

CPAT Report No. 1547

Beacon Ring Hillfort

Archaeological Investigation



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL CLWYD-POWYS

CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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Summary

A programme of total station survey and auger sampling was undertaken by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust at Beacon Ring hillfort between November 2017 and March 2018, with financial support from Cadw.

The survey was combined with evidence from existing mapping to provide a more up to date interpretation of the earthworks; a revised plan and a profile across the hillfort from north-west to south-east were produced. Detailed surveys were also carried out at the two entrances of the hillfort to enable their morphology to be examined.

Auger sampling was undertaken at the two entrances of the hillfort, to determine whether these were original or a result of later infilling of the ditch. Samples were also taken along a north-west/south-east transect across the monument, to coincide with the surveyed profile, and in the eastern part of the interior to investigate an area of surface peats. It was hoped that this work would identify deposits that could be further investigated to provide information on the possible dating and palaeoenvironmental potential of the hillfort, but no suitable deposits were identified.

The augering provided some new information on the sub-surface deposits relating to the hillfort and this suggested that there had been a phase of reconstruction at some point, though no dating evidence for this was revealed.

1 Introduction

- 1.1. The following report deals with investigations carried out at the hillfort of Caer Digoll, more commonly known by its English name of Beacon Ring, near Welshpool during 2017-18, with funding from Cadw. The work formed one element of a wider project focusing on hillforts along the Welsh Marches, with the project also including studies of the Breidden, New Pieces and Cefn Castell forts/enclosures, all sited on the Breidden Hills near Welshpool, and Bryn y Gaer, at Pentre Broughton on the outskirts of Wrexham (Fig. 1). These sites are reported separately.

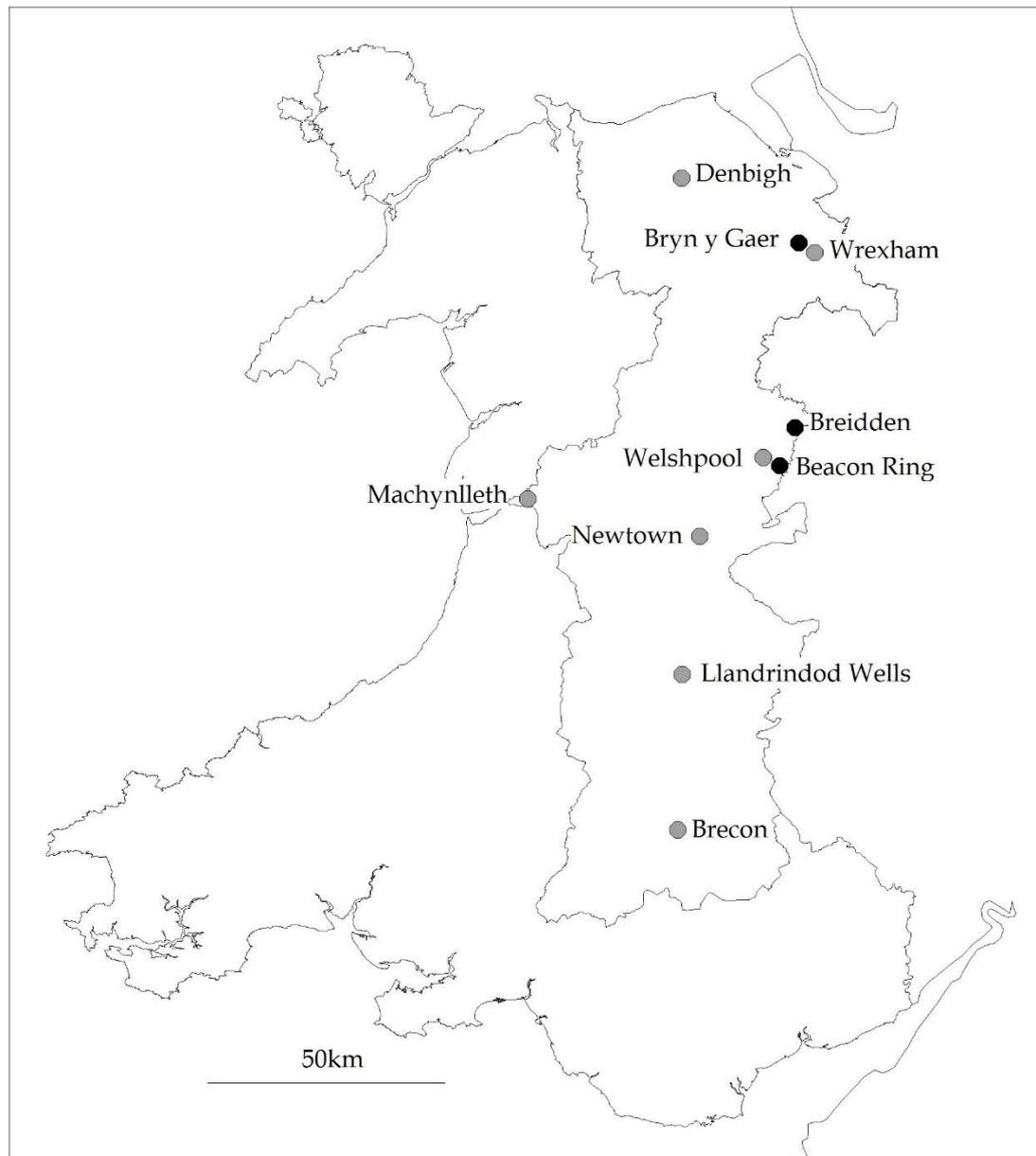


Fig. 1: Location of the sites investigated

- 1.2. There are over 2,500 hillforts in the Clwyd-Powys region, of which only five have seen significant archaeological investigations in the last fifty years. Consequently,

archaeological understanding of hillforts is limited, despite their monumental and impressive remains. Outside the archaeological community, even their monumentality and impressiveness is not often appreciated, and their role in prehistoric society barely considered.

- 1.3. The investigations at Beacon Ring involved a total station survey and an auger transect across the hillfort, with the intention that this would add to our current knowledge of the site and potentially identify material or features which might merit further investigation to allow its past history and development to be properly understood.

2 Background

- 2.1. Beacon Ring is located approximately 4km east-south-east of Welshpool, in a prominent position overlooking the Severn Valley and lying close to the border between England and Wales (Fig. 2). The site covers an oval area of approximately 3.25ha, measuring 230m north/south by 175m east/west. Two entrances are apparent, at the northern tip and on the south-west, though whether both of these are original features of the hillfort has been open to question. The site has not been excavated, but was probably first built and occupied at some time in the period between the later Bronze Age and the early Iron Age – after 1000 BC and before the arrival of the Romans in about AD 50.



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Fig. 2: Beacon Ring location

- 2.2. The site featured in more recent history, and is referred to in the 9th- or 10th-century saga known as *Canu Llywarch Hen* ('The song of Llywarch the Old') where, in a passage about hostilities in the 7th century between the British prince Cadwallon and Edwin, the Anglo-Saxon King of Northumbria, Beacon Ring is described, somewhat poetically, as the *llyuest* or camp of Cadwallon where he stayed for seven months, carrying out seven skirmishes daily. The locality was also a major rallying point for the army of Henry VII on his journey to Bosworth Field in August 1485 and the battle which led to the founding of the Tudor dynasty.
- 2.3. The English name of Beacon Ring probably derives from the erection of a beacon there in the post-medieval period; one is depicted on a 17th century map of the locality and the hillfort is correspondingly named on the 1816 Ordnance Surveyors drawing. Ironically, Henry VII's protagonist, Richard III, was influential in the creation of a signalling system in Wales to warn him of Henry's approach; whether this beacon was a survivor of that system is not known. A mound within the hillfort has been identified as a barrow in the Historic Environment Record (HER), which notes that it was opened in the late 18th century, revealing a cremation. The HER also notes that that evidence of bonfires was found.
- 2.4. On the 1847 Tithe map for Worthen parish, the hillfort is divided in two along the township boundary between Trelystan and Leighton; the boundary survives as an earthwork which crosses the hillfort from approximately north to south. The western side of the boundary, in Leighton township, is described in the apportionment as rough pasture, while the east side was in Trelystan township, where the field, identified as common land, was known as 'Beacon Ring'. The boundary between the townships (see Fig. 4) is also depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey 25" map of 1883, which appears to show the land use as unchanged. However, by the time the second edition Ordnance Survey map was produced in 1902, the interior of the hillfort was occupied by a conifer plantation.
- 2.5. It seems likely that the plantation was felled very soon afterwards and the land converted back to pasture, as no mention of woodland is made in the Royal Commission's (RCAHMW) Inventory of 1911, which is based on a visit to the site in 1909. This record provides a plan and a simple description of the earthworks and notes some interesting additional information, including that there was a trackway which ran between the northern and south-western entrances (see Fig. 4). Some doubt was expressed regarding the authenticity of the northern entrance and it was also suggested that the south-western entrance might have been widened. Of particular interest is the statement that there were no indications of any dwellings within the interior.
- 2.6. It seems that the area continued to be utilised as upland pasture until the early 1950s, but soon after the coronation of Elizabeth II, the interior of Beacon Ring was once again planted with trees. This time these were a mixture of conifers and deciduous trees, placed such that they created the symbols EIIR (Elizabeth II Regina) when viewed from the air (Fig. 3). A memorial stone within the plantation records that the trees were planted in December 1953; a detailed examination of the background to the plantation is currently in preparation (Britnell, 2019 forthcoming).



Fig. 3: An aerial view of Beacon Ring, viewed from the east. Photo CPAT 08-c-0317.

3 Methodology

- 3.1. The aim at Beacon Ring was to undertake a programme of topographic survey and mapping to provide an overall plan of the site (Fig. 4) and a profile across it. Surveys were also carried out at the two entrances (Figs 5 and 6) to examine their morphology in more detail.
- 3.2. The survey results were then be combined with hand-augering to explore the potential for waterlogged deposits in the ditch and to see whether palaeoenvironmental evidence could be identified there and elsewhere at the site. The possibility that the auger samples could reveal information on the construction and past history of the monument was also considered and it was thought that this might inform any future work envisaged at the site.
- 3.3. The measured profile across the site was aligned north-west/south-east and auger samples were taken at significant points along this transect (see Fig. 7). Augering was also carried out at the two entrances to check on their authenticity and samples were taken in the eastern part of the interior to examine a shallow peat deposit that had been identified in the results of the augering along the transect.

4 Survey results

- 4.1. The main features that can be gleaned from the survey are the overall convex shape of the hilltop, which appears well in profile, and the form of the two entrances. Interestingly, the sections of rampart that approach the south-western entrance seem to be on a slightly different alignment, which suggests that this, at least, is more likely to be an original feature; this is dealt with in more detail below.

- 4.2. The morphology of the hillfort rampart is interesting in that the outer faces of both the west side and the south-east quadrant have an appreciable berm at approximately half their height, when measured from the bottom of the ditch. This consistently matches the expected level of the original ground surface prior to the rampart's construction, which seems to preclude the suggestion that this step in the rampart had resulted from slumping. Other possibilities are that either the bank was placed a little inside the inner edge of the ditch in places, or perhaps that the rampart as we currently see it represents a remodelling of the original. It may also be that the ditch is a recut on a slightly different course. These possibilities were assessed by the auger sampling, the locations for which are depicted on Fig. 7.

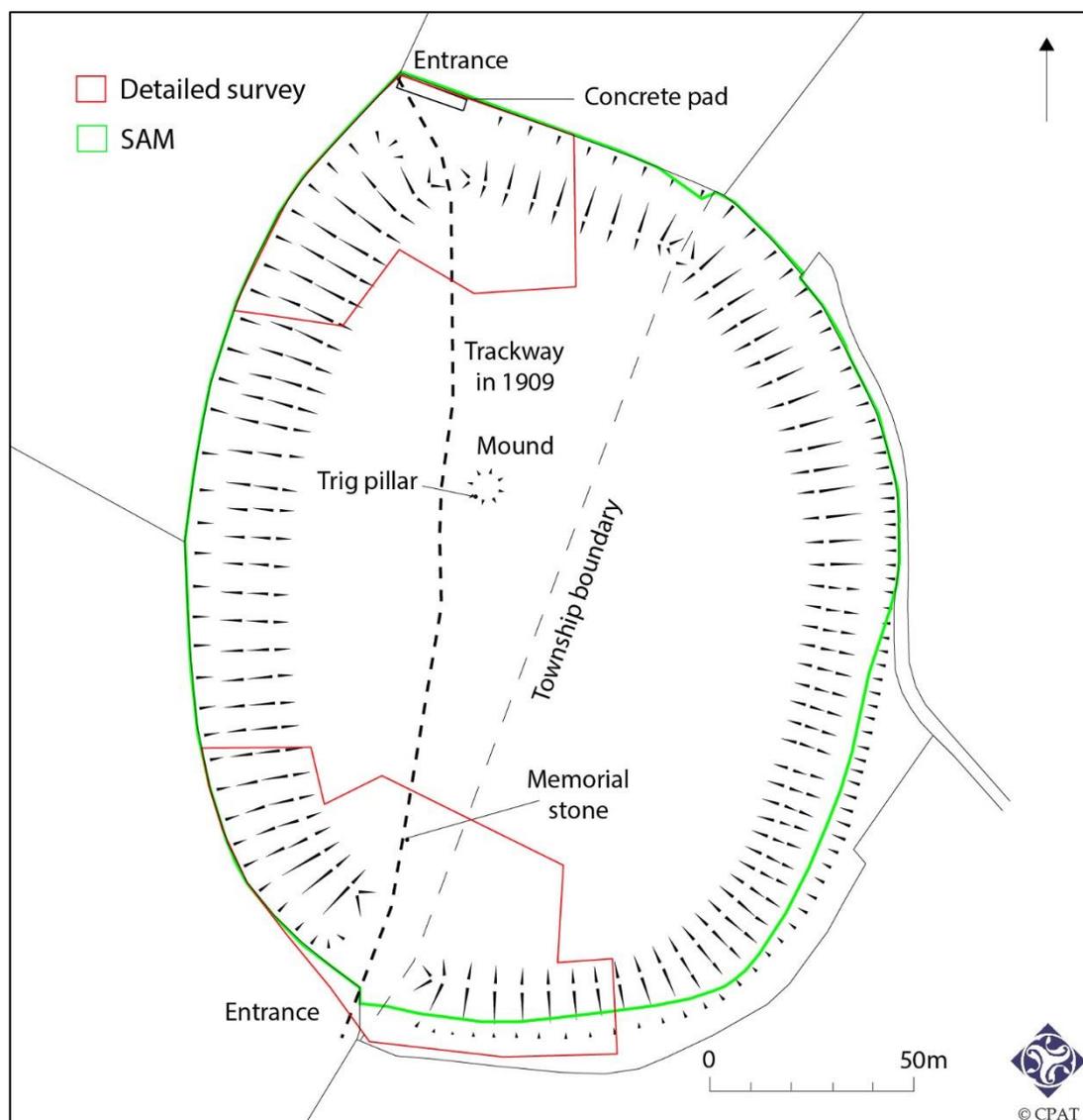


Fig. 4: Hachured plan of Beacon Ring hillfort

- 4.3. Scrutiny of Fig. 4 shows that the extent of the scheduled area does not include all of the visible earthworks; it seems that the south-eastern and southern extents of the area were drawn with respect to the former hedge line which occupied the ditch on those sides. It is suggested that the scheduled area is redrawn to encompass the earthworks. Detailed contour surveys of the earthworks at the south-western (Fig. 5) and northern (Fig. 6) entrances are provided below, which allow a more precise examination of the earthworks at these locations.

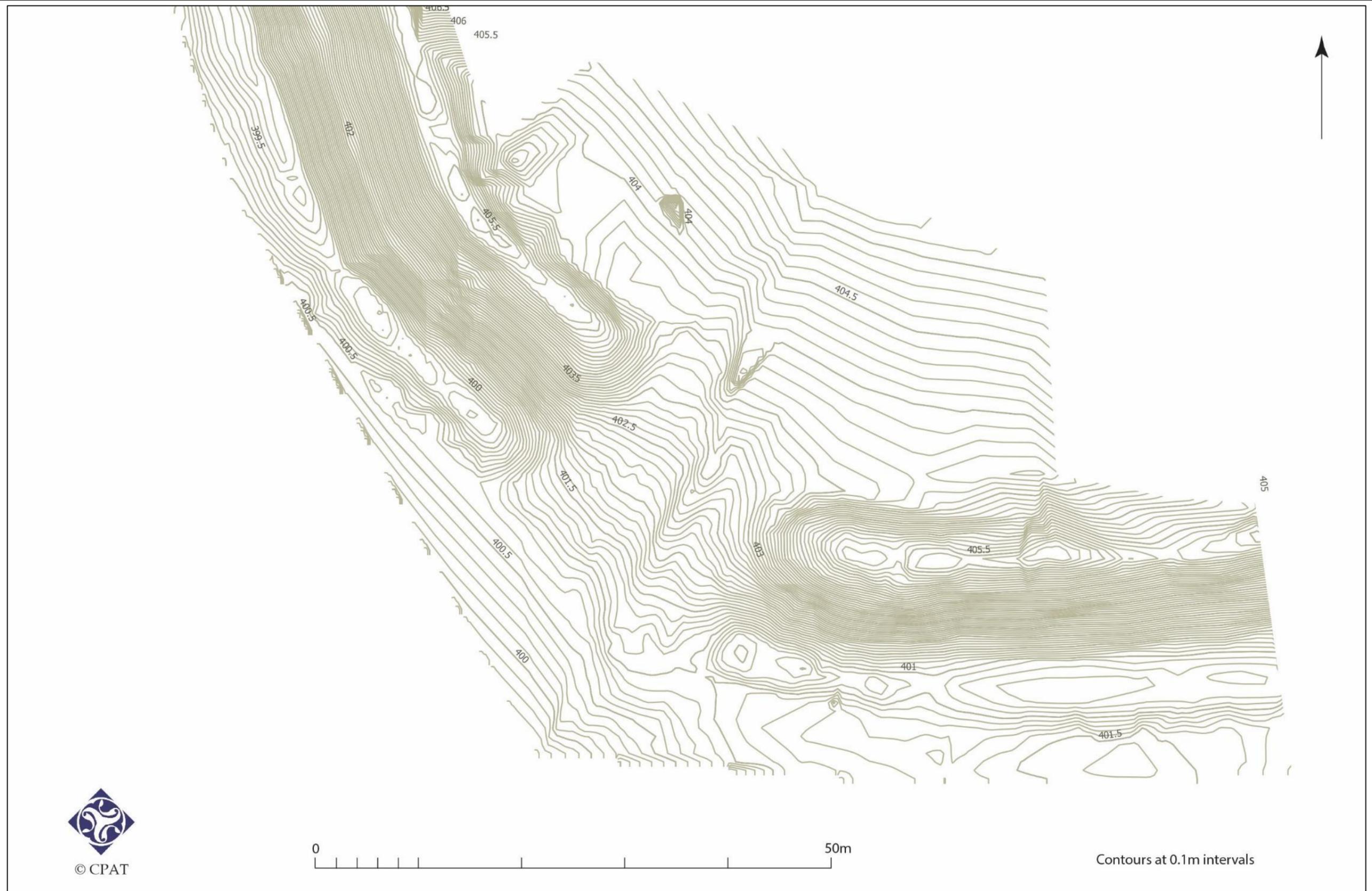


Fig. 5: Detailed contour survey of the south-western entrance

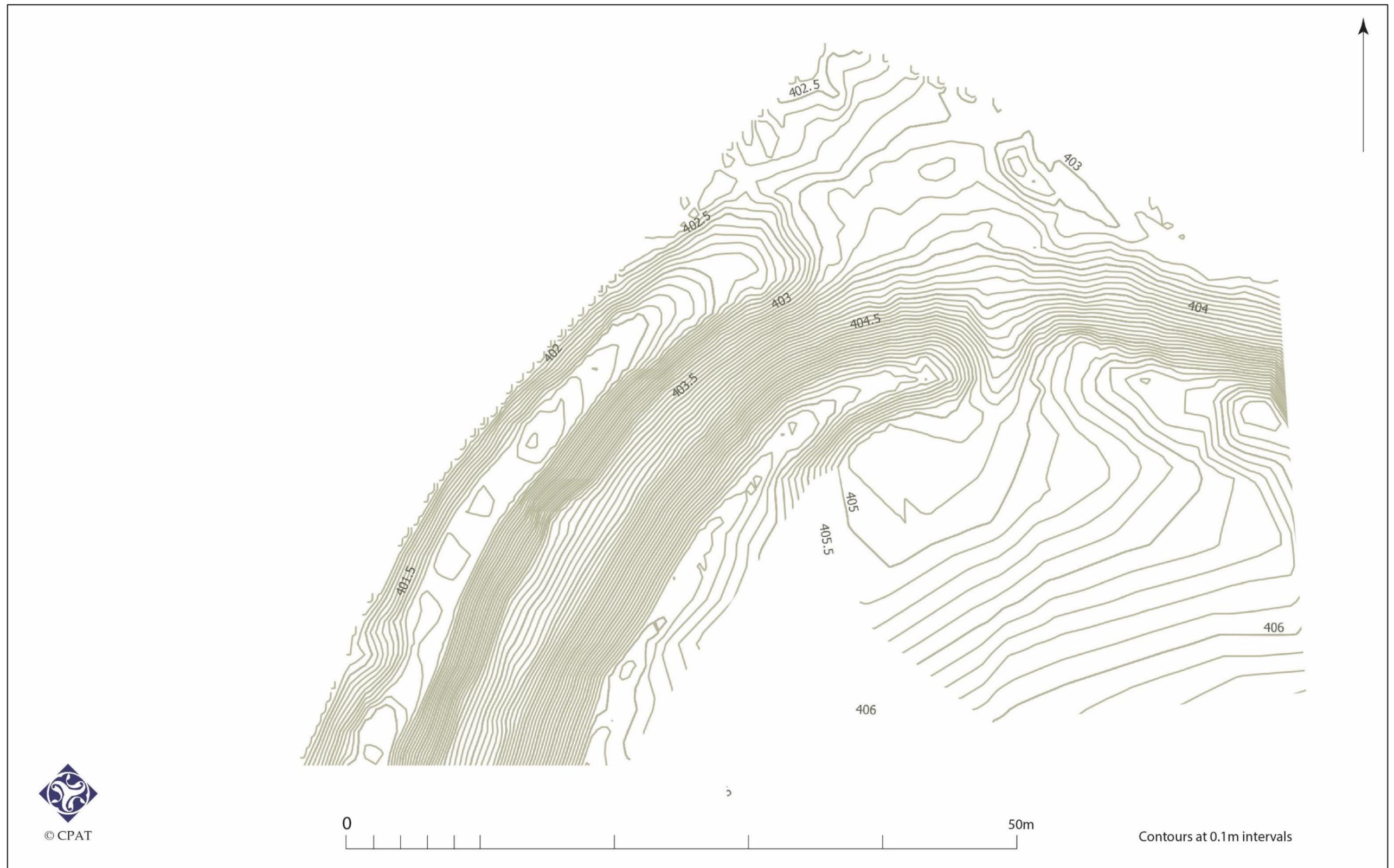


Fig. 6: Detailed contour survey of the northern entrance

- 4.4. In the case of the south-western entrance (Fig. 5), the survey shows quite clearly that the ends of the approaching banks are not on the same alignment. The width of the entrance is approximately 18m, with a variation of about 10m between the projected alignments of the two sides. Both banks are matched in extent by their associated ditches, which tends to imply that the layout is as originally intended. The berm that has already been mentioned appears about 20m to the northwest of the entrance at about the 402.0m contour.
- 4.5. The former township boundary bank can be seen passing through the south-western entrance, though becoming notably fainter as it continues into the interior towards the north-north-east. There seems to be no surface evidence which sheds further light on the arrangement of any structural features at the entrance, so perhaps these were most likely to have been constructed of timber.
- 4.6. The northern entrance (Fig. 6) is markedly different in character, being about 4m in width, so very narrow by comparison. On the west side the bank is very well defined, while to the east the first 15m or so of the bank is more widely-spread and appears to have been truncated. Immediately outside the gap between the banks there is a slightly raised area which implies that the access route through the entrance turned to the north-north-west; this matches the line of the trackway mapped by RCAHMW in 1909 and is further highlighted by the fact that the corresponding ditch stops some 10m to the west of the end of the bank on that side. As the rampart continues to the south-west, the berm gradually emerges, here visible as more of a sloping terrace between 2m and 3m in width at around the 403.5m contour.

5 Auger Sampling

- 5.1. Detailed lists of the results from the auger sampling are given in Appendix 1 of this report, but the significant evidence relating to the features examined is summarised in the following paragraphs. The samples were taken using a hand auger, 1m in length.
- 5.2. The natural subsoil across the monument was a slightly variable orange-grey silt or clay which included stone in most places. At some points it seemed likely that the base of the ditch had intersected mudstone/siltstone bedrock, as this appeared to form the main component of the bank on the north-west side.
- 5.3. Augering at the north entrance (Fig. 7, samples 1-3) demonstrated that the natural subsoil was present at between 0.25m and 0.33m below the current ground surface. This clearly indicates that the causeway crossing the projected line of the ditch here was not formed by the infilling of the ditch and the entrance therefore appears to be an original feature of the hillfort.
- 5.4. The south-western entrance was investigated by three auger samples (Fig. 7, samples 4, 5 and 26). One sample (26) examined a projection of the line of ditch in the western part of the entrance, while the other two (4 and 5) were placed along the line of the former township boundary, represented here by a low bank, where it crosses the defences, and investigating the potential line of the ditch and rampart respectively.

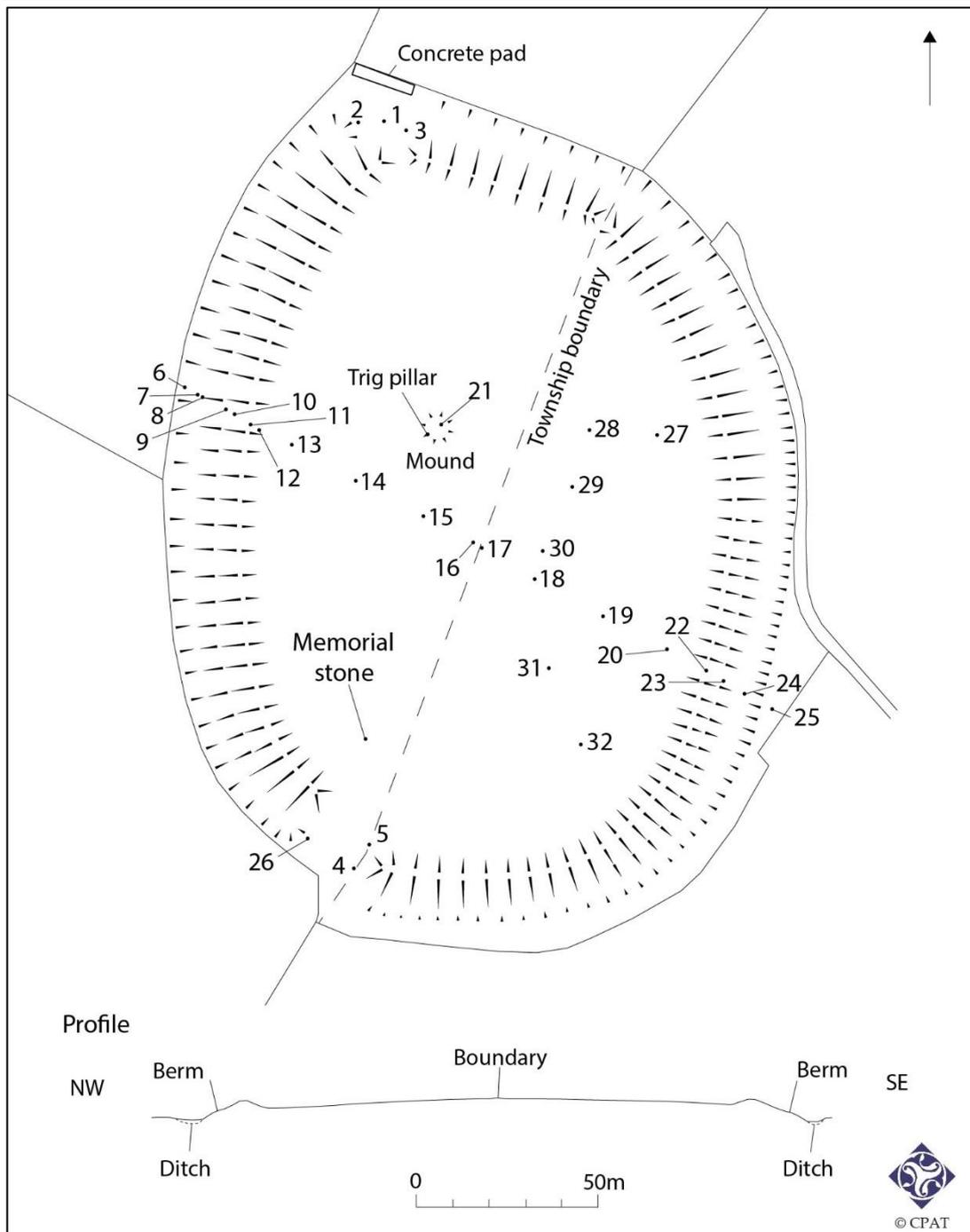


Fig. 7: Auger samples (numbered) and the accompanying profile, which runs between the locations of sample 6 and sample 25

5.5. In Sample 4, placed on an extension of the line of the hillfort ditch, the material forming the parish boundary bank was evident to a depth of 0.56m, below which there was 0.16m of clay silt, potentially representing a disturbed layer on which the boundary had been built. These layers were directly above the natural subsoil, and so no trace of a ditch was apparent in a position where one might have been expected if the hillfort ditch had once been continuous. Accordingly, it is clear that the gap in the ditch of the hillfort at this point must be original. In Sample 5 the situation was broadly similar, with natural subsoil recorded at a depth of 0.60m below the top of the bank. It is just possible that one or both of the two silt layers found in Sample 5,

-
- collectively 0.12m thick and lying beneath the boundary bank material, might represent a remnant of the hillfort bank, but this could not be confirmed and they may owe their presence to disturbance at the time the parish boundary bank was constructed. In Sample 26, there was a thin surface peat, 80mm thick, overlying 0.15m of mid grey silt, below which was natural subsoil. There were no traces of the hillfort ditch at this location and taken together with the Sample 4 results, this evidence points to the current morphology of the entrance as being broadly original.
- 5.6. The main series of auger samples taken followed a transect across the hillfort on a north-west/south-east alignment. On the north-west, the bank and ditch were investigated by a series of seven samples (6-12), while on the south-east, only four samples (22-25) were examined as the soil profiles were broadly comparable with the results on the west; a further eight samples (13-20) were examined on the transect across the interior of the hillfort and a single sample (21) examined the mound that was the site of a post-medieval beacon and potentially that of a round barrow.
- 5.7. On the north-west, the sample (6) placed immediately outside the ditch and the two (7 and 8) which examined the ditch itself were all sufficiently deep to reveal the natural subsoil. It was notable that the samples relating to the ditch showed no more than 0.37m of ditch deposits, comprising mid and light grey silts, below the current ground level; this relative paucity of deposits was unexpected and could suggest that the ditch was cleared of its infill in more recent times, or else had been recut. A similar situation pertained on the south-east side, where only 0.27m of ditch deposits were identified in Sample 24, comprising a surface peat layer above grey clay.
- 5.8. The bank of the hillfort was investigated at four locations (Samples 9-12) on the north-west, where the evidence suggested that there might be one or two layers, collectively no more than about 0.2m thick, that potentially represent disturbed or trampled ground beneath the bank material. As far as could be determined none of these suggested the presence of datable material that could provide a *terminus post quem* for the hillfort, but that may owe more to the small sample size than an actual lack of suitable material. The bank deposits here were up to 1.6m thick and composed of material varying from fragments of mudstone and siltstone to clays and silts with varying stone content. It seemed probable that all of these were derived from the excavation of the ditch, but whether they were from its original excavation or any potential subsequent recut could not be determined. On the south-east side of the hillfort, the bank deposits visible in Sample 22 were up to 2.0m thick and largely composed of a buff-coloured clay silt.
- 5.9. Of potentially greater significance in understanding the relative chronology of the earthworks was the result of the sampling from the slight berm (or terrace) between the bank and ditch. This can be seen on both the east and west sides of the hillfort and has been something of an anomaly, presumed to identify the former ground level prior to the construction of the earthworks. On the north-west side, Sample 9, placed in the berm, revealed about 0.2m of silts on top of the natural subsoil. These perhaps formed as the earthworks were constructed, but on the south-east side, Sample 23 revealed a markedly different sequence. Below a thin surface peat layer was about 0.9m of grey-brown stony silt and only below this was the natural subsoil encountered. Given the possibility that the ditch may have been recut or cleaned out at some point, this stony silt may represent a remnant of a former ditch fill that was left in place, perhaps indicating that the ditch was recut on a slightly different

alignment. This might also imply that the current form of the bank represents a later reconstruction.

- 5.10. In the interior of the hillfort, the transect of auger samples revealed only thin soils, generally peats and/or silts of maximum collective thickness 0.3m. A series of additional samples (27-32) were taken in the eastern side of the interior, to the east of the township boundary, which revealed a disturbed layer, between 60mm and 140mm in thickness, close to the surface in the north-east quadrant. The disturbed layer covered a deposit of black peat, between 30mm and 150mm thick, that directly overlay the natural subsoil in the north-east quadrant. In the south-east quadrant it appeared that modern leaf mould was disproportionately thick, but here also the underlying peat was no more than 150mm thick, though the disturbed layer was not evident. The variations in the soils of the interior might hint at changes related to settlement, but it is impossible to confirm the nature of this on such limited evidence. The township boundary bank and a slight accompanying ditch were crossed by the transect and were investigated in Samples 16 (ditch) and 17 (bank), here the bank was less than 0.4m high.
- 5.11. A single sample (21) was placed to investigate the mound within the hillfort, located some 4.4m to the north-east of the nearby triangulation (trig) pillar that was built on the edge of the mound. Beneath the recent surface soil, the mound was found to comprise two layers, an upper peat and a lower peaty silt, which collectively were about 0.7m high. No evidence was found to confirm the suggestions that this was either a burial mound or the site of a beacon.

6 Conclusions

- 6.1. The survey and sampling at Beacon Ring have provided some useful new information that has suggested a number of lines of enquiry for further work. The evidence indicates that the current appearance of the earthworks may reflect later alterations, perhaps associated with a temporary refortification of the hillfort, possibly associated with the activities of Cadwallon in the 7th century AD, or perhaps with those of Henry VII. It is equally possible, however, that this is related to another event which went unrecorded.
- 6.2. More detailed survey was carried out around the two entrances, and this confirmed the curious appearance of the south-western entrance, which is larger than might normally be expected at 18m in width. Here, the two banks that approach it adopt different alignments, but the fact that the corresponding ditches terminate at the same positions suggests that this is perhaps an original feature of the hillfort.
- 6.3. The significantly narrower northern entrance appears to have seen some later disturbance, particularly on the east side where the top of the bank seems to have been lowered or truncated for a distance of about 15m. Its arrangement is somewhat anomalous, in that the ditch approaching from the west stops 10m before the entrance is reached, but no evidence of an infilled continuation was identified by augering, so this appears to be an original feature.
- 6.4. The only organic deposits identified in the ditch lay close to the surface and were therefore not suitable for further sampling to provide dating or palaeoenvironmental

evidence relating to the occupation of the hillfort. Some layers were identified that seemed to represent disturbed or trampled ground beneath the bank material, but no datable material that could provide a *terminus post quem* for the hillfort was recovered. This may owe more to the tiny sample size than an actual lack of suitable material, however, as it has to be borne in mind that if charcoal was present in any of the layers it might not have been recovered in the very small sample taken by the auger.

- 6.5. The hillfort bank deposits varied from 1.6m high on the north-west to 2.0m high on the south-east, and their composition varied from fragments of mudstone and siltstone to clays and silts with varying stone content. It seems probable that all of these deposits originated from the excavation of the ditch, but whether they were from its original excavation or any potential subsequent recutting could not be confirmed. A sample on the south-east side of the hillfort, at a point where there is a berm separating the ditch and bank, revealed approximately 0.9m of material above the natural subsoil, which is likely to represent a remnant of an earlier ditch fill, rather than slumping from the outer face of the rampart. This suggests that the course of the ditch may have been slightly different when the hillfort was constructed and that the current appearance of its bank and ditch owe more to a phase of later modification. It was also notable that all of the samples relating to the ditch showed there was no more than 0.37m of silt fill below the current ground level, which seems unlikely if the ditch had remained undisturbed. However, it is interesting that no definite evidence of a counterscarp bank was identified, as one might have been expected in these circumstances.
- 6.6. As far as could be determined, the auger sampling showed no evidence of an infilled ditch at either of the two entrances of the hillfort. It therefore appears that these represent original features and the suggestions that the north entrance was cut for a more recent trackway and that the south-west entrance had been widened appear to be incorrect.
- 6.7. In the interior there were only thin deposits overlying the natural subsoil, and at no point were those predating the modern leaf litter collectively more than 0.3m in thickness. They varied from silts to peats and while this variation might suggest activity related to settlement in the interior, it was not possible to confirm this with the limited view provided by the auger samples. What does seem clear is that if there are significant archaeological layers and features surviving in the interior then these lie relatively close to the surface and are therefore vulnerable to disturbance.
- 6.8. Mapping of the existing scheduled area demonstrated that this does not encompass the visible earthworks of the hillfort; it is suggested that the boundary is redrawn on the south-east and south sides of the fort to rectify the situation.

7 Acknowledgements

- 7.1. The writer would like to thank Chris Matthews for his work on the detailed surveys of the two entrances and Ian Davies for his assistance with the additional surveys and augering.

8 Sources

Written

Britnell, W.J., 2019 (forthcoming). 'Memorials in the sky: Beacon Ring, Montgomeryshire', *Montgomeryshire Collections*.

RCAHMW, 1911. *An Inventory of the County of Montgomery*, London: HMSO.

Documentary

1844 Tithe Apportionment for the townships of Trelystan, Rhos Goch and Leighton in the parish of Worthen, the County of Montgomery

Cartographic

1816 Ordnance Surveyors drawing No 199

1847 Tithe Map of the townships of Trelystan, Rhos Goch and Leighton in the parish of Worthen, the County of Montgomery

1883 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 first edition map, Montgomeryshire 24.09

1902 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 second edition map, Montgomeryshire 24.09

Websites

<http://www.historytoday.com/robin-evans/battle-bosworth-field-welsh-victory>

<http://historypoints.org/index.php?page=beacon-ring-hillfort>

9 Archive deposition Statement

- 9.1. The project archive has been prepared according to the CPAT Archive Policy and in line with the CfA *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives guidance* (2014). The archive will be deposited with the regional Historic Environment Record, maintained by CPAT in Welshpool; no artefacts were recovered. A summary of the archive is provided below.

Archive summary

CPAT Event PRN: 140224

Survey:

2200_beaconr.dxf, br18.dxf, br18b.dxf, br18c.dxf

Adobe Illustrator files:

2200_beacon_ring_hachured_plan

2200_beacon_ring_augering_and_hachures

2200_beacon_ring_section_revised

2200_BR_NEnt

2200_BR_SEnt

10 digital photographs, Film 4437-0001 to 4437-0010

32 Auger sample records (Appendix 1)

Appendix 1: Auger sample records at Beacon Ring

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
1	N entrance, on line of ditch	0-0.09	Brown peaty silt	Topsoil
		0.09-0.18	Grey-brown silt	
		0.18-0.25	Orange-grey silt	
		0.25-1.00+	Orange-pale grey stony silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
2	N entrance, on line of ditch (W of No 1)	0-0.13	Brown silt	Topsoil
		0.13-0.28	Brown peaty silt	
		0.28-1.12+	Orange-grey stony silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
3	N entrance, on line of ditch (ESE of No 1)	0-0.08	Brown silt	Topsoil
		0.08-0.24	Brown peaty silt	
		0.24-0.33	Orange silt	
		0.33-0.95	Orange-grey stony silt	Natural subsoil
		0.95-1.13	Milky brown stony silt	Overlies rock

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
4	SW entrance, on line of hillfort ditch and in top of parish boundary bank	0-0.05	Brown silt	Topsoil
		0.05-0.56	Brown silt	Boundary bank material
		0.56-0.72	Grey-brown clay silt	
		0.72-1.40+	Orange-grey clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
5	SW entrance, on line of hillfort bank. Top of parish boundary bank	0-0.07	Brown silt	Topsoil
		0.07-0.48	Grey-brown silt	Boundary bank material
		0.48-0.54	Orange-grey silt	
		0.54-0.60	Grey-brown silt	
		0.60-1.00+	Orange-grey clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
6	WNW end of traverse across the hillfort (0m). Outside ditch	0-0.10	Dark brown peaty silt	Topsoil
		0.10-0.20	Dark grey-brown silt	
		0.20-0.79+	Orange-grey stony clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
7	Traverse across the hillfort (4.5m from no 6). Ditch	0-0.22	Mid grey silt	
		0.22-0.37	Light grey silt	
		0.37-0.82+	Orange-grey stony clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
8	Traverse across the hillfort (5.5m from no 6). Ditch	0-0.18	Mid grey silt	
		0.18-0.35	Light grey silt	
		0.35-0.52	Orange-grey stony clay	Natural subsoil
		0.52+	Rock	

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
9	Traverse across the hillfort (13.0m from no 6). Berm	0-0.11	Orange-brown silt	Crumbly
		0.11-0.21	Orange-brown silt	Stony
		0.21-0.91	Orange-buff stony clay	Natural subsoil
		0.91-1.00+	Grey stony clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
10	Traverse across the hillfort (15.5m from no 6). WNW side of rampart	0-0.32	Dark grey stony silt	Bank
		0.32-0.80	Grey-brown gravelly silt	Bank
		0.80-0.86	Orange clay	Bank
		0.86-0.96	Grey-brown gravelly silt	Disturbed/ trampled?
		0.96-1.06	Orange clay	Disturbed/ trampled?
		1.06-1.20	Buff stony clay	Natural subsoil
		1.20-1.50+	Pale buff stony clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
11	Traverse across the hillfort (22.2m from no 6). Top of rampart	0-0.05	Brown peaty silt	
		0.05-1.30	Mudstone/silt stone fragments	Bank
		1.30-1.57	Grey-brown stony clay	Base of bank
		1.57-1.79	Pale grey clay silt	Material formed during construction?
		1.79-2.30+	Orange-grey stony clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
12	Traverse across the hillfort (25.3m from no 6). ESE side of rampart	0-0.18	Dark grey-brown peaty silt	Topsoil
		0.18-0.45	Grey stony silt	Bank
		0.45-1.30	Mudstone/siltstone fragments	Bank
		1.30-1.40	Pale grey slay	Disturbed/trampled?
		1.40-1.43	Orange-brown silt	Disturbed/trampled?
		1.43-1.46+	Buff clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
13	Traverse across the hillfort (33.4m from no 6). Interior	0-0.10	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
		0.10-0.18	Grey silt	
		0.18-0.35+	Milky orange clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
14	Traverse across the hillfort (54.4m from no 6). Interior	0-0.14	Dark brown silt	Topsoil
		0.14-0.22	Dark grey peaty silt	
		0.22-0.50+	Pale orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
15	Traverse across the hillfort (74.4m from no 6). Interior	0-0.14	Dark brown peaty silt	Topsoil
		0.14-0.30	Grey silt	
		0.30-0.50+	Pale orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
16	Traverse across the hillfort (89.9m from no 6). Interior, ditch of parish boundary	0-0.14	Dark brown peaty silt	Topsoil
		0.14-0.33	Grey silt	Ditch fill
		0.33-0.50+	Pale orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
17	Traverse across the hillfort (92.8m from no 6). Interior, bank of parish boundary	0-0.19	Mid grey silt	Bank material
		0.19-0.38	Milky brown silt	Bank material
		0.38-0.50+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
18	Traverse across the hillfort (110.0m from no 6). Interior	0-0.06	Brown leaf mould	
		0.06-0.30	Dark grey peat	
		0.30-0.60+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
19	Traverse across the hillfort (131.0m from no 6). Interior	0-0.10	Brown leaf mould	
		0.10-0.27	Grey-brown peat	
		0.27-0.40+	Buff clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
20	Traverse across the hillfort (151.0m from no 6). Interior	0-0.12	Grey-brown silt	
		0.12-0.24	Dark grey peat	
		0.24-0.36	Buff clay	Natural subsoil?
		0.36-0.50+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
21	Mound in hillfort interior (4.4m NE of trig point)	0-0.09	Brown leaf mould	
		0.09-0.54	Dark grey peat	Mound
		0.54-0.77	Grey peaty silt	Mound?
		0.77-0.90+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
22	Traverse across the hillfort (163.2m from no 6). Top of rampart	0-0.17	Dark grey-brown peaty silt	
		0.17-2.00	Buff clay silt	Bank
		2.00-2.10	Pale grey clay silt	Material formed during construction?
		2.10-2.50+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
23	Traverse across the hillfort (168.6m from no 6). Berm	0-0.09	Brown peaty silt	Topsoil
		0.09-1.00	Grey-brown stony silt	
		1.00-1.08	Orange-grey clay	Natural subsoil
		1.08-1.20+	Rock	

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
24	Traverse across the hillfort (176.9m from no 6). Ditch	0-0.08	Brown peat	
		0.08-0.27	Grey clay	
		0.27-0.50	Orange-grey clay	Natural subsoil?
		0.50-1.45	Bluish-grey clay	Natural subsoil
		1.45+	Rock	

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
25	ESE end of the traverse across the hillfort (185.4m from no 6). Outside ditch	0-0.26	Brown silt	Topsoil
		0.26-0.50+	Orange-grey clay	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
26	W side of SW entrance, on line of hillfort ditch	0-0.08	Dark brown peat	Topsoil
		0.08-0.23	Mid grey silt	
		0.23-0.85+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
27	NE quadrant of hillfort interior	0-0.10	Brown leaf mould	
		0.10-0.16	Milky brown peaty silt	Disturbed
		0.16-0.28	Black peat	
		0.28-0.50+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation / notes
28	NE quadrant of hillfort interior	0-0.06	Brown leaf mould	
		0.06-0.20	Grey clay silt	Disturbed
		0.20-0.23	Black peat	
		0.23-0.50+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation / notes
29	NE quadrant of hillfort interior	0-0.07	Brown leaf mould	
		0.07-0.19	Grey clay silt	Disturbed
		0.19-0.23	Black peat	
		0.23-0.50+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation / notes
30	NE quadrant of hillfort interior	0-0.06	Brown leaf mould	
		0.06-0.16	Grey clay silt	Disturbed
		0.16-0.23	Black peat	
		0.28-0.40+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation / notes
31	SE quadrant of hillfort interior	0-0.29	Brown leaf mould	
		0.29-0.44	Black peat	
		0.44-0.60+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil

Sample No	Position	Depth (m)	Deposit	Interpretation /notes
32	SE quadrant of hillfort interior	0-0.20	Brown leaf mould	
		0.20-0.28	Black peat	
		0.28-0.40+	Orange-grey clay silt	Natural subsoil