	248	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
403	1	2	Industrial slipware	18-19th cent
403	3	4	developed whiteware	18-20th cent
403	7	33	creamware	17-20th cent
403	2	11	white stoneware	18-19th cent
403	1	2	animal bone	
403	1	3	fragment of washer	
403	31	1400	iron nail & bolt fragments	Post Med
403	30	1425	iron objects ?	Post Med
403	34	2225	iron objects ?	Post Med
403	5	552	iron hooks	Post Med
403	12	828	iron latches, hinges and hoops	Post Med
403	2	74	iron chain fragments	Post Med
403	1	33	fragment of iron crow-bar ?	Post Med
403	1	12	fragment of iron tool ? chisel	Post Med
403	1	212	fragment of iron plyers	Post Med
403	1	226	fragment of iron chisel/bolt ?	Post Med
403	1	184	fragment of horse-shoe ?	Post Med
501	6	122	developed yellow ware	19th cent
501	9	25	developed whiteware	18-19th cent
501	3	8	Teawares	19th cent
501	2	14	Industrial slipware - Mocha ?	19th cent
501	8	49	blue press moulded teaware	19th cent
501	15	36	creamware	18-19th cent
501	11	61	mottled brown glazed buffware	18-19th cent
501	7	59	coal measures red slipware	18-19th cent
501	2	47	black/brown glazed coal measures buffware	18-19th cent
501	1	3	refined redware	19th cent
501	6	25	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
501	1	12	Buckley fineware	18-19th cent
501	3	12	coal measures redware	18-19th cent
501	1	25	high fired brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
501	1	1	clay pipe stem	17-18th cent
501	2	1100	iron horse-shoes	Post Med
501	2	580	iron door/gatepost hinges	Post Med
501	4	14	iron nails	Post Med
600	1	10	coal measures redware	18-19th cent
600	1	352	fragment of horseshoe	Post Med
601	2	13	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
601	1	21	unglazed orange/red sandyware	15-16th cent
601	1	6	high fired mottled brown glazed fineware	17-18th cent
601	7	488	iron objects ?	Post Med
601	2	196	iron bolts	Post Med
801	1	5	clay pipe stem	17-18th cent
801	3	132	black glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
802	1	1	fragment of fine perfume bottle glass ?	18-19th cent
802	1	8	Mottled ware	1690-1760
802	7	94	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
802	2	61	high fired purple glazed coal measures redware	17-18th cent
901	1	128	black/brown glazed coal measures redware	18-19th cent
901	1	1	developed whiteware	18-19th cent
901	1	256	blue/grey roofing tile	Post Med
1006	1	26	mottled green glazed red sandy micaceous fabric	14-15th cent

SOIL SAMPLES

Sampling strategy

Two monoliths were taken from the site during the course of excavation, both of which relate to the buried soil and lynchet underlying the southern end of the house (see pages 6, 7). There are two main questions which it is hoped that analysis of the monoliths might help to answer.

- Firstly, there is the question of the environment immediately preceding the construction of the house in the 15th century. The house had clearly been built on top of a pre-existing field lynchet (which though undated is assumed to be of medieval date), but there seemed a possibility that this had reverted to the status of grassland before the house was built. It would be very helpful to the interpretation of the site and the history of the landscape if it could be demonstrated from pollen analysis or other means whether or not this was the case. The best monolith to answer this question is probably Monolith 2.
- Secondly, it would be helpful to know whether pollen or soil analysis from the soil profile tells us anything further about the development of the field lynchet below the house. The best monolith to answer this question is probably Monolith 1.

Monolith 1

The general location of the monolith is shown on the sketch plan on page 12, on the photographs on page 14 and on the section drawing A. The monolith was taken with two cans, one on top of the other, the upper one being 0.4m tall and the lower one 0.5m tall. The sampled profile lay below the stone sill wall (306) which supported Truss B of the medieval longhouse and extended from the built up platform (233/234) underlying the sill wall down to the surface of the underlying subsoil. The observed stratigraphy was as follows.

0-5cm	platform make-up (234=302), yellowish brown silty clay (10YR 5/6)
5-37cm	upper buried soil (261=311), more humic soil (10YR 4/4)
37-84cm	lower buried soil (262) less humic soil (10YR 4/6)
85cm	subsoil (263) surface (10YR 4/5)

When the upper can was removed it was found that just behind the sampled section the uppermost layer (234) had been disturbed by rodent burrows below the sill wall so therefore the least disturbed part of the sequence is at the back of the can.

Monolith 2

The general location of the monolith is shown on the sketch plan on page 12, and on the section drawing B. The monolith was taken by means of a single 0.2m can.

Excavation only extended into just the top of the buried soil at this point rather than the full depth of the lynchet. The surface of the buried soil was better sealed at this point by a thicker depth of house platform (302=234) and by a layer of redeposited soil (314). The observed stratigraphy was approximately as follows.

0-4cm	base of platform make-up (302)
4-8cm	redeposited soil layer (314)
8-20cm	top of buried soil (311)