

**THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST**

# **Land Adjacent to Tyddyn Llan, Ysceifiog, Flintshire**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**



**CPAT Report No 885**

**CPAT Report No 885**

**Land Adjacent to Tyddyn Llan,  
Ysceifiog, Flintshire**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION**

**I Grant**  
September 2007

Report for Mr D Owens

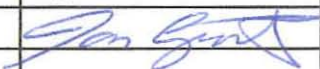
**The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust**  
7a Church Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DL  
tel (01938) 553670, fax (01938) 552179  
© CPAT 2007

## CPAT Report Record

### Report and status

|                       |                                                                                |                |       |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------|
| CPAT Report Title     | Land Adjacent to Tyddyn Llan, Ysceifiog, Flintshire: Archaeological Evaluation |                |       |
| CPAT Project Name     | Tyddyn Llan, Ysceifiog                                                         |                |       |
| CPAT Project No       | 1482                                                                           | CPAT Report No | 885   |
| Confidential (yes/no) | Yes                                                                            | draft/final    | final |

### Internal control

|             | Name            | signature                                                                          | date       |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| prepared by | I. Grant        |  | 13/09/2007 |
|             |                 |                                                                                    |            |
| checked by  | R. J. Silvester | R.J.S.J                                                                            | 13/09/2007 |
| approved by | R. J. Silvester | R.J.S.J                                                                            | 13/09/2007 |

### Revisions

| no | date | made by | checked by | approved by |
|----|------|---------|------------|-------------|
|    |      |         |            |             |
|    |      |         |            |             |
|    |      |         |            |             |
|    |      |         |            |             |

### Internal memo

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

## CONTENTS

|   |                                          |
|---|------------------------------------------|
| 1 | INTRODUCTION                             |
| 2 | LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY         |
| 3 | ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND |
| 4 | EVALUATION                               |
| 5 | FINDS                                    |
| 6 | CONCLUSIONS                              |
| 7 | ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS                         |
| 8 | NOTES                                    |
| 9 | REFERENCES                               |

### APPENDIX 1 SITE ARCHIVE

### APPENDIX 2 SPECIFICATION

### FIGURES

|        |                                                       |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Fig. 1 | Site location                                         |
| Fig. 2 | Tithe Survey for Ysceifiog, 1849                      |
| Fig. 3 | 1 <sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey 1:2,500, 1872 |
| Fig. 4 | 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey 1:2,500, 1899 |
| Fig. 5 | Trench location plan                                  |
| Fig. 6 | Trenches 2, 3 & 4, plans and sections, scale 1:50     |
| Fig. 7 | Trenches 1, 5 and 6, sections, scale 1:50             |

### PLATES

|         |                                                                                            |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Plate 1 | Trench 2 showing area of lean-to with remnant flooring and exposed bedrock.                |
| Plate 2 | Trenches 2 and 3 after removal of lime floors.                                             |
| Plate 3 | Trenches 2 and 3 showing lime floors 14 and 15.                                            |
| Plate 4 | Trench 4 showing lime floor 18 (position of rear wall and post-pad marked by ranging rod). |

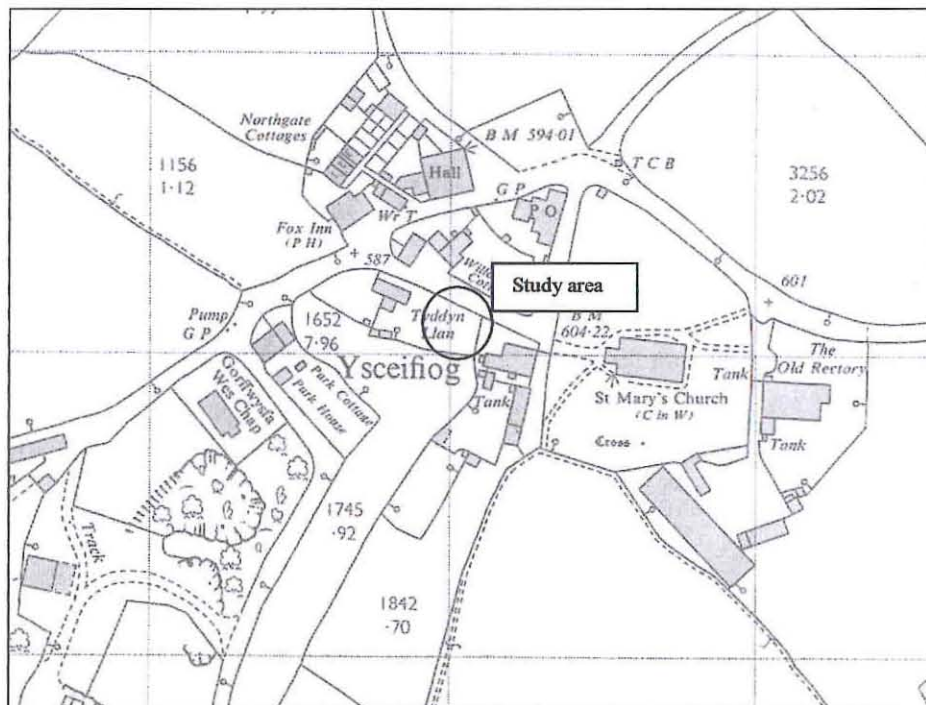


## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust was invited in July 2007 to undertake an archaeological evaluation in connection with proposals to construct a single dwelling on land adjacent to Tyddyn Llan, Ysceifiog, Flintshire. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local authority, had determined that the evaluation was required to identify the potential impact of the development on the archaeological resource. Accordingly, a brief was prepared which detailed the works required (CPAT EVB 663).
- 1.2 Information held within the regional Historic Environment Record indicates that the plot lay within the supposed medieval historic core of the village, on a frontage which might have been occupied from the medieval period onwards. It was therefore anticipated that buried archaeological deposits could survive relating to street frontage buildings.

## 2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 Ysceifiog lies towards the end of a flattish spur projecting south-westwards from Halkyn Mountain and the Delyn plateau. The River Wheeler lies to the south and a converging tributary to the west, both in steeply cut valleys. The church is on flat ground, level with the ever broadening spur to the north-east, but much of the village is at a slightly lower altitude to the west.
- 2.2 The area of the proposed development lies 50m west of the church, occupying a vacant plot adjacent to Tyddyn Llan (SJ 15187152; Fig. 1).



Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey's 1:2,500 map of 1965 with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright. CPAT Licence no. AL 50529A

Fig. 1 Site location.



- 2.3 The underlying geology of the development area consists of Palaeozoic limestone (British Geological Survey map 1994). The soils consist of well drained loams of the East Keswick 3 Association (Soil Survey of England and Wales map and legend 1983).

### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The first stage of the assessment comprised a desk-based study of all the readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial, and photographic sources held at the following repositories: the regional Historic Environment Record (HER), held by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust in Welshpool; the Flintshire Record Office (FRO) in Hawarden; the National Library of Wales (NLW) in Aberystwyth; and the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Aberystwyth.
- 3.2 Ysceifiog appears as *Schiviau* in the Domesday Book of 1086, a name usually derived from *ysgaw*, meaning abounding in elder trees. Its origins and development are obscure, and there is little to suggest an early medieval establishment, though its Domesday Book reference clearly indicates that there was a manor here prior to the Norman Conquest even if the presence of a nucleated settlement remains unresolved. The Norwich Taxation of 1254 termed it *Esceynant*, while the Lincoln Taxation has it as *Skeyvauc*. Into the 19<sup>th</sup> century it appeared regularly as *Sceiviog* or some similar form.
- 3.3 There are no buildings of any antiquity in the village, although there are five Grade II listed buildings, including the Old Rectory to the east of the church which dates to 1780, the Fox Inn and its stables, and School House and Community Hall. St Mary's church was rebuilt in 1836-7 and the west porch contains the 14<sup>th</sup>-century effigy of a priest. The earlier church was partly Norman in design, and is depicted in a Moses Griffith sketch of 1782. Lewis mentions a 'very elegant Norman doorway, now walled up, the mouldings of which are richly ornamented and in an excellent state of preservation'. Thomas noted that the remains of a still earlier church were encountered whilst digging out a cellar for heating apparatus. The base, part of the shaft and the remains of the head of a churchyard cross survive in the churchyard. The churchyard itself forms a quadrilateral, with no sign of curvilinearity and no indication that there has ever been a circular 'llan' that might signal its early medieval origins.
- 3.4 The Norwich Taxation does indicate that there was a church here in the mid-13<sup>th</sup> century, and indeed earlier, from at least the 12<sup>th</sup> century, as the presence of Norman architecture reveals. This, however, cannot be taken to mean that there was definitely a settlement around it in the Middle Ages. The first recognisable reference to a settlement at Ysceifiog comes as late as 1699 when Edward Lhuyd noted that there were five houses by the church at Ysceifiog. The situation half a century later appeared to be little different. An estate map of 1738 shows the church with small tracts of what appear to be open common to the west (from the church wall as far as Northgate Cottages) and the east (the area now occupied by the Old Rectory). Five or six buildings lay around the edges of these commons.<sup>1</sup> Between these two dates another map, from 1716, displayed the estate of Edward Conway of Northop. It depicts the church in a square churchyard, obviously drawn stylistically. Only a single house is shown in the block of land immediately to the west of the church, and we can assume from Lhuyd's comments that this is an incomplete picture of settlement.
- 3.5 A later map from 1805 also shows the churchyard and three cottages or houses immediately to the west. Again, it is not likely that this was the complete picture of housing in Ysceifiog at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and indeed it seems unlikely. But the map does provide some information inasmuch as it refers to some of this land as belonging to the 'poor of Holywell'. Samuel Lewis (in 1833) noted that in 1640 Edward George had bequeathed a messuage and thirteen parcels of land in Ysceifiog for clothing for the poor of Holywell. By the 1830s seven

parcels remained, covering 15 acres, and some of these were clearly to the west of the churchyard.

- 3.6 More precision comes from the Tithe Survey for Ysceifiog parish in 1849 (Fig. 2) which shows a row of cottages along the street frontage, extending into the western part of the study area. The accompanying schedule indicates that these cottages were owned by the 'poor of Holywell' and occupied by Edward Hughes and others. It is even possible that these dwellings were occupied by the poor of the community – such a situation occurred at Bangor on Dee in the 19<sup>th</sup> century – but cannot be proved, and is probably unlikely as the villagers of Ysceifiog would hardly have welcomed the poor of another parish with open arms. The cottages are depicted more clearly on the Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1:2,500 mapping from 1872 (Fig. 3), but by the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map in 1899 (Fig. 4) they had been demolished.

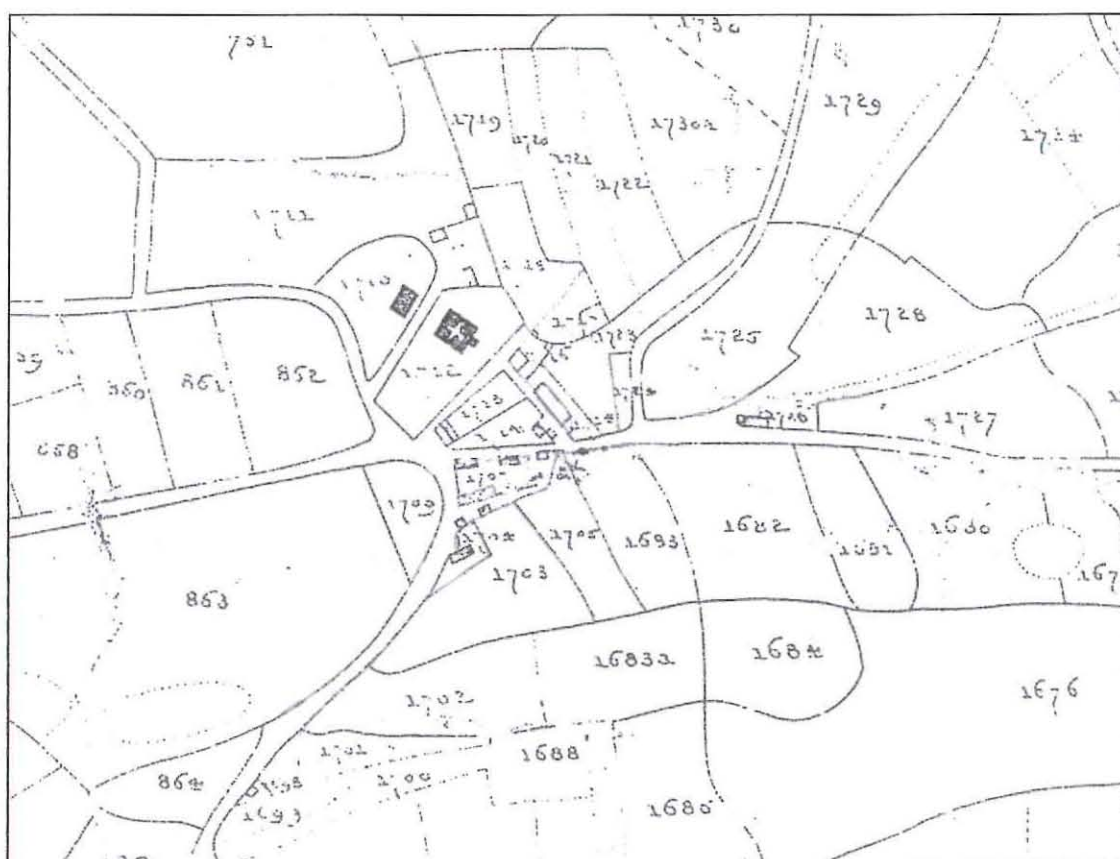


Fig. 2 Ysceifiog Tithe Survey, 1849



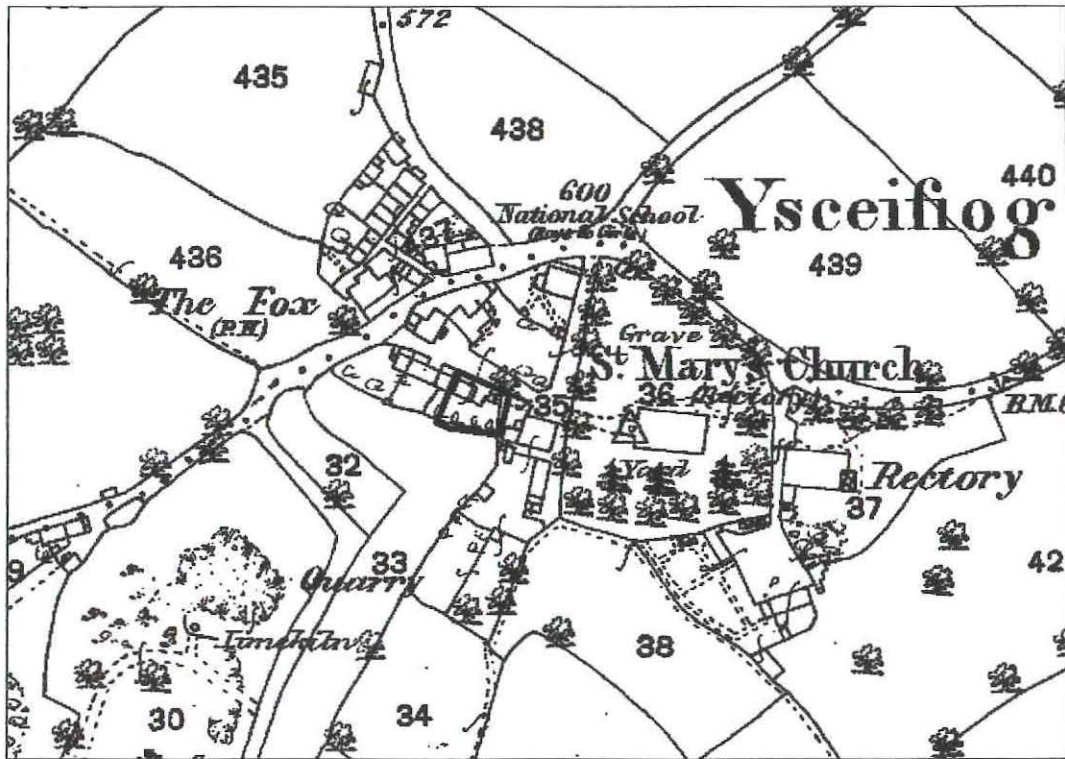


Fig. 3 1st edition Ordnance Survey 1:2,500 map of 1872

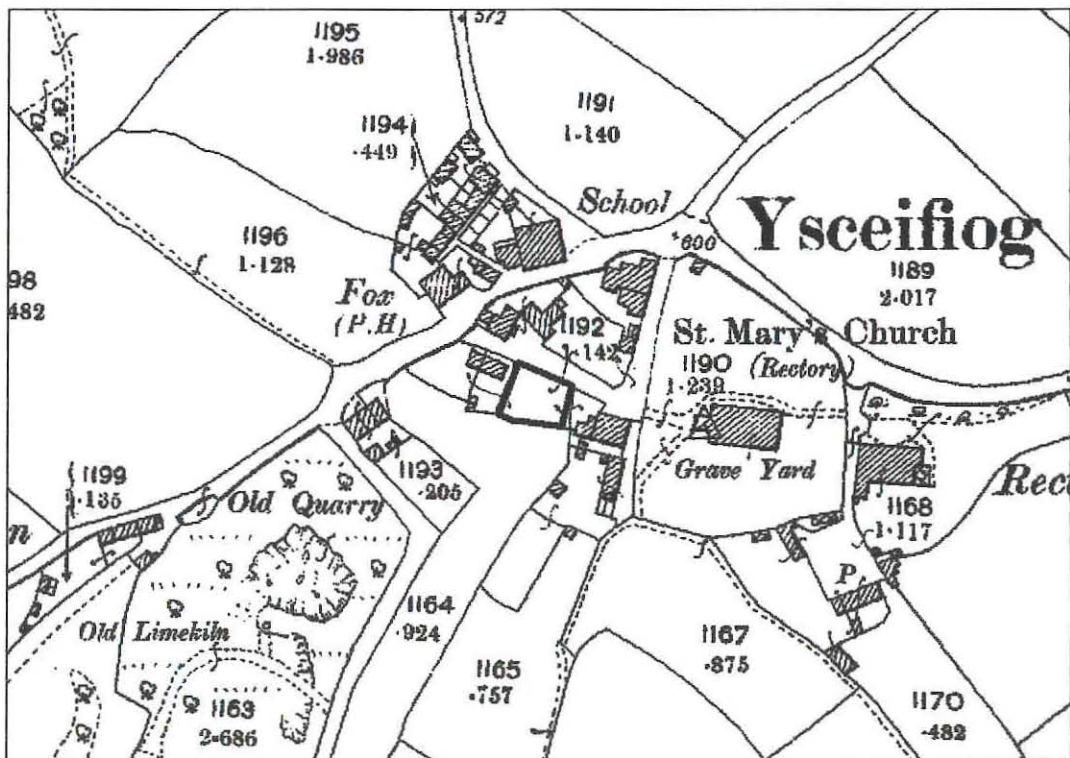


Fig. 4 Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 1:2,500 map, 1899



## 4 EVALUATION

4.1 The evaluation in August 2007 consisted of six trenches (Fig. 5), the locations of which had to be modified from the layout required in the curatorial brief owing to a mains sewage pipeline crossing the plot from north-east to south-west. Numbers in brackets in the following text refer to individual context records which are defined and detailed in full in the site archive.

4.2 In each of the trenches the modern overburden was removed by machine under close archaeological supervision down to the surface of the first recognisable archaeological horizon. Thereafter all excavation was undertaken by hand. The evaluation was essentially non-destructive and was designed to determine the depth at which archaeologically sensitive deposits survived, together with as much information as possible about their nature, condition and significance. A summary of the site archive is provided in Appendix 1.

### **Trench 1 (Fig. 7)**

4.3 Trench 1, which measured 4.1m by 2.3m and was aligned north-east to south-west, was located in the south-east corner of the development plot. The modified location of this trench was in part the result of the close proximity of a mains sewage pipeline, together with restricted access to the rear of the development plot.

4.4 The overburden consisted of up to 0.34m of topsoil (01), a dark blackish brown soft silty loam. The deposit, which was consistent and present in all of the trenches across the site, contained ceramics dating from 18<sup>th</sup> century through to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Underlying this was a deposit of dark reddish brown silty clay (02), 0.2m thick. The deposit, which only survived to the rear of the development plot, appeared to be a mixture of relic garden soil of late 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>-century origin mixed with disturbance from later 19<sup>th</sup> century activity. The immediate underlying deposits varied between deposits of natural subsoil (03 and 07), a light orange brown moderate silty sand and bands of pebbly limestone gravel mixed with silty clay. At the southern end of the trench a rising shelf of natural limestone bedrock (04) was encountered 0.2m below the ground surface. No archaeological features were identified at the base of the trench.

### **Trenches 2 and 3 (Fig. 6)**

4.5 Trench 2, located parallel with the street frontage, was aligned south-east to north-west and measured 12.5m x 1.6m. At the downwards sloping north western end, the trench was extended a further 6m x 1.6m south-westwards towards the rear of the development plot. For the purpose of this report this extension is referred to as Trench 3.

4.6 The depth of the topsoil (01) was fairly consistent at 0.2m thick across both trenches. At a central point within Trench 2, extending upslope to the eastern end of the trench, the natural limestone bedrock lay immediately below the topsoil. From the north-west of the central point to the end of the trench, at the apex to Trench 3, it was clear from the underlying deposits of building demolition and subsequent remains of floor levels that this was the site of one of the 18<sup>th</sup>-century dwellings, the foundations of which had been terraced into the limestone bedrock and/or the overlying subsoil, a light orangey brown silty sand (13).

4.7 The construction of the dwellings during the 18<sup>th</sup> century appears to have removed all evidence of earlier occupation of the site, with one exception, a single post-hole (63) located in the north-west corner of Trench 2. The post-hole, 0.6m in diameter and 0.28m deep, was sealed beneath one of the earlier 18<sup>th</sup>-century lime floors. It contained two fills (62 and 40) and from the latter, a soft brown silty sand, was recovered a single sherd of unglazed pottery of possible medieval date.



- 4.8 The area occupied by the 18<sup>th</sup>-century dwelling was defined by the remains of two external walls (51 and 52), both approximately 0.72m in width. The rear wall (52), in Trench 3, was aligned south-east to north-west. To the south, and outside the building, the overburden included a 0.2m thick deposit of cultivation soil (02) similar to that recorded in Trench 1. The other wall (51), in Trench 2, was aligned north-east to south-west. On the external, eastern, side of this wall were the remains of floor levels, which were possibly the remains of a lean-to building 2.75m wide.
- 4.9 The earliest floor levels, deposits 12 and 39, consisted of a firm coal-flecked orangy brown silty sand that included occasional patches of re-deposited natural clay. Where necessary, as in the area of the lean-to, the clay had been used to fill in the voids around the bedrock in order to level the ground surface (see Plate 1). A number of small fragments of clay pipe stem, teawares and brown glazed coal measures redwares, of late 18<sup>th</sup> early 19<sup>th</sup>-century origin were recovered from these deposits. In association with the internal floor (39), four pits/postholes were recorded at this level (41,43,45, 47). The pit 41, the extent of which was only partly revealed in plan with minimum dimension of 0.6m wide and 0.18m deep, was filled by a series of compressed charcoal lenses (42) from which were recovered fragments of clay pipe, mottled-ware and highly fired manganese glazed finewares, possibly of mid 18<sup>th</sup>-century origin. The postholes, with an average diameter of 0.4m, contained fragments of pottery of similar date (see Plate 2).



Plate 1 Trench 2 showing area of lean-to with remnant flooring and exposed bedrock.  
Photo CPAT 2468.052





Plate 2 Trenches 2 and 3 after removal of lime floors. Photo CPAT 2468.042



Plate 3 Trenches 2 and 3 showing lime floors 14 and 15. Photo CPAT 2468.012



- 4.10 Two later floor levels (15 and 14) survived in situ within the confines of the main dwelling (see Plate 3). The earlier floor (15) consisted of a soft limecrete deposit, 0.06m thick, into which fragments of pink limewash plaster had been impressed. The fairly worn surface had then been patched and overlain with a very hard deposit of compressed lime, sand and ash (14), 0.12m thick. An irregular, roughly L-shaped, cut (28) 0.7m wide and filled by demolition rubble (16), truncated both floor levels in the north-west corner of Trench 2. This feature has been interpreted as a 'robber' trench probably attributed to the removal of the dwellings front wall-line.
- 4.11 The demolition deposit (16), a loose pinkish grey sand and lime mixed with fragmented handmade bricks 0.22m thick, completely sealed the area of the main dwelling and, in parts, the truncated remains of the outbuilding floor levels (09 and 10) to the east. The floor surfaces, that were somewhat cruder than the limecrete floors within the main dwelling, consisted of a pinkish pebbly mortar repaired with an overlying layer of greyish white lime. The earlier floor (10) contained sherds of white teawares and black glazed coal measures redware, all of which were of 19<sup>th</sup>-century origin.

#### **Trench 4 (Fig. 6)**

- 4.12 Trench 4, located immediately to the west of Trenches 2 and 3, was aligned north-north-east to south-south-west and measured 10.5m x 1.7m. At the northern end of the trench the overburden consisted of up to 0.42m of topsoil (01), which included a 3m-wide dump of modern building sand and gravel. Underlying the topsoil were two deposits (19 and 56) within a broad pit (37) measuring 3.8m across. The upper deposit (56) contained a dark loamy silt mixed with fragmented mortar and building rubble. The lower fill (19) consisted mainly of cinder and ashes within a dark silty clay. It is possible that the pit (37) and associated demolition deposits represent the partial outline of a robber trench along a party wall between adjoining cottages (as identified in Fig. 5). At the southern end of the trench, as in Trench 1, a rising shelf of limestone bedrock (04) was encountered 0.2m below the ground surface.
- 4.13 Cut into the bedrock, 1.75m apart and aligned north to south, were two postholes (25 and 26). Both post-settings measured approximately 0.7m x 0.5m with internal post-pipes 0.2m in diameter and 0.23m deep. One of the postholes (26) still contained the remains of a wooden post. Posthole 25 contained fragments of clay-pipe stems and 19<sup>th</sup>-century ceramics. It seems likely that the postholes represent the remains of an early 19<sup>th</sup>-century property boundary in the rear gardens of the cottages.
- 4.14 Across the base of the central part of the trench the undisturbed natural subsoil (03) was exposed, covered by a thin layer of dirty, trampled subsoil (57). The demolition of the building in this part of the site had evidently been more thorough than elsewhere, leaving no trace of the lime floors visible in Trenches 2 and 3. All that remained was a post-pad (22), 0.34m in diameter, the faint outline of a beam slot (60), 0.7m wide, and orientated east to west, and the fragmentary remains of an early floor deposit (35), 50mm thick, which contained fragments of 18<sup>th</sup>-century clay pipes and pottery. Overlying the latter was a small remnant of trampled lime floor (18), 1.2m wide and 0.08m (see Plate 4).





Plate 4 Trench 4 showing lime floor 18 (position of rear wall and post-pad marked by ranging rod).

Photo CPAT 2468.053

#### **Trench 5 (Fig. 7)**

- 4.15 Trench 5 measured 2.9m x 1.6m and was located 2m north-west of Trench 1, at the rear of the development site. As with Trench 1, the modified location was in part a result of the close proximity of a mains sewage pipeline, together with restricted access to the rear of the development plot.
- 4.16 The overburden consisted of up to 0.44m of topsoil (01), the deposit being consistent with that recorded the other trenches, and similarly containing ceramics dated from the 18<sup>th</sup> century through to the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with predominantly coal measures slip-wares representing the earlier period. Underlying this was a deposit of dark reddish brown silty clay (02) 0.1m thick. The immediate underlying deposit consisted of natural subsoil (03), a light orange brown moderate silty sand, overlying a shelf of limestone bedrock (04). No archaeological features were identified at the base of the trench.

#### **Trench 6 (Fig. 7)**

- 4.17 Trench 6, measuring 10m x 1.6m and aligned north-north-east to south-south-west, was located along the line of a proposed utility/service trench in the open pasture field to the rear of the development site.
- 4.18 The overburden consisted of up to 0.32m of topsoil (01) at the northern end, thinning to 0.1m in the south. The deposit, which contained ceramics dating from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, contained an unusual quantity of clay pipe stems together with variable forms of regional slipware and mottled-ware ceramics. The underlying deposits (32 and 33) consisted of relic



cultivation/ploughsoils, comprising soft dark greyish brown sandy silt and a dark orange brown silty clay respectively, each up to 0.2m thick. A single fragment of late 17<sup>th</sup>-century slipware was recovered from the lower deposit (33). The overlying ploughsoil (32) contained sherds of regional black and brown glazed fineware. The undisturbed natural limestone bedrock (04) was exposed throughout the base of the trench. Apart from a small pit containing an animal burial cut into the lower ploughsoil (33) at the northern end of the trench, no archaeological features were identified.

## 5 FINDS

- 5.1 The ceramic assemblage was dominated by black and brown glazed earthen-wares typical of the coal-measures-type fabrics of the region, together with a good cross section of other 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century ceramics, such as fine mottled-ware, pearl-ware, white and developed tea-wares, marmalade jars and numerous fragments of green, blue and brown bottle-glass. To the rear of the development site, where the earlier 18<sup>th</sup>-century deposits survived to a greater undisturbed depth, a good collection of regional slip-wares was recovered, along with significant quantities of clay pipe stems of both 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century date. Typical forms of bowls and pancheons were noted.
- 5.2 The evaluation only produced a small collection of pre-18<sup>th</sup>-century pottery, comprising a few small sherds of highly fired manganese glazed fine-wares, together with the occasional iron nail recovered from the pits and post-holes associated with the earlier underlying floor levels in Trenches 2, 3 and 4. It is possible that the demolition and clearance of the site in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century may have removed evidence of any earlier activity.
- 5.3 The earliest pottery consisted of a single unglazed body sherd from the upper fill (40) of a post-hole (63). The red sandy micaceous fabric contained inclusions of quartz gritstone on the internal face, and has yet to be provenanced. The sherd was recovered from the earliest feature identified during the excavations and has been tentatively been identified as medieval, although an earlier or later date cannot be discounted.

## 6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The evaluation has been successful in shedding more light on the past history of the development plot and revealing the nature and significance of the archaeological resource. It would appear that during the 17<sup>th</sup> century this plot was one of several in the village that were donated to assist with 'clothing the poor of Holywell'. It is perhaps most likely that the income derived from the land was used to provide some form of poor relief rather than for the construction of alms houses. By the time of the Tithe Survey for Ysceifiog parish in 1849, however, a row of cottages had been constructed along the street frontage, two of which extended into the study area. The cottages were owned by the overseers of the 'poor of Holywell' and it is even possible that they were occupied by the poor, although this cannot be proved. The cottages are depicted more clearly on the Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1:2,500 mapping from 1872, but by the time of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition map in 1899 they had been demolished.
- 6.2 The evaluation identified the remains of the cottages within the three trenches nearest the street frontage. It was evident that during their demolition the stone walls had been completely robbed, leaving only trenches filled with rubble, or a scatter of stones impressed into the subsoil to identify the wall lines. The bedrock was in many cases so close to the surface that it had been cut into to level the building platform and thus provided a solid foundation. Elsewhere the walls appear to have been built directly on the subsoil without a foundation. It is possible that the original flooring was earth, but certainly from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century a lime floor was used which



was later patched and partly replaced by a more solid limecrete or lime-ash floor. A small room on the eastern end of the cottages may have been a lean-to and also contained lime flooring as well as evidence for in-situ burning. Pottery associated with the building supports the documentary evidence in suggesting occupation during the later 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

- 6.3 There was only limited evidence for any earlier occupation on the site, comprising a single post-hole sealed beneath one of the lime floors that contained a sherd of unglazed pottery of possible medieval date. The results from the evaluation suggest, however, that the construction and subsequent demolition of the cottages is likely to have removed most of the evidence for any potentially earlier occupation. It should also be noted that the positioning of the trenches means that the majority of the proposed foundations have been evaluated, and in the case of those closest to the street front, the archaeology has been almost fully excavated.
- 6.4 The three trenches excavated to the rear of the plot, and in the field to the south, produced no evidence for any archaeological features with the exception of a single animal burial. Interestingly, however, the range of ceramics recovered from this area generally represents an earlier period with some of the pottery being of likely 17<sup>th</sup>-century date.

## 7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 7.1 The writer would like to thank the following for their assistance during the programme: Fiona Grant, Richard Hankinson, Nigel Jones, Bob Silvester of CPAT; the staff of the National Library of Wales in Aberystwyth; the staff of the National Monuments Record at the RCAHMW in Aberystwyth; and the staff of the Flintshire Record Office in Hawarden.

## 8 NOTES

1 Unfortunately, this map (a Grosvenor Estate manuscript map) is currently not publically accessible.

## 9 REFERENCES

### *Published sources*

Lewis, S, 1833 *A Topographical Dictionary of Wales* 2 Vols (London: S.Lewis and Co)

Lhwyd, E, 1909-1911 *Parochialia being a Summary of Answers to Parochial Queries* etc (Cambrian Archaeological Association; 3 Vols)

### *Maps*

1716 Survey of lands in Ysceifiog and Caerwys... *Flints Record Office D/SH/830*

1721 A Map and Survey of Jesus College lands situated in the parishes of Nannerch, Skiviog and Llanganhaval... *NLW/Map 10359*

1738 Mapp of Halkin Mountain and of the other mountains or wast common ground... *Flints Record Office D/GR/1679*

- 1805 Maps and surveys of Estates in Northo, Skeiviog and Caerwys... *Flints Record Office D/SH/826*
- 1846/1849 Tithe apportionment and map for Ysceifiog Parish
- 1872 Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition 25" Flintshire 8.8
- 1899 Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> edition 25" Flintshire 8.8
- 1912 Ordnance Survey 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 25" Flintshire 8.8
- 1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales map and legend (Sheet 2 – Wales, at 1:250,000 scale)
- 1994 British Geological Survey map of Wales (Solid edition, at 1:250,000 scale)

## APPENDIX 1

### SITE ARCHIVE

63 Context record forms

04 A1 site plans and sections

68 digital images

Photographic catalogue

Context register

Drawings register

Levels register



## **APPENDIX 2 SPECIFICATION**

### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 The Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust has been invited to prepare a specification of works for undertaking an evaluation in connection with proposals to construct a single dwelling on land adjacent to Tyddyn Llan, Ysceifiog, Flintshire. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, acting as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, have determined that a programme of archaeological works should be undertaken and have produced a brief detailing the works required (EVB 663).
- 1.2 The plot is situated at the centre of the village, immediately east of Tyddyn Llan, and 500m west of the medieval church (SJ 15187152). Information held within the regional Historic Environment Record indicates that the plot lies within the medieval historic core of the village, on a frontage which may have been occupied from the medieval period onwards. It is therefore anticipated that buried archaeological deposits may survive relating to street frontage buildings.

### **2 Objectives**

- 2.1 The objectives of the evaluation are:
  - 2.1.1 to reveal by means of a desktop study and field evaluation, the nature, condition, significance and, where possible, the chronology of the cultural heritage 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 evaluation;
  - 2.1.3 to prepare a report outlining the results of the evaluation.

### **3 Methods**

- 3.1 Stage 1 of the evaluation will involve the examination of all the readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial, and photographic sources at the following repositories: the regional Historic Environment Record, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, Welshpool; Flintshire County Archives, Hawarden; the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth; and the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.
- 3.2 All cartographic sources consulted will be included within the desktop section of the report, together with transcriptions of relevant documents and copies of plans, maps and photographs containing relevant information.
- 3.3 The Stage 2 evaluation will consist of five trenches, each 1.5m wide and of varying lengths totalling no more than 50m, the location and dimensions of which will be agreed with the curator in advance.
- 3.4 All excavations will be undertaken using a machine excavator with a toothless bucket to remove modern overburden down to the level of the first recognisable archaeological horizon. Thereafter, all excavation will be conducted by hand unless otherwise agreed with the Curator in advance. The evaluation will be entirely non-destructive and designed to determine the depth at which archaeologically sensitive deposits survive, together with their nature condition and

significance. The depth of natural deposits will be determined to assess the extent of any stratified deposits which may be encountered.

- 3.5 It has been assumed that the area in question has sufficient access for a JCB or other mechanical excavator. Excavated material will be temporarily stored adjacent to the trench, which will be reinstated with this material upon completion. The trenches will be surrounded by plastic barrier fencing during the excavation if required but no provision has been made for stripping or relaying any surfaced areas or reseeded.
- 3.6 Contexts will be recorded on individual record forms and be drawn and photographed as appropriate. All photography will be in 35mm format black and white print and colour slide. All features will be located as accurately as possible with respect to buildings and boundaries identified on modern Ordnance Survey maps and levels will be related to Ordnance Datum where possible, with the use of total station surveying.
- 3.7 All artefacts will be related to their contexts from which they were derived and treated in a manner appropriate to their composition and will be processed by trained CPAT staff. Provision has been included for sampling deposits for dating, environmental and technological evidence as appropriate.
- 3.8 Following the on-site work an illustrated and bound report will be prepared in A4 format, containing conventional sections on: Site location, Topography and Geology; Archaeological Background; Evaluation; Conclusions and References, together with appropriate appendices on archives and finds.
- 3.9 The site archive will be prepared to specifications laid out in Appendix 3 in the Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991), to be deposited with the Regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). All artefacts will, subject to the permission of the owner, be deposited with Llandrindod Wells Museum.

#### 4 Resources and Programming

- 4.1 The assessment will be undertaken by a small team of skilled archaeologists under the direct supervision of Mr R J Silvester, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. CPAT is also an Institute of Field Archaeologist Registered Organisation.
- 4.2 All report preparation will be completed by or with the assistance of the same field archaeologist(s) who conducted the assessment.
- 4.3 It is anticipated that the evaluation will be completed within 5 days with a team of four experienced archaeologists and the report will be completed within 10 days following the on-site work. At present CPAT would be able to undertake the evaluation during May or June 2006, subject to sufficient notice. As required in section 7.1 of the curatorial brief a draft report will be presented to the curator prior to the submission of the final report.
- 4.4 The following contingency sums have been allowed at the request of the Curator. The need for such contingencies, and their potential cost, would be subject to discussions between CPAT, the client and the curator once the fieldwork has been completed. The following figures are therefore only for guidance and the final cost, should any of the services be required, may be more or less than the estimates provided.

|                               |                                                     |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Curatorial monitoring         | £50 per visit                                       |
| Finds conservation etc        | £200                                                |
| Dating                        | £300                                                |
| Environmental sampling        | £200                                                |
| Museum deposition and storage | £50                                                 |
| Publication                   | <i>Archaeology in Wales</i> at no additional charge |

- 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  
18 April 2007



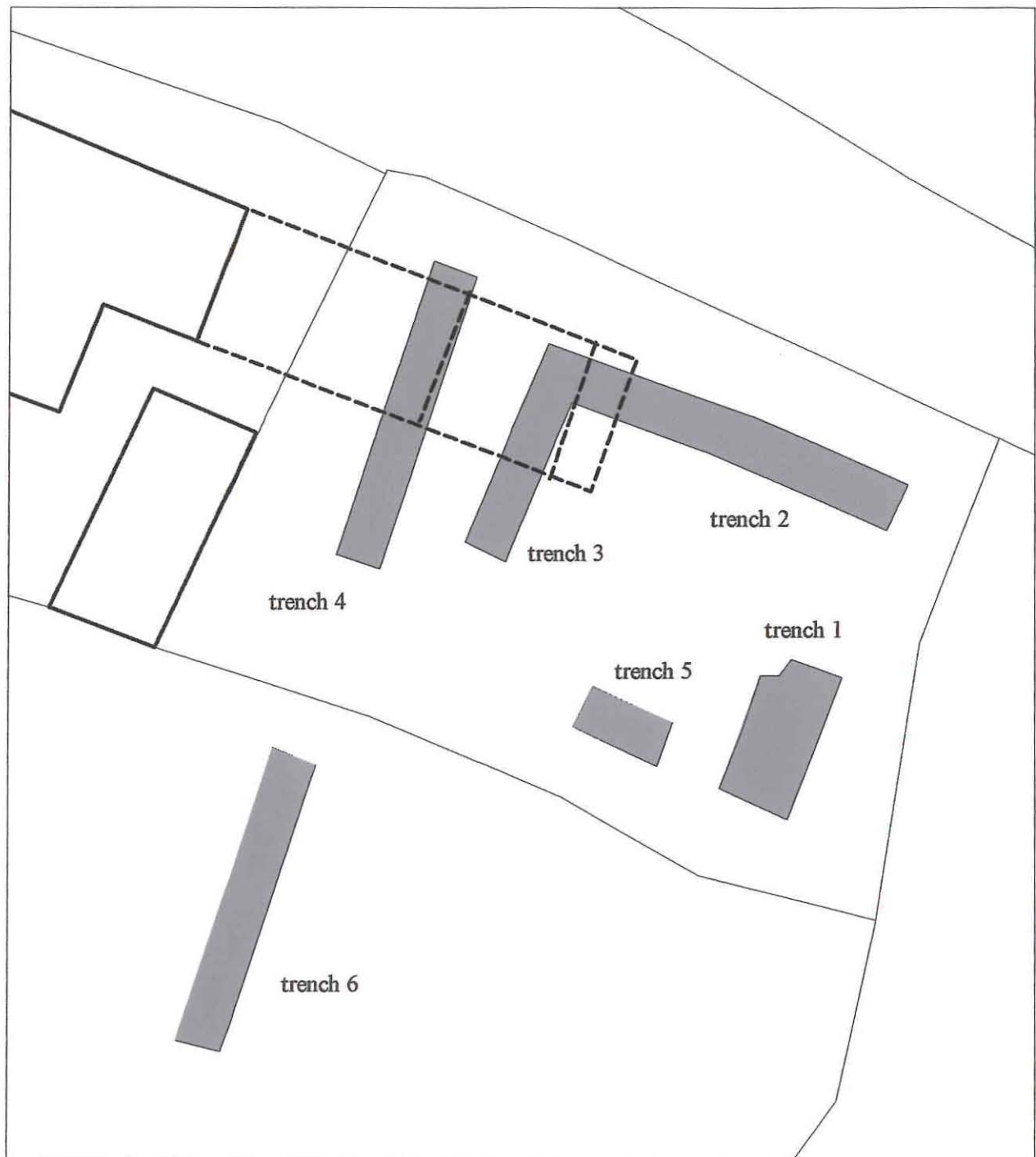


Fig. 5 Trench location showing position of cottages depicted by the Ordnance Survey in 1872

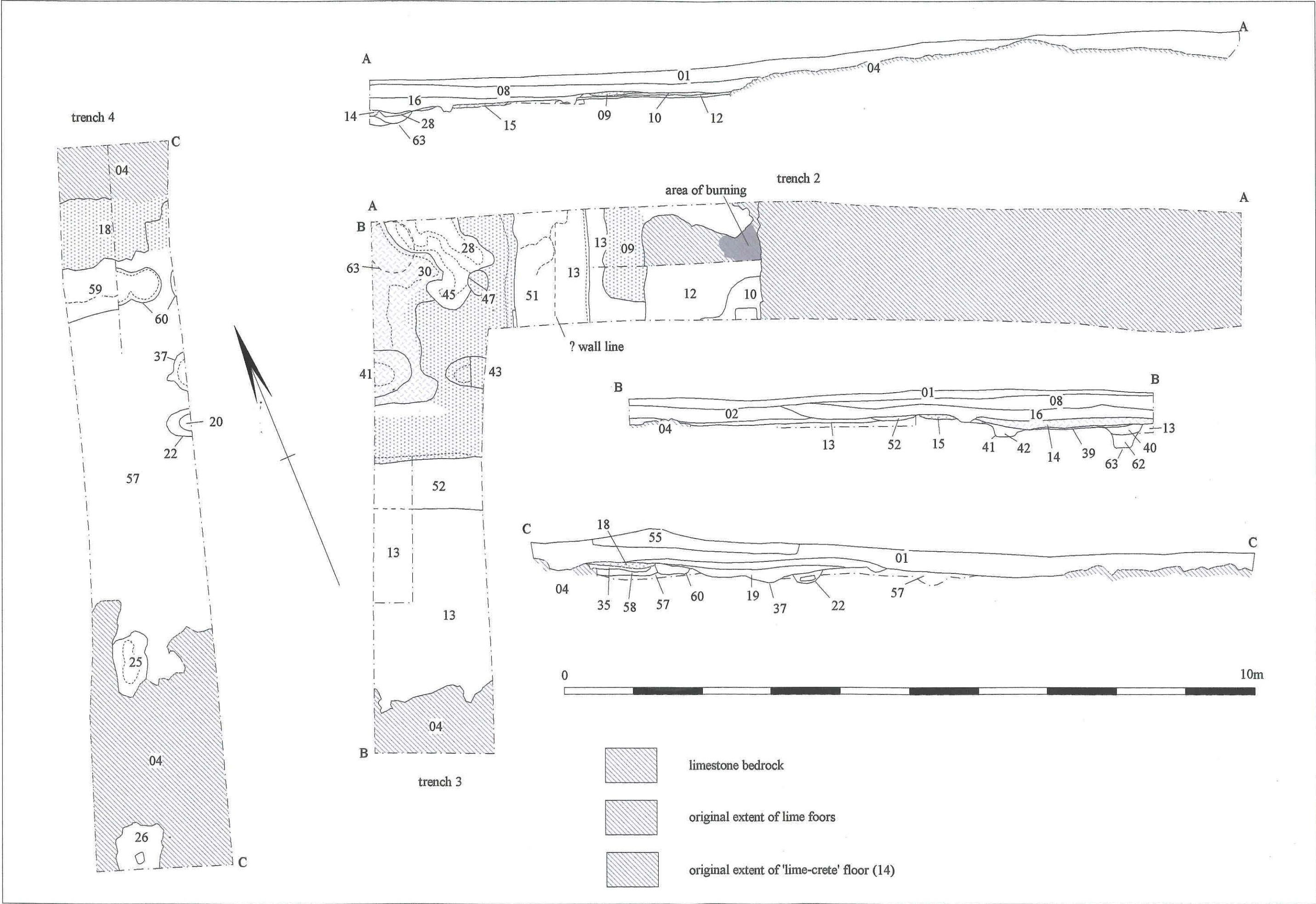


Fig. 6 Trenches 2, 3 and 4, plans and sections, scale 1:50

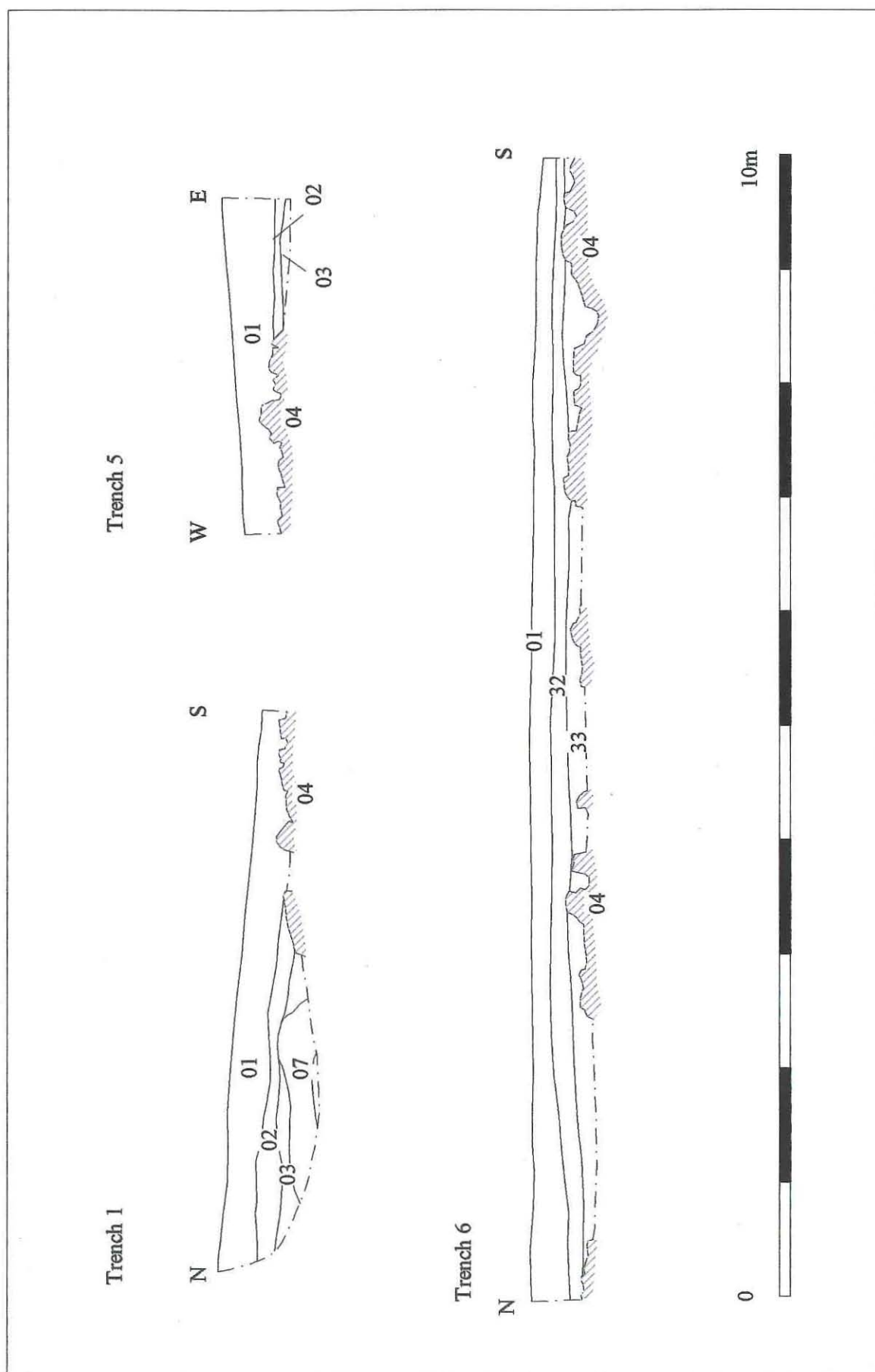


Fig. 7 Sections of Trenches 1, 5 and 6, scale 1:50