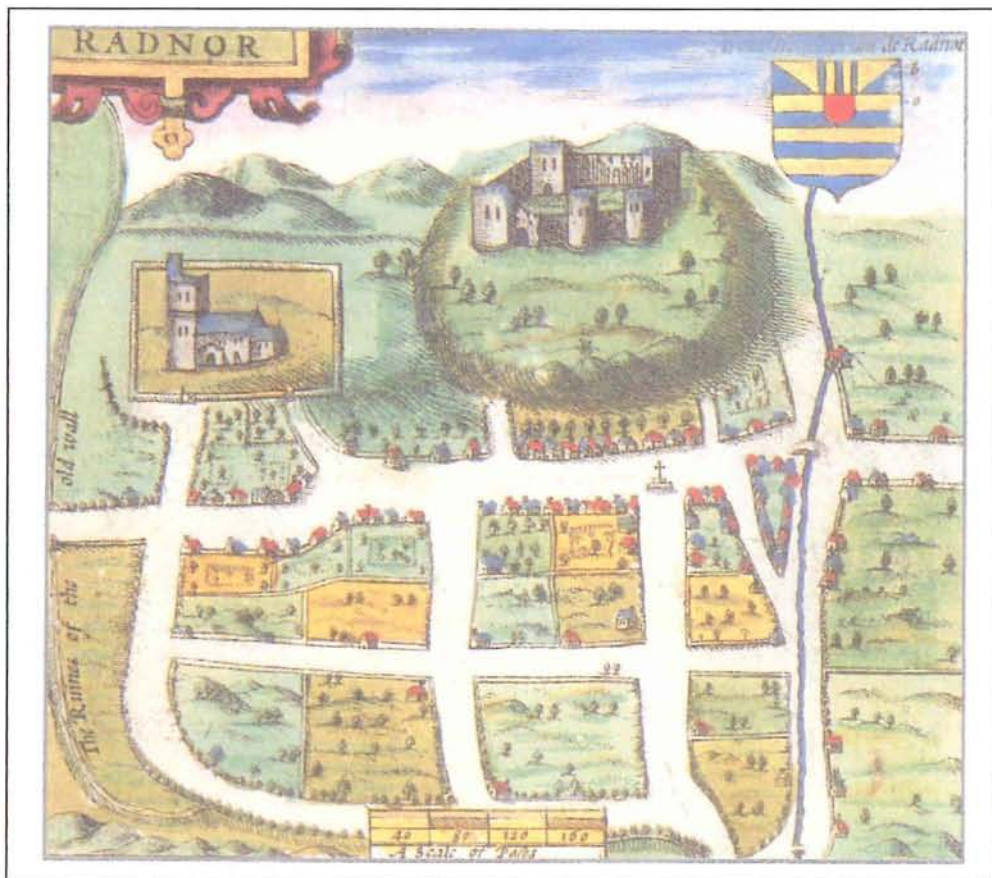


THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Bank Buildings, Rectory Lane, New Radnor, Powys

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND BUILDING SURVEY



CPAT Report No 765

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F Grant and N W Jones
January 2006

Report for McCartneys

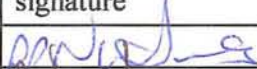
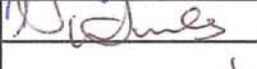
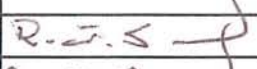
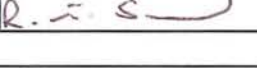
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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) was invited by Mr R Edwards of McCartneys in Kington, Herefordshire to undertake on behalf of his clients, an archaeological evaluation in connection with their proposals to convert a range of agricultural buildings into a dwelling. The site in question forms part of Bank Buildings, lying off Rectory Lane in New Radnor in Powys. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, had determined that an evaluation should be undertaken to assess the potential impact of the proposals on the archaeological resource within the plot. Although no curatorial design brief had been prepared it was agreed in discussions with the curator, Mr Mark Walters, that, subject to it receiving his approval, a specification of works by the Field Services Section of CPAT would act instead of a brief.
- 1.2 The site lies within the historic core of the medieval town, on the west side of Rectory Lane (SO 2116 6084). Immediately to the south and west of the development plot is an area of the medieval town which is statutorily designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM Rd 154) (Fig. 1).

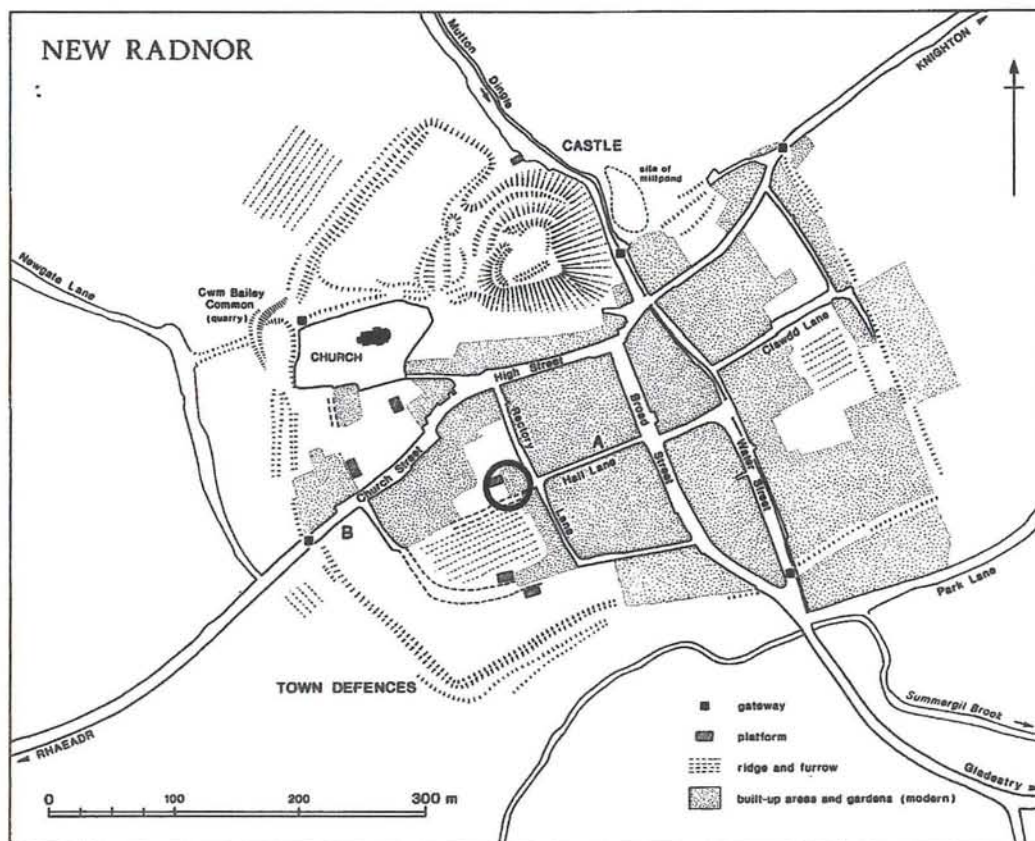


Fig. 1 Modern plan of New Radnor showing known earthworks (from Silvester 1997). The evaluation area is indicated by the circle.

2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Stage one of the evaluation involved the examination of all the readily available primary and secondary documentary, cartographic, pictorial, and photographic sources within the Historic Environment Record held by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust at Welshpool, and in the National Library of Wales at Aberystwyth; and the National Monuments Record, also in Aberystwyth.

Introduction

- 2.2 New Radnor is a small and demonstrably shrunken settlement on the eastern edge of the central Welsh uplands. For a brief period, early in the post-medieval era, it was the county town of Radnorshire but today it is smaller and relatively insignificant in comparison with other small and thriving towns in central Powys such as Knighton and Presteigne which occupied more favourable locations in the old county.
- 2.3 Notwithstanding its present obscurity, it played a particularly important and strategic role in earlier centuries, and arguably its archaeological potential is greater than that of its more successful neighbours.
- 2.4 The town lies on the north side of the Summergil Brook where the stream breaks out of a narrow valley hemmed in by Radnor Forest on the north and Highgate Hill and the Smatcher on the south. Eastwards are the lower lands of the Walton Basin which open out into Herefordshire. A spur projecting into the valley from the southern slopes of Radnor Forest was adapted for the castle earthworks which guarded the approaches to and from one of the more accessible passes into mid Wales and subsequently the town was laid out on flatter ground below its defences.
- 2.5 It has been the subject of a very detailed examination by the writer in 1994 and much of what follows has been adapted from relevant sections of those writings (see Silvester 1994a; 1994b; 1997)

Sources

- 2.6 New Radnor is fortunate in having a series of early maps which provide otherwise unobtainable background information. John Speed's plan of the town (Fig. 2) was published in 1611, but drawn probably in 1606. A recently identified map (Fig. 3), now in the Powis County Council Archives, probably dates from around the mid to late 18th century, and then in quick succession appeared a map to accompany the enclosure of the common lands in the parish, which incorporated, unusually, a plan of the town (1811), and secondly Le Keux's map prepared for Jonathan Williams' aborted *History of Radnorshire*, abandoned around 1818, and not published until the middle of the century (Williams 1859). Subsequently, the Tithe Map of 1846 (Fig. 4) and the earliest edition of the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map (1889; Fig. 5) provide valuable data. A full list of these sources can be found in Silvester 1994a, except for the new map in the Powys Archives.
- 2.7 New Radnor appears frequently in the Calendars of State Papers, usually with reference to the castle, less frequently to the town. Oblique aerial photographs of New Radnor have been taken almost annually since 1984 and provide information on the earthworks of the town.

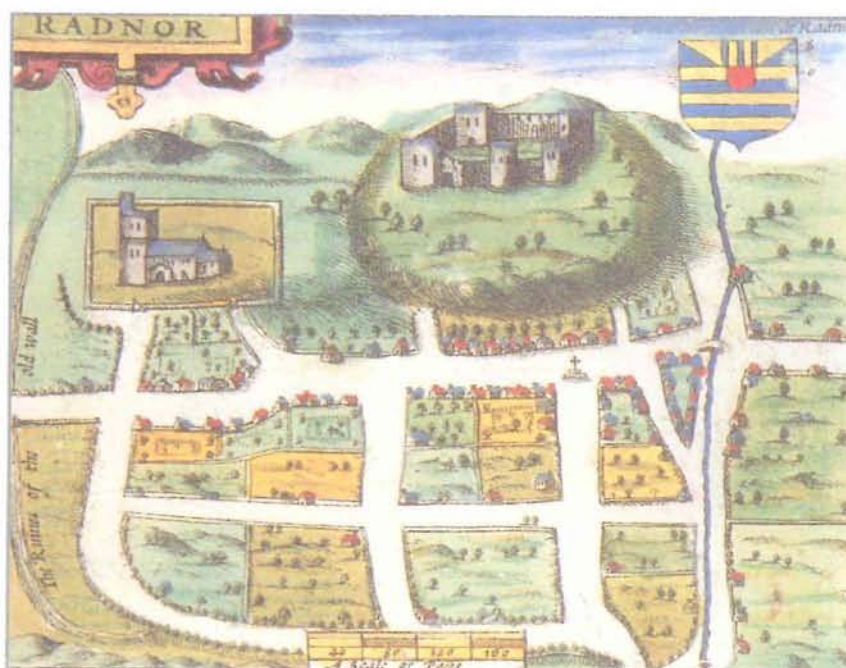


Fig 2. John Speed's map of New Radnor published in 1611

History

- 2.8 New Radnor first appears in the records specifically as 'Radenore Nova' in 1277. Though it is reasonable to assume that the town was founded at an earlier date, how much earlier remains an open question as all earlier written references are to Radnor alone (for a detailed description see Silvester 1994; 1997). To Radnor came Baldwin the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1188, his starting point in Wales for preaching the First Crusade, and this is more likely to have been New Radnor than Old Radnor. A Charter Roll entry of 1235 by which the Earl of Pembroke was granted custody of the de Breos lands mentions 'Radnor Castle and the town of the castle', and the first murage grant to enable the building of defences around the town was recorded in the Patent Roll of 1257.
- 2.9 The borough that emerged below the castle was undoubtedly a plantation, that is a deliberately founded settlement usually laid out to a regular pattern. Initially slow to establish itself, the town underwent a rapid population expansion in the 14th century. The 97 burgesses in the returns of 1301 had nearly doubled to 189 holding 262 and a half plots, in an Inquisition Post Mortem three years later. A return of £13 on rents and tolls in 1360 indicates a prosperous settlement by the standards of the day.
- 2.10 The murage grant obtained in 1257 was followed by further grants in 1280, 1283 and 1290. A weekly market was operating early in the 14th century, and a charter for a yearly fair was obtained in 1306.
- 2.11 The castle and town were sacked by Owain Glyndŵr in 1401, leaving the ruins seen by Leland, and the later Middle Ages also witnessed a decline in the prosperity of the town of New Radnor.



Fig. 3 Later 18th-century map of New Radnor (reproduced by permission of Powys County Archives).
The evaluation area is indicated by the circle.

- 2.12 Speed's plan (Fig. 2) shows large open areas within the town, surely reflecting a considerable reduction in the number of burgage plots recorded in the early 14th century. It was, however, elevated to the rank of shire town for Radnorshire at the time of the Act of Union in 1536, perhaps because it was the only place in the county that preserved the semblance of a castle, and the only one that could be used as a prison.
- 2.13 Despite its status the town slipped into gradual decline, a result of its location which had little to offer the trader. The courts of Great Sessions had been transferred to Presteigne by the late 17th century and even the weekly market ceased. By 1731 only 7 burgesses were left. Economically it was a failure. Williams early in the 19th century noted 'its deserted streets, several of which have no buildings and others are now only footpaths, ... not more than 50 dwelling houses, and most of those of mean appearance ... (Davies 1905).

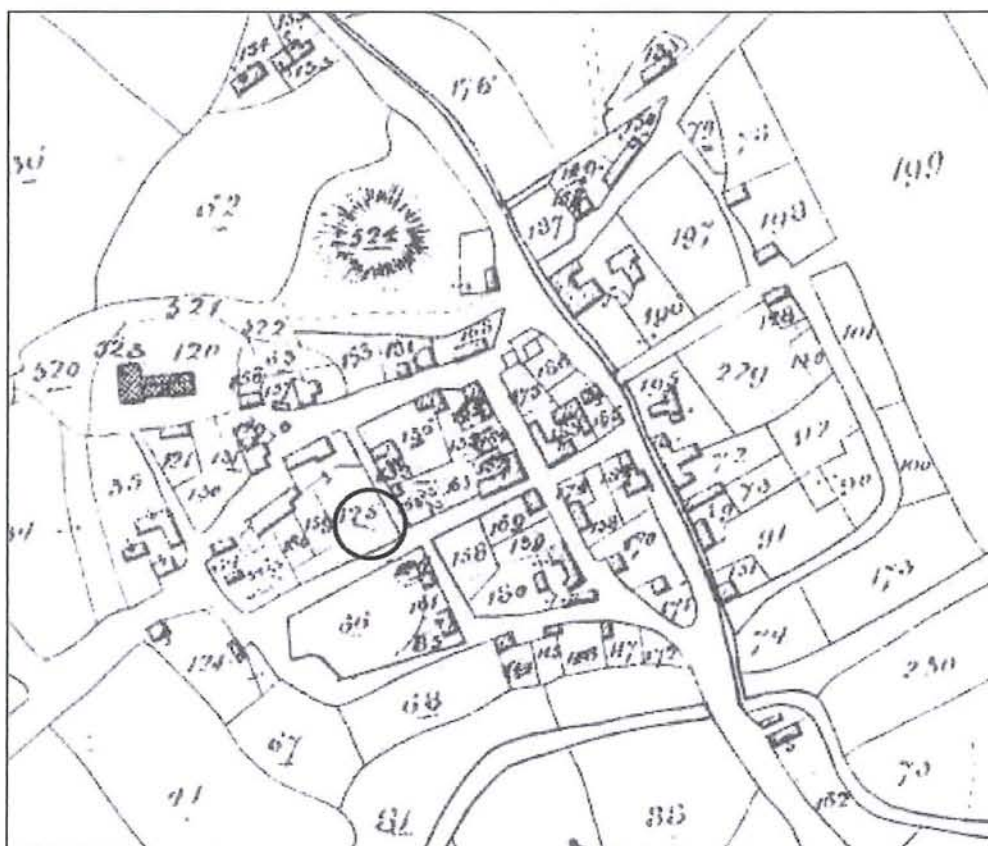


Fig. 4 Tithe Survey for New Radnor Parish, 1846

The setting of the evaluation

- 2.14 The plot of land that is the subject of this report lies within the town defences towards the western side of the town. The location of the plot, a distance from both the castle and the town defences, avoids the need to consider either of these in any detail, but it is necessary to examine the street network.
- 2.15 The modern street layout reveals the medieval grid plan that was imposed on gently sloping ground below the castle. Three streets ran on a west-south-west to east-north-east alignment: High Street, Hall Lane and the southern arm of Rectory Lane. Four others were aligned north-north-west to south-south-east.
- 2.16 Rectory Lane, which edges the development plot on the east, represents one of the original streets in the town, though this is certainly not its original name.
- 2.17 Some of these streets have now partly or wholly disappeared, but can still be detected on the ground. They are depicted, too, on early maps, not only that by Speed but also 19th-century plans. Hall Lane, for instance, continues to the west of Rectory Lane and beyond Bank Buildings, which themselves lie immediately to the south of the evaluation area, and it can be seen as a flat linear depression about 4m wide but no more than 0.2m deep.
- 2.18 The sinuous line of Church Street as it curves to meet High Street represents an irregularity in the grid pattern. It is best explained by the presence of an earlier track approaching from the west and continuing on towards Presteigne and Knighton which had to link into a grid pattern on a different alignment. It does not seem to indicate that there was an earlier line to the route which would have been much very much closer to the evaluation plot.

- 2.19 The Tithe Survey for New Radnor in 1846 (fig. 4) records the plot as No. 125, homestead and plock, arable. At this date there is no trace of the barns and Bank buildings, which are first depicted by the Ordnance Survey in 1889 (fig. 5).

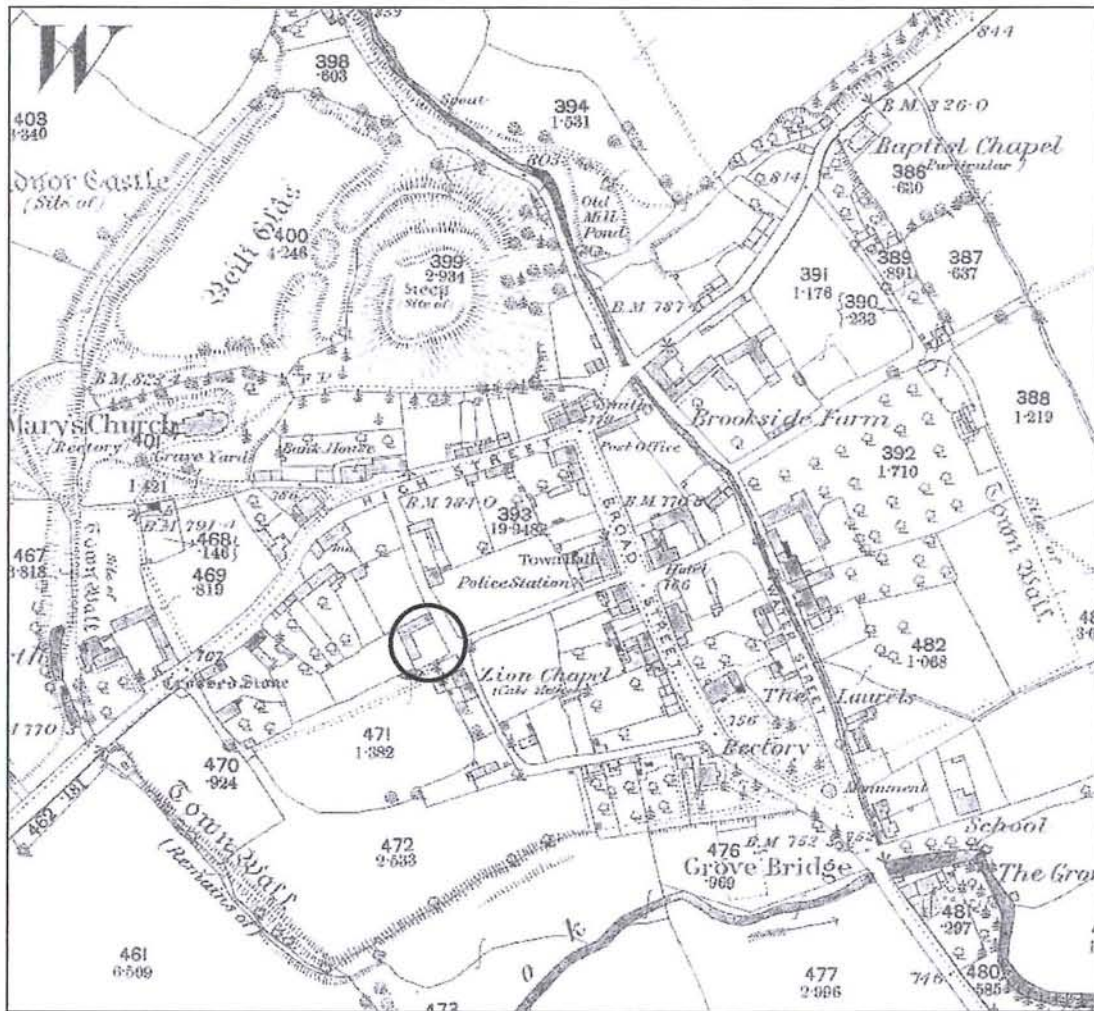


Fig. 5 Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:2.500 map 1889

Earlier excavations in New Radnor

- 2.20 In 1988, examination of a street frontage site in Hall Street (Fig. 1, A; SO 2124 6084) revealed a corn-drying kiln of late medieval/early post-medieval date damaged by what was probably an 18th-century ditch (Dorling 1988).
- 2.21 Excavations on a field beside The Porth, about 120m to the south-west of the present evaluation area took place in 1991-2 (Fig. 1, B). Traces of intensive medieval usage were found during the 1991/92 excavations, fronting onto Church Street in OS plot 0675; the ground had been levelled out by later land use and no indications of this activity were revealed by geophysical survey. The partial plans of several stone and timber buildings were located, together with the residue from what may have been a medieval smithy, three small circular ovens, a corn-drying kiln and several large latrine pits (Jones 1998). Evidence was also revealed for prehistoric activity on the site, consisting of a small assemblage of flintwork, including a single piece of Upper Palaeolithic date and others dating to the Mesolithic and neolithic, as well as a series of pits containing Bronze Age pottery. Further excavations were conducted in the same field in 2001-02, and these served to emphasise the significance of this western portion of the town (Border Archaeology 2002).

- 2.22 More recent excavations on the plot immediately to the north of Bank Buildings revealed significant evidence for occupation during the medieval and early post-medieval periods, together with indications of metalworking. The excavations uncovered the foundations for a stone building of likely 13th or 14th-century date, which included a succession of open hearths and a small oven (Grant and Jones 2005).
- 2.23 The excavations conducted to date demonstrate the high archaeological potential of the town of New Radnor, but at the same time clearly indicate that surface traces (or, more accurately, the absence of them) are not an adequate guide to the archaeological reality.

3 BUILDING SURVEY (Fig. 7)

- 3.1 An internal and external digital photographic survey was undertaken of all relevant buildings, subject to access, together with a brief descriptive record of the nature, construction and form of the building. No detailed measured survey was undertaken. Full details are retained in the project archive which has been deposited with the Historic Environment Record, held by CPAT in Welshpool.
- 3.2 The building consists of two ranges forming an L-shaped stone and timber-built barn, partially enclosing a yard area to the east. The building is internally sub-divided with timber partitioning to form individual bays used as stores and animal housing. The main ranges are 19m long and 5.5m wide, with a smaller southern extension to the southern range measuring 6m long and 4.5m wide. The north and west-facing walls, and the east and west-facing gables of the main complex are stone-built, constructed from coursed blocks of rubble stone, bonded with lime mortar forming walls 0.5m thick. The west and south walls of the extension have a high plinth of similar stone construction, above which there is timber framing with weather-boarding on the south-facing elevation and corrugated metal sheeting on the west. The stone gable wall is topped by a single line of edge-set red bricks. The east- and south-facing walls of the complex are constructed from timber framing, clad in weather-boarding, apart from a single, short (2.73m) stretch of stone wall at the western end of the south-facing wall. The entire barn is now roofed with corrugated metal sheeting.
- 3.3 The extension is sub-divided at ground level by timber partitioning, into two animal housing bays (G1 to the south and G2 to the north), with the northernmost wall of G2 formed by the south gable of the main complex. These are each accessed by single stable doors opening onto the yard, and each contains a timber, wall-mounted hay-rack on the rear, west wall. The hayloft is accessed by a wall-set hatch in the yard-facing wall, and a similar hatch in the south-facing gable wall.
- 3.4 The two southernmost ground floor bays (G3 and G4) of the south range consist of cart / storage sheds, topped by a first-floor hayloft. Access was not possible to this level. Both ground-floor bays were accessed by double doors opening onto the yard. The floor surfaces were not generally visible owing to the nature of debris covering them, but a cobbled surface was noted in the southernmost bay. The floor of the hayloft (and ceiling of the bays beneath) is constructed from timber planks set on horizontal beams. The hayloft is accessed by wall-set hatches in the yard-facing timber wall.
- 3.5 The southern range is sub-divided into four bays. The northernmost two (G5 and G6) are open to roof height and divided from each other by a half-height timber partition. The stone walls of the G6 bay in the corner of the range, contain six vertical window slot openings, two in the north-facing wall and four in the west. The slots are set as pairs above each other and broaden in width internally from 0.1m to 0.6m, with a height of 0.7m. They each have timber lintels and a stone sill.

- 3.6 The east-facing wall of G5 immediately to the south is formed entirely by large double doors allowing access to the yard. A single door opening has been cut into the northernmost door. A further entranceway exists in the west-facing wall, consisting of a single doorway with a timber lintel and edge-set stone detail above. The floor is constructed from slate flags which average 1.2m². A drop was noted from the current yard level into the bays of the southern range, bridged by concrete ramps into each bay.
- 3.7 The ground floor of the northern range is sub-divided into four animal housing bays (G8-G11), with an L-shaped corridor (G7) running internally along the main part of the northern wall, accessed from an external door in the east-facing gable and from the southern range in the west. The corridor provides access to the feeding mangers and hay-racks present to the rear of each of the four easterly bays. The mangers are all set upon a low stone-built plinth at least 0.25m high (the full height and any detail regarding the floors of the bays could not be ascertained owing to the quantity of decayed bedding material). The easternmost bays (G9-G11) are accessed via stable doors opening on to the yard in the south, whilst G8, separated from the yard by the only yard-facing stretch of stone-built wall, is accessed internally from the corridor, with a stone arch topped window opening in the stone wall.
- 3.8 The first floor area above G8-G11 is occupied by a hay loft rising to roof height; access was not possible to allow a full inspection. However, the construction of the trusses was noted, all of which were of simple design with principal rafters and a collar, some of which had additional slanted struts. At least two of the trusses in the northern range had been cut to allow through access at first-floor level, and vertical supporting timbers inserted. The floor of the hayloft (and ceiling of the bays beneath) is constructed from timber planks set on horizontal beams. Access to the hay-loft was possible internally from the western end and from a loft hatch centrally placed in G7, and via a wall-set, stone arch-lintelled hatch in the east-facing gable wall.
- 3.9 Areas of repair were observed throughout the barn complex. Of note were variations in the timber weather-boarding used to clad the yard-facing walls. Generally the boards consisted of moulded planks with a rebate along the lower edge. An area of replacement was noted on the south-facing wall where planks formed from partial round timbers had been used. A similar area of replacement using plain planking was noted on the east-facing wall. Two identical moulded pieces of re-used timber had been used within the door frames of two bays, one in each range.
- 3.10 Cartographic evidence suggests that the range of barns was built some time after the tithe survey in 1846 (Fig. 4) and the construction methods generally concur with a mid-19th century date.

4 EVALUATION (Figs 8-9)

- 4.1 The evaluation comprised a single trench within the farmyard, measuring 5 x 5m, and set along the street frontage (Fig. 6). The aim of the evaluation was to identify the nature and possibly the dating of any archaeological features within the development area. Particular emphasis was placed on identifying evidence that might relate to medieval activity on the Rectory Lane street frontage.
- 4.2 The concrete yard surface, together with modern and post-medieval overburden was removed by machine under close archaeological supervision, with all subsequent cleaning and excavation being carried out by hand. The numbers in brackets in the following text refer to contexts given to those features and layers which were identified during the excavation. A drawn, written and photographic record was maintained throughout the duration of the evaluation (see Appendix 1).
- 4.3 It became apparent during the machine clearance that a large, rectangular pit (09) occupied much of the evaluation trench, thus truncating any of the earlier potential archaeology. This feature measured at least 2.9m east-west and 4m north-south, and continued southwards beyond the limit of the excavation. In order to ascertain its character the northern half was excavated by

machine, removing a stony fill (08). The pit was around 1.3m deep, with vertical sides and a flat base, cutting into the natural orange-yellow clay (34) and yellow clay-gravel (33) subsoils. Material in the deposits suggested that it had been infilled during the late 19th century. Although the feature had destroyed any earlier archaeology in this area, certain features and deposits were revealed in section in its sides and in the remaining area of the trench.

- 4.4 The earliest archaeological horizon was a deposit of yellow and grey mottled clay (32), overlying the natural subsoil (33) and visible only in section in the east and north sides of the rectangular pit (09). This material was 0.2m thick and presumably represents an old ground surface.
- 4.5 Directly above layer 32 was a deposit of light yellowish-grey silty-clay (31) which appeared to extend across the whole trench. The section revealed in the sides of the pit (09) showed this material to be *c.* 0.2m thick. Although this layer was not excavated, it was noted that it contained sherds of medieval (13th-14th century) pottery.
- 4.6 In the south-western edge of the trench three pits were revealed, cutting in to the underlying deposit (31). The southernmost pit (24) had been truncated by the insertion of (09), revealing in section a depth of 0.23m with a concave northern side and a relatively level base. The pit continued southward beyond the limit of the excavation, but appears to have originally been circular in plan. It was not excavated further, but a spout from a medieval (13th-14th century) jug was retrieved from the upper part of its dark greyish-brown, silty-clay fill (25). The central pit (26) had similarly been truncated by the insertion of (09), and only the very eastern edge survived. This pit again appeared to have been circular in plan, with a diameter of over 1.46m and a depth of 0.15m, and contained a grey clay fill (27) with a distinct component of reddish-brown burnt daub. The northernmost pit (28) was partially revealed in plan, continuing beyond the edge of the trench to the west. It had a diameter of *c.* 1.5m and contained at least two fills, (29) and (30). Investigation of the uppermost fill (29) revealed a stony, mid brown silty-clay with a depth of at least 0.10m and which contained medieval (13th-14th century) ceramics. The underlying fill (30) was a mid brown, fine textured clay loam.
- 4.7 A spread of mid greyish-brown, silty-clay material (23) sealed the pits and extended along the entire western side of the trench. A quantity of medieval (13th-14th century) pottery was retrieved from this material, representing a range of vessels including cooking pots and jugs. In addition, two ferrous objects which were also retrieved. This deposit was not present on the eastern side of the trench.
- 4.8 Overlying (23) was a band of dark reddish-brown, firm textured, clay silt (22) up to 0.12m thick. This contained two sherds of later medieval (later 14th-15th century) pottery.
- 4.9 On the eastern side of the trench a cut feature (21) containing a fill (20) composed of large rounded and sub-angular stones (up to 0.40m in diameter) was partially revealed in section only in the side of the pit (09) at the south-eastern end (Fig. 9). This feature was at least 0.4m deep and continued beyond the limit of excavation to the south. It had cut through the medieval deposit (31), but was directly sealed by a layer of fragmented angular stone (19) which contained ceramic of an early post-medieval date (16th century). This layer varied in depth up to 0.1m, and undulated somewhat, rising in the central area, then sinking slightly to the south. In the extreme south-east corner of the trench, overlying the area of the cut feature (21), this shattered stone layer was overlain by a patch of yellowish-grey, soft clay silt levelling material (18), which again contained ceramic of an early post-medieval date (16th century). A rough surface (17) of flat stones had been laid along the eastern side of the trench, lying on top of the levelling material (18) in the south and directly atop the layer of fragmented stone (19) further north.
- 4.10 Above the stone surface was a band of loose, dark grey gritty material (16). This is stratigraphically equivalent to a band of grey clay (15) present in the western area of the trench, which contained ceramics of late 17th to mid 18th-century date. Sealing both these deposits was a

layer of loose yellowish-brown, gravel-rich clay silt, which appeared to extend across most of the trench excepting the very north. A sequence of later post-medieval features had cut through this layer, the majority of which appear to relate to water management.

- 4.11 The earliest of these events involved the insertion of a slate-slab constructed water trough (05) at the north-east corner of the trench. This structure was placed into a rectangular pit (07), then packed externally with a firm, plastic, bright yellow clay (06). A cobbled surface was then laid over the top of the clay, incorporating a single larger slab and extending up to 1.6m out to the west. A stone-lined culvert (11) was constructed, running approximately east-west towards the trough, possibly at around the same time as the trough was built, although any evidence confirming the relationship has been destroyed by later activity. The large rectangular pit (09) truncated both the cobbling associated with the trough and the culvert. Although no evidence was identified to reveal the function of this pit, worm channels visible from base to top along the sides of pit imply that it was lined, and possibly contained a metal tank. At some point both this large pit and the trough were back-filled with material containing similar ceramic sherds of a late 19th to early 20th century date. A cut feature (38), probably a pit, was identified in the south-west corner of the trench, visible in the east-facing section. The fill of this feature (37) contained ceramic dating to the later 19th to early 20th-century. The latest phase of water management in this area involved the laying of an iron pipe (35), approximately east-west across the northern part of the trench, to serve a stand-pipe still present in the north-east corner. The pipe was placed in an apparently spade-dug trench (03), then back-filled (36), and appears to respect the northern edge of the large pit (09). Inserting the pipe involved breaking a gap into the west side of the slate slab trough, and cutting into the material (04) which had back-filled the trough.
- 4.12 A loose chipping layer of aggregate (02) was laid across the whole trench as foundation for the laying of a concrete yard surface (01). In the north-eastern corner the top of the slate trough was removed to allow the placement of a plinth of concrete (40) which served as hard-standing for the stand-pipe.

5 THE FINDS

Medieval pottery

- 5.1 The evaluation produced a quantity of medieval pottery amounting to 60 sherds (539g). The pottery has been rapidly assessed and subdivided macroscopically into three main generic fabric types, based on petrological inclusions that accord with the Clwyd-Powys Medieval Fabric Series (Courtney and Jones 1989). A full catalogue of the material is provided in Appendix 1.

Table 1 Medieval pottery quantification by fabric group

Fabric	No. sherds	Weight (g)
MB	47 (78%)	372 (69%)
MC	11 (18%)	154 (29%)
MF	2 (3%)	13 (2%)
Totals	60	539

Fabric MB

- 5.2 Ordovician or Silurian inclusions, characteristically with quartz, muscovite, biotite, micaceous sandstone, siltstone and fine-grained igneous inclusions. Forms include jugs, cooking pots and a single sherd of an unusual pottery mortar. These are assumed to be of local manufacture.

Fabric MC

- 5.3 Hard, predominantly oxidised fabric with fine mica and occasional micaceous sandstone inclusions. A micaceous fabric typical of Herefordshire with forms that include jugs and cooking pots.

5.4 *Fabric MF*

Late Malvern oxidised wares dating from the last quarter of the 14th century to the 16th century. Inclusions of quartz sand, fragments of sandstone, igneous and metamorphic rocks. Forms are normally dominated by jugs, although cooking pots may also be represented.

- 5.5 In general the assemblage broadly parallels that from the excavations at The Porth, New Radnor in 1991-2 (Jones 1998) and from recent excavations in the area to the north of Bank Buildings (Grant & Jones 2005) with many of the jug and particularly the cooking-pot rim forms being virtually identical. The vast majority of sherds are from an unknown local source and, although local wares are difficult to date precisely, as at The Porth, they are likely to belong to the 13th and 14th centuries. Although most sherds are plain, the two strap handles have stabbed markings, and there are two further examples of comb incised and stab decoration. An unusual find for this area is the fragment of an applied spout. Two sherds of late medieval pottery are present in the form of Malvern ware (Fabric MF).

Post-medieval Pottery

- 5.6 A total of 47 sherds (1367g) of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the evaluation. A variety of forms and fabrics are represented including Cistercian, Mottled-ware and Black-glazed drinking vessels, 18th century slipware dishes, and 19th-century large kitchen and storage vessels and developed wares, including transfer prints.

6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The excavation has demonstrated the presence of medieval deposits and pits dating to the 13th or 14th centuries, although no structural or building remains were identified.
- 6.2 The deposits dating to the early post-medieval period (16th century) contain significant quantities of both larger stones and fragmented mudstones, possibly implying a demolition event of buildings in the vicinity. The eastern part of the area then appears to have acted as a yard or path with a rough stone surface laid upon it and open, undisturbed ground to the west.
- 6.3 Significant later post-medieval disturbance has taken place in and beyond the area of the trench in the form of a large rectangular pit, smaller cut features and pipe laying. Much of this has completely removed any evidence of possible earlier activity.
- 6.4 The rapid building survey of the range of barns, together with cartographic evidence, suggests that they were constructed during the mid-19th century. Two phases of construction are evident, with the main north and south ranges initially forming an L-shaped structure around the farmyard, to which a southern extension was later added. The barns are all of stone and timber frame construction and are partitioned into a number of bays, several of which retain original features such as hay racks. As such the barns are of local interest but do not possess any features of particular architectural merit.
- 6.5 The writers recommend that the site archive be deposited with the Regional Historic Environment Record, held by CPAT in Welshpool, while the artefacts should be deposited in an appropriate museum, which in this instance should be the Powys County Museum at Llandrindod Wells.
- 6.6 No further analysis of the archive is planned at present and any decision to conduct such an analysis will be dependent on the outcome of the planning application. Should further excavation be undertaken on the site it would be appropriate for the two site archives to be amalgamated to allow the publication of a full and final report. If further excavation is not warranted, there is a requirement under the terms of the curatorial brief for the publication of the outline results from the evaluation in an appropriate journal, in this instance probably *Archaeology in Wales*.

7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 7.1 The writer would like to thank the following for their assistance during the project: Nigel Jones for assistance with the report; Ian Grant for assisting with the excavation; the staff of the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth; and the staff of the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth.

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APPENDIX 1

PROJECT ARCHIVE

Site archive

40 context record forms

2 A1 site plans

01 colour slide film

01 black and white negative film

56 Digital images

Photographic catalogue

Context Register

Drawings Register

2 levels record forms

Finds catalogues

FINDS CATALOGUES

Medieval pottery catalogue

Context	Form	Fabric	Sherds	Weight (g)	Comment
08	jug / jar	MB	1	9	rim sherd
08	jug / jar	MB	3	12	body sherds
15	jug / jar	MB	2	5	body sherds
18	cooking pot	MB	1	7	rim sherd
18	jug / jar	MB	1	4	green glazed body sherd
18	cooking pot	MB	2	3	blackened body sherds
19	jug / jar	MB	1	5	remnant of yellowish-green glaze
22	jug / jar	MF	2	13	body sherds with brownish glaze
23	cooking pot	MB	1	21	rim sherd
23	jug / jar	MB	1	52	strap handle with stabbed decoration
23	jug / jar & cooking pot	MB	28	148	body sherds, some with greenish glaze, single piece with incised stab pattern
23	cooking pot	MC	3	33	rim sherds
23	cooking pot	MC	2	41	base sherds
23	jug / jar	MC	4	30	body sherds
23	jug / jar	MC	1	47	strap handle with stabbed decoration
25	jug	MB	1	63	spout with thumb impressed marks
29	cooking pot	MB	1	20	body sherd
31	cooking pot	MB	1	10	body sherd
31	jug / jar	MB	1	4	remnant yellowish-green glaze body sherd
31	jug / jar	MB	1	5	unglazed body sherd
36	jug / jar	MB	1	4	green glazed body sherd with comb incised decoration
36	jug / jar	MC	1	3	body sherd with brownish glaze

Post medieval pottery catalogue

Context	Sherds	Weight (g)	Date	Comment
04	3	12	L19th-20th	Transfer printed developed white-ware
04	1	37	18th	Brown glazed Coal Measures buff-ware
04	7	320	L19th-20th	Yellow fabric coarse-ware, matt blueish-grey glaze
04	3	98	L19th-20th	Late Yellow-ware
08	4	17	L17th-18th	Mottled-ware reeded tankards
08	4	86	18th	Trailed slipware
08	2	25	18th	Black-glazed Coal Measures buff fine-ware
08	5	471	L19th-20th	Black-glazed Coal Measures red coarse-ware
08	1	206	L19th-20th	Yellow fabric coarse-ware, matt blueish-grey glaze
08	2	15	L19th-20th	Transfer printed developed white-ware
08	1	2	L19th-20th	Late Yellow-ware
08	1	1	L19th-20th	Slip decorated Yellow-ware
15	1	4	L15th-E17th	Cistercian-ware
15	3	2	L17th-18th	Mottled-ware

18	1	2	L15th-16th	Highly fired grey fabric, dark greenish-brown glaze
19	1	29	L15th-16th	Coarse red fabric, thick bodied, dark greenish striped glaze
36	1	2	18th	Black-glazed Coal Measures buff-ware
36	1	7	18th-19th	Grey stone-ware
37	2	15	18th	Trailed slipware
37	2	13	L19th-20th	Black-glazed Coal Measures Red-ware
37	1	3	L19th-20th	Developed white-ware

Miscellaneous finds catalogue

Material	Context	No.	Comment	Date
Iron	04	1	Wire	L19th-20th
Iron	04	1	Rolled metal object	L19th-20th
Iron	08	2	Nails	L19th-20th
Ceramic	08	1	Curved ridge tile, red fabric	Post-medieval
Iron	23	1	Nail	13th-14th
Iron	23	1	Tool head – hammer / chisel?	13th-14th
Flint	23	1	Waste flint flake	Prehistoric
Burnt bone	23	1		
Clay tobacco pipe	37	2	Stem fragments	19th
Tooth	37	1	Mammal tooth (sheep)	

APPENDIX 2 SPECIFICATION

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Contracting Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust has been invited to prepare a specification of works for undertaking an archaeological evaluation in connection with proposals to convert a range of farm buildings at Bank Buildings, Rectory Lane, New Radnor, Powys. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, acting as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, have determined that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken to assess the potential impact of the proposals on the archaeological resource.
- 1.2 The site lies within the historic core of the medieval town, and it is therefore anticipated that significant buried archaeological deposits may survive within in the area and the following specification has been designed to evaluate the depth and significance of these deposits. A recent evaluation on an adjacent plot revealed the foundations of a medieval stone-built dwelling, together with evidence for metalworking.

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 archaeology within the area of the proposed development in so far as these aims are possible;
 - 2.1.2 to record any archaeological deposits identified during the field evaluation;
 - 2.1.3 to prepare a report outlining the results of the assessment, incorporating sufficient information on the archaeological resource for a reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the future management of the archaeology.

3 Methods

- 3.1 Stage one of the evaluation will comprise a desk-based study although it is assumed that the relevant sources will already have been accessed as part of the previous evaluation and no further investigation is proposed.
- 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 An internal and external photographic survey will be undertaken for all relevant buildings, subject to access. Photography will be in digital format, minimum 3 mega-pixels. A brief descriptive record will also be made, although no measured survey is envisaged.
- 3.4 The field evaluation will consist of one trench measuring 5 x 5m, subject to access. The excavation 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. No provision has been made for stripping or

relaying any surfaced areas, or for fencing the trench during the excavation. It has also been assumed that the trench will be mechanically excavated and any changes to this methodology could impact on the timing and therefore cost.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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 evaluation will be undertaken by a small team of skilled archaeologists under the overall supervision of Mr RJ Silvester, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). CPAT is an IFA Registered Organisation.
- 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 the evaluation will be completed within 5 days. The report will be completed within 2 weeks of the completion of on-site works. A draft copy of the report will be forwarded to the Curator for approval prior to the production of the final report. Copies of the final report will be provided to the client and the Regional SMR. The Curator will be informed of the timetable in order to arrange for monitoring if required. At present, CPAT would be in a position to undertake the work during mid December 2005, subject to sufficient advance notice and weather conditions.
- 4.4 The following contingency sums have been allowed although 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
- 4.5 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.



Plate 1 External view of barns from the north-west. Photo CPAT 2070-03



Plate 2 External view of the northern range of barns from the south. Photo CPAT 2070-10



Plate 3 External view of the southern range of barns from the south-east. Photo CPAT 2070-19



Plate 4 Internal view of the northern range of barns, showing trusses and partitions. Photo CPAT 2070-41



Plate 5 Excavated area from the west. Photo CPAT 2070-20



Plate 6 View of the slate tank (05) and pit (09). Photo CPAT 2070-24



Plate 7 View of medieval pits 24, 26 and 28 from the south-east. Photo CPAT 2070-51



Plate 8 Medieval pit 28 from the east. Photo CPAT 2070-53

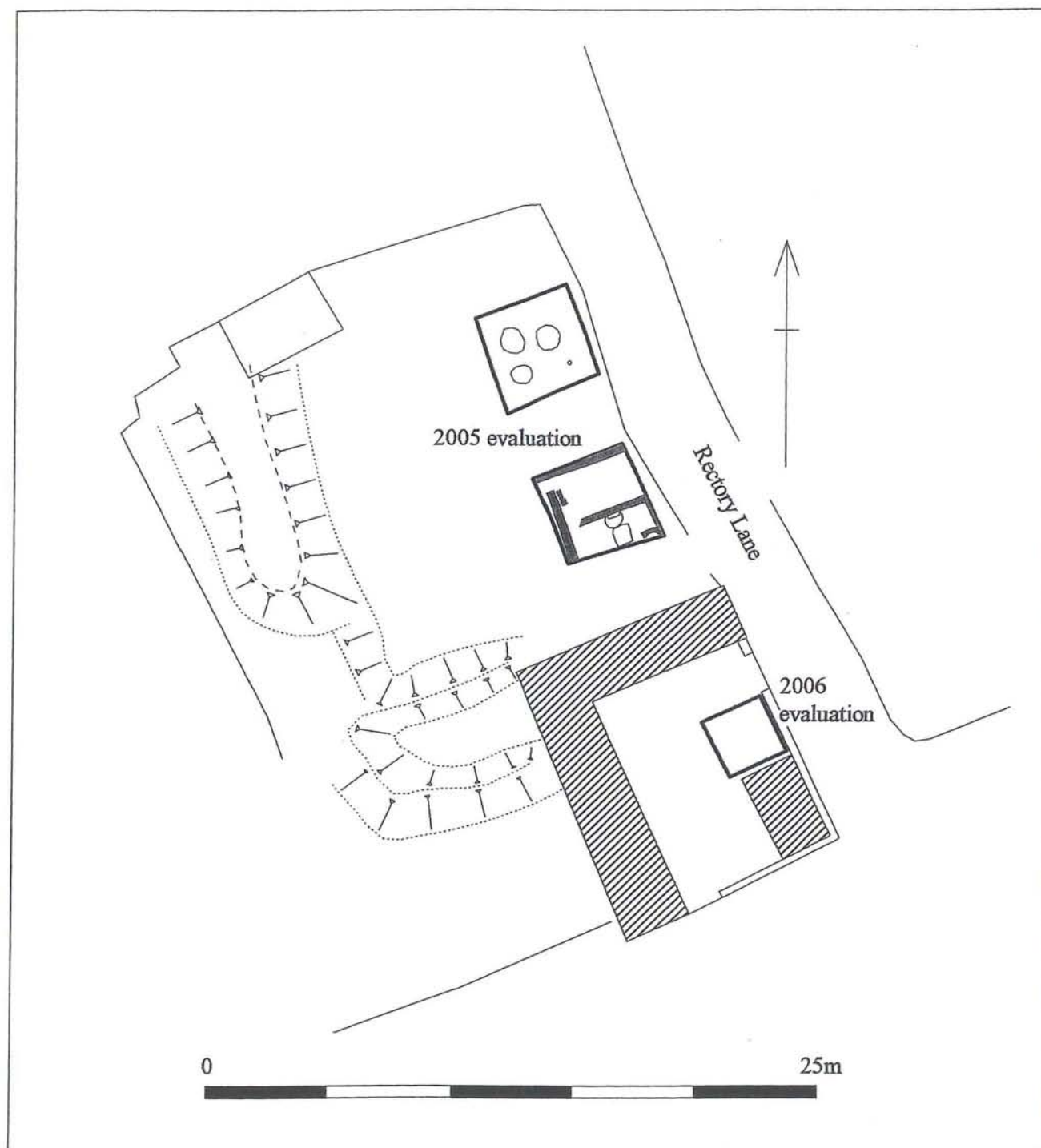


Fig. 6 Trench location

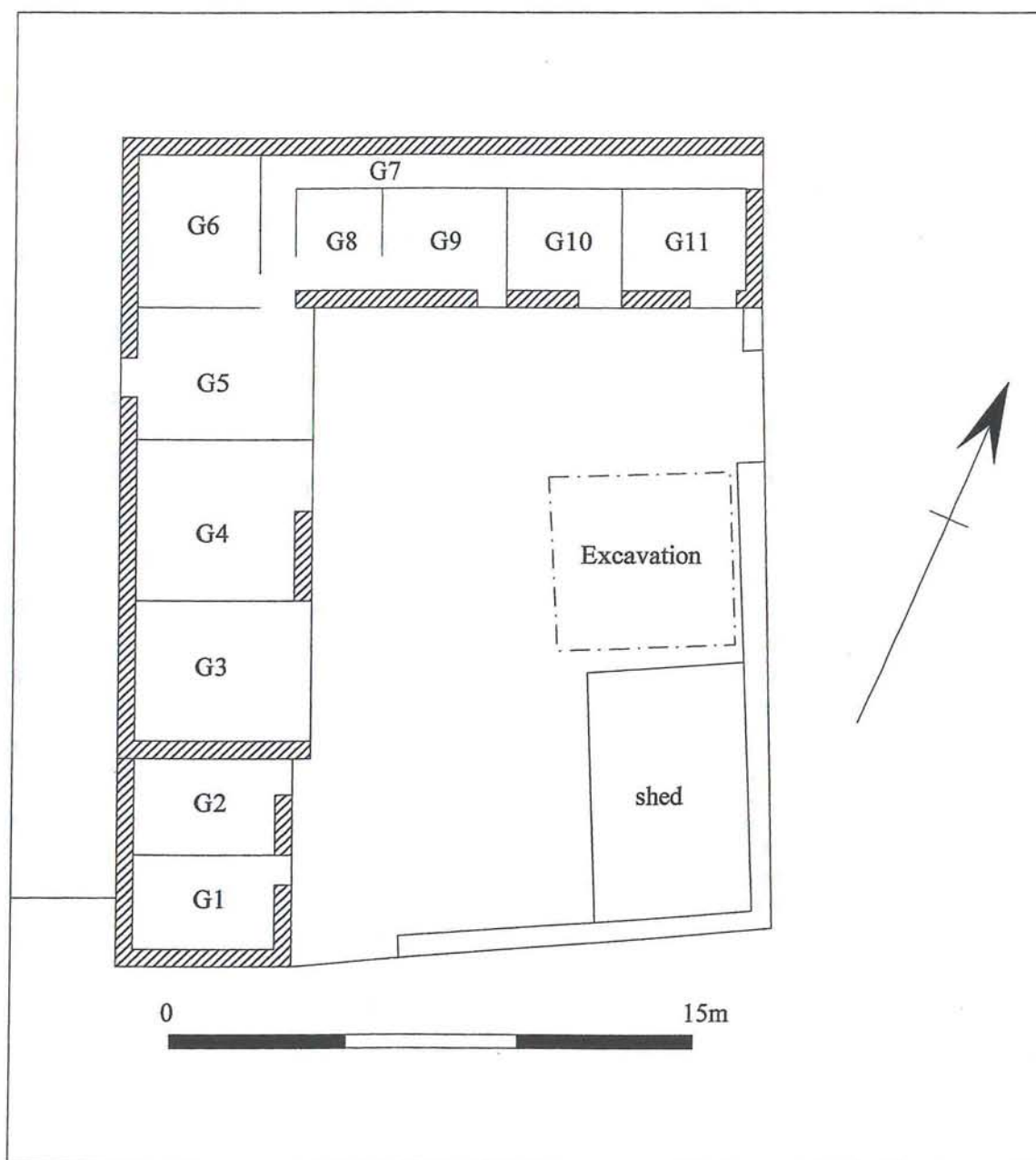


Fig. 7 Ground floor plan of barns, scale 1:200

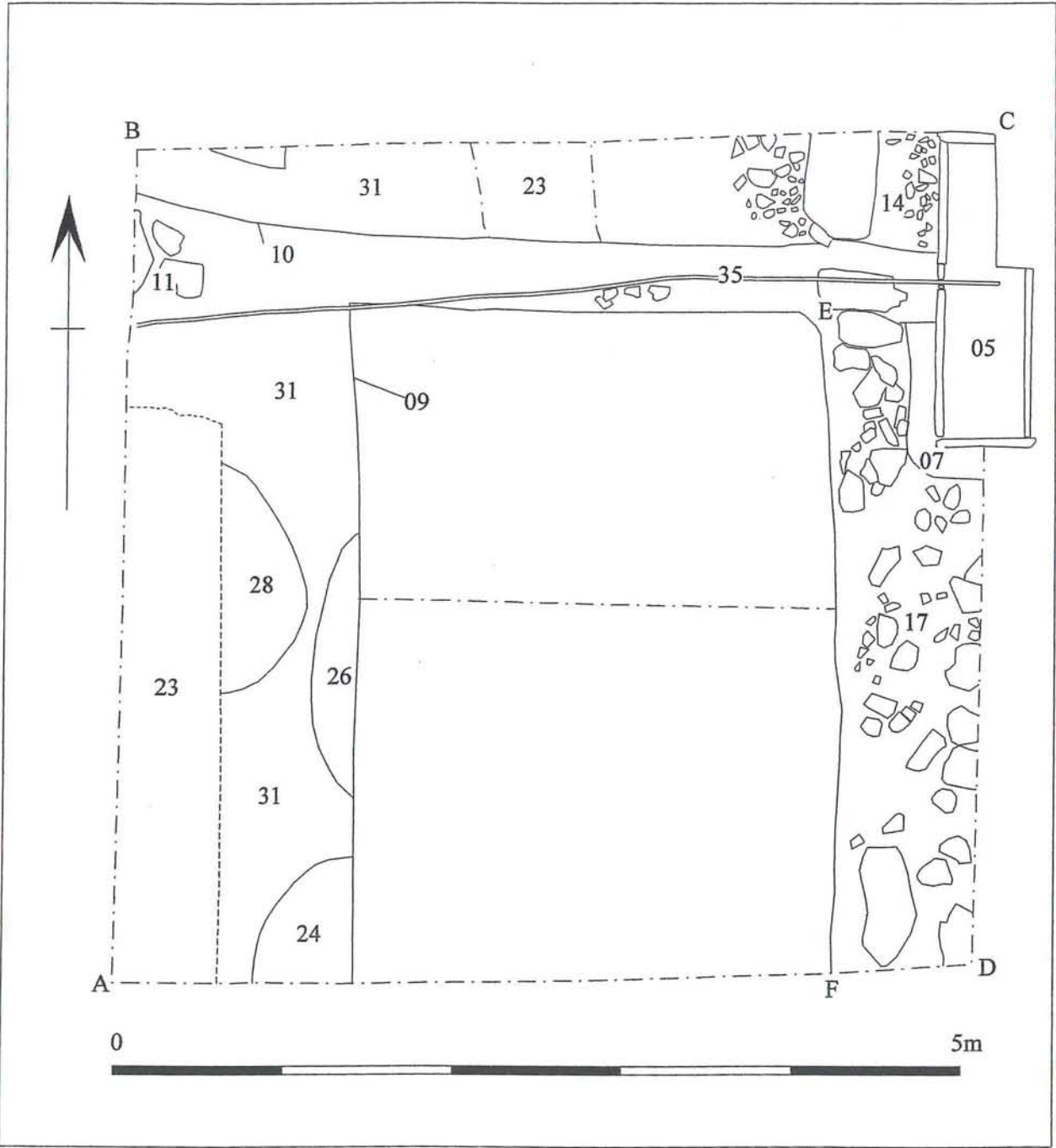


Fig. 8 Excavation plan

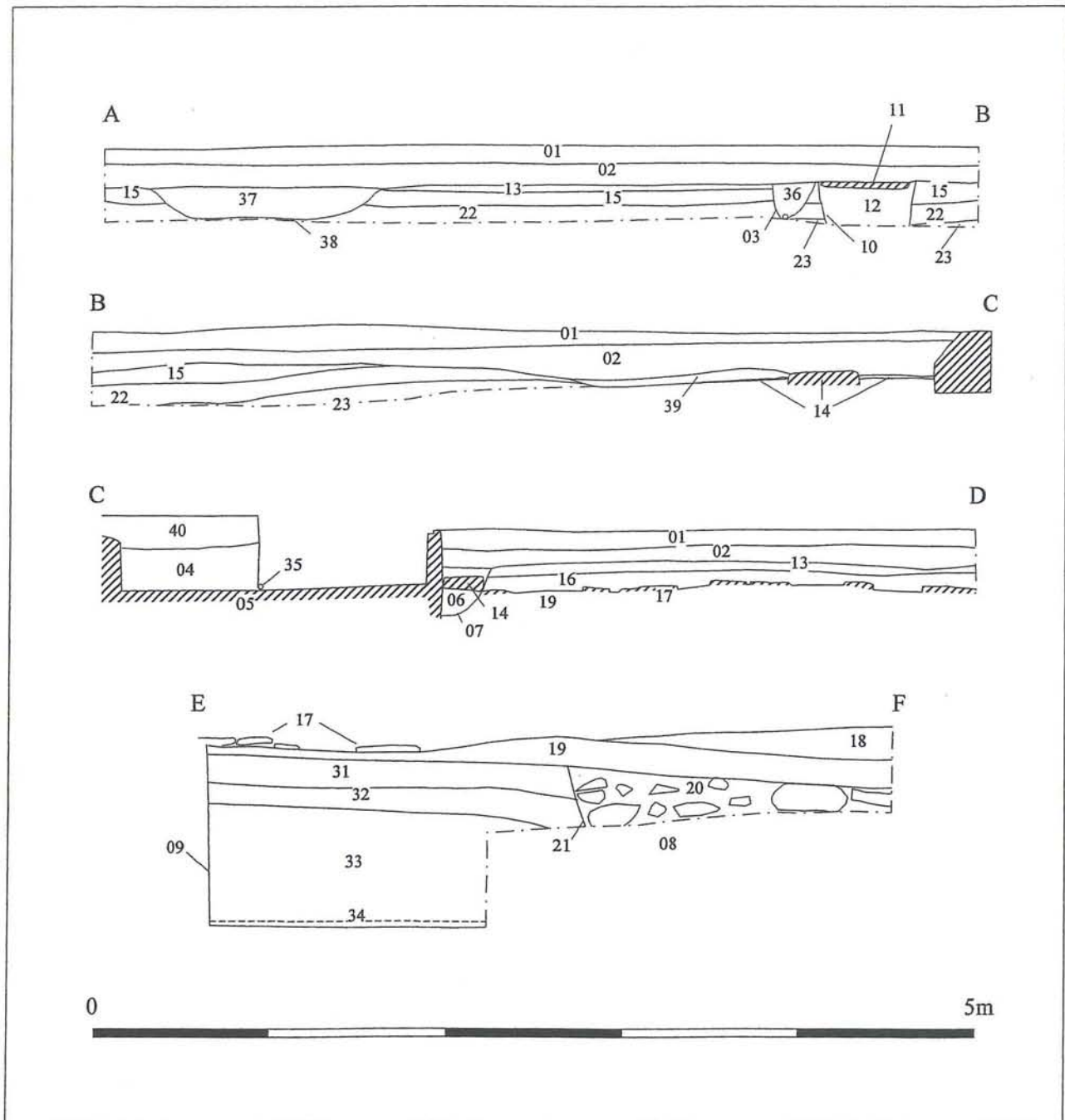


Fig. 9 Excavation sections