

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Corner House, Kinnerton, Presteigne, Radnorshire**

Strip-map-excavate



By  
Daniel Moore

Report No. 1747

# *Archaeology Wales*

## **Corner House, Kinnerton, Presteigne Radnorshire**

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## **Non-technical Summary**

*In September 2018 Archaeology Wales was commissioned to undertake a strip-map-excavate at the request of Mr and Mrs Panniers. The excavation was undertaken prior to the commencement of ground works associated with the proposed development of erection of four residential dwellings with sewage treatment plants and associated infrastructure works at site south of Corner House, Kinnerton, Prestiegne, LD8 2PE centred on SO 24416 63057. The associated Planning Application No. P/2010/0967.*

*The regional HER notes that the site is located in an area of high archaeological potential related to the medieval historic core of Kinnerton. Furthermore, the site is located immediately northwest of a scheduled motte and bailey (RD045). An archaeological evaluation carried out in 2008 demonstrated the presence of 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century features within the development area. CPAT-DC recommended a strip-map-excavate to be undertaken as condition of planning consent.*

*During the excavation several pits and possible stakeholes were revealed, cutting through the subsoil. The dates of these features remained uncertain. Furthermore, changing development plans occurred during the fieldwork programme. As result, the strip-map-record area for phase 1 was not excavated to the natural horizon, advocating preservation in situ. This decision was reached and agreed in dialogue with CPAT-DC.*

*All work conformed to Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA 2014) and Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Artefact and Environmental Collection, Documentation Conservation and Research (CIfA 2014).*

## **Crynodeb Annhechnolegol**

*Ym mis Medi 2018 cafodd Archeoleg Cymru (AW) ei gomisiynu i wneud rhaglen o stripio-mapio-cloddio ar gais Mr a Mrs Panniers. Ymgwymerwyd â'r gwaith cloddio cyn i waith tir dechrau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r datblygiad arfaethedig o godi pedwar annedd preswyl gyda gweithfeydd trin carthion a gwaith seilwaith cysylltiedig ar y safle i'r de o Corner House, Kinnerton, Prestiegne, LD8 2PE sydd wedi'i ganoli ar SO 24416 63057. Y Rhif Cais Cynllunio cysylltiedig yw P/2010/0967. Mae'r Cofnod Amgylchedd Hanesyddol (HER) rhanbarthol yn nodi bod y safle wedi'i leoli mewn ardal o botensial archeoleg uchel sy'n gysylltiedig â chraidd hanesyddol canoloesol Kinnerton. At hynny, mae'r safle wedi'i lleoli yn union i'r gogledd-orllewin o domen a beili rhestredig. Roedd gwerthusiad archeolegol a gynhaliwyd yn 2008 yn dangos presenoldeb nodweddion o'r 12fed a'r 14eg ganrif o fewn yr ardal datblygu. Argymhellodd CPAT-DC y dylid gwneud rhaglen o stripio-mapio-cloddio fel amod ar y caniatâd cynllunio.*

*Roedd yr holl gwaith yn cydymffurfio â'r Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (CIfA 2014) a hefyd Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Artefact and Environmental Collection, Documentation Conservation and Research (CIfA 2014).*

## 1. Introduction

In September 2018 Archaeology Wales was commissioned to undertake a strip-map-excavate at the request of Mr and Mrs Panniers. The work was undertaken prior to the commencement of ground works associated with the proposed development of erection of four residential dwellings with sewage treatment plants and associated infrastructure works at site south of Corner House, Kinnerton, Prestiegne, LD8 2PE centred on SO 24416 63057 (Planning Application No. P/2010/0967). This phase of works was associated with Plot 1 (Figure 1-2).

The regional HER notes that the site is located in an area of high archaeological potential related to the medieval historic core of Kinnerton. Furthermore, the site is located immediately northwest of a scheduled motte and bailey (RD 045). An archaeological evaluation carried out in 2008 (Tavener 2009) demonstrated the presence of 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century features within the development area. CPAT-DC recommended that an archaeological excavation be undertaken as condition of planning consent.

The methodology set out in the WSI was agreed with CPAT-DC in its capacity as archaeological advisors to Powys County Council. CPAT-DC recommended that a programme of strip-map-excavate of the development area be undertaken prior to the commencement of ground works to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.

The recommendations were made by CPAT-DC and set out in a brief prepared in September 2018. The purpose of the excavation was to provide the local planning authority with sufficient information regarding the nature of archaeological remains on the site of the development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (revised edition 9, 2016), Section 6.5 and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017). The work is to ensure that all buried artefacts and deposits are fully investigated and recorded if they are distributed or revealed as a result of activities associated with the development.

Three small pits of unknown date were identified at the north end of Plot 1. A similar feature was identified in the southwest corner of Plot 1. Several small cuts, with no finds, at the south end of Plot 1 were recorded as possible stakeholes, though they most probably are the result of rooting activity. A linear feature interpreted as a boundary ditch was identified in the northwest corner of Plot 1 with several modern pottery sherds and a single post-medieval sherd. This truncated a possible boundary ditch with no finds. Several pottery sherds, post-medieval and modern, were discovered in the subsoil and topsoil. The latter also contained a fragment of an onion bottle of possible 18<sup>th</sup> century date and two greyware sherds of possible late medieval date. Changing development plans occurred during the fieldwork programme. As result, the strip-map-record area for Phase 1 was not excavated to the natural horizon, advocating preservation in situ. This decision was reached and agreed in dialogue with CPAT-DC.

All work was undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). AW is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA.

The excavation took place in October 2018 under the supervision of Daniel Moore. The project was managed by Dr Irene Garcia Rovira (MCIfA).

## **2. Site Description and Archaeological Background**

### **2.1 Location, Geology and Topography**

The development area is located to the south of the village of Kinnerton, and it is characterized by a pasture field, measuring c. 3877 square meters. The underlying geology is characterized by the Ludlow Rock formation formed during the Silurian period. The superficial soils are defined by Till Diamicton formed during the Quaternary period (BGS 2018).

### **2.2 Historical and Archaeological Background**

The earliest human activity in the area is defined by two standing stones located to the south of the settlement. A stone mace-head was found in close to Kinnerton Court in the 1950s (Tavener 2009). Kinnerton Castle mound (RD045) located adjacent to the site, dates to 1066-1540 AD. This monument is defined by the remains of a motte and a ditch, and it is considered of significant potential as it retains structural evidence and intact associated deposits. The proposed development area was, therefore, considered a perfect location for early medieval settlement. An archaeological evaluation carried out in 2009 confirmed that features dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> centuries are present at the site.

## **3. Methodology**

The methodology for the strip-map-excavate follows that set out within the approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix 4). The excavation took place within a single phase on land to the immediate south of Corner House. This area (Plot 1) measured c. 23m on a northeast-southwest alignment and c.40m on a southeast-northwest alignment. The excavation reached depths of 0.8m toward the northern end of the site, and 1.2m to the southern end. The southern and western limit of excavation was determined by the property's boundary hedges and tree canopy. The northern limit of excavation, which extended to the proposed Access Road, was determined by an overhead power cable.

The excavation was carried out by suitably trained archaeologists. Sections and plans of the excavation were photographed using a 12MP digital camera. All the deposits encountered were recorded by means of a continuous context numbering system and recorded on proforma context sheets. All features and deposits are described in accordance with CIfA conventions. A register of all contexts and photographs was also made. The excavation was carried out using an 8-tonne digger with a 1.8m wide toothless bucket. All features were excavated by hand.

## **4. Excavation Results (Figures 1-4; Plates 1-10)**

The depth of the excavation was determined by the archaeological horizon rather than the natural substrate, resulting from a decision to not subject Plot 1 to development. CPAT-DC agreed that due to the new circumstances arisen during fieldwork, it was best to preserve in situ any archaeology that may exist between the subsoil and the natural horizon.

The earliest deposit revealed during groundworks was interpreted as a layer of colluvium (003) (Plate 1). This was characterized as a loose light grey yellow and orange sandy clay with a

high frequency of angular stone inclusions 0.03 to 0.1m in diameter. (003) was cut by several features. They were as follows:

- [006] was a sub-oval cut – possibly a pit - located at the north end of the site. It measured 0.8m in length (E-W alignment), 0.7m in width (N-S alignment) and 0.25m in depth with moderately steep sides and concave base. [006] was filled by lower fill (005) and upper fill (004). Fill (005) was a friable mid-grey brown sandy clay with small infrequent flecks of charcoal and frequent angular stone inclusions 0.01 to 0.03m in diameter. (005) measured 0.15m in depth. Fill (004) was a friable mid-yellow and grey brown sandy clay with frequent angular stone inclusions 0.01m to 0.03m in diameter that measured 0.09m in depth. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [007] was a sub-circular cut - possible pit - located at the north end of the site, 7m NW of cut [006]. It measured 0.8m in diameter and was 0.3m in depth with moderately steep sides and concave base. [007] was filled by single fill (008), a friable mid-grey brown sandy clay with frequent angular stone inclusions 0.01m to 0.03m in diameter. (008) measured 0.3m in depth. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [009] was a sub-circular cut and probable tree bole due to its irregular shape. [009] was located at the south end of the site. It measured approximately 0.7m in diameter and 0.2m in depth with a steep sides and concave base. [009] was filled by single fill (010), a friable mid-grey brown sandy clay, with frequent angular stone inclusions 0.03m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [012] was a sub-circular cut and probable tree bole (or possible pit) located in the SW corner of the site at the break of the slope. It measured 0.5m in diameter and was 0.1m in depth with moderately shallow sides and flat base. [012] was filled by single fill (011), a friable mid-grey brown sandy clay with infrequent angular stone inclusions 0.03m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [014] was a sub-circular cut interpreted as probable rooting activity rather than a stake hole, located in the south end of the site at the break of the slope. [014] measured 0.09m in diameter and 0.06m in depth with steep sides and flat base. [014] was filled by single fill (013), a friable mid-grey brown sandy clay with moderately frequent angular stone inclusions 0.03m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [016] was a sub-circular cut interpreted as probable rooting activity rather than a posthole. The feature was located in the south end of the site at the break of the slope, c.1.1m east of [014]. [016] measured 0.1m in diameter and 0.03m in depth with shallow sides and flat base. [016] was filled by single fill (015), a friable mid-grey brown silty clay with moderately frequent angular stone inclusions 0.02m to 0.04m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [018] was a sub-circular cut interpreted as probable rooting activity rather than a posthole. The feature was located in the south end of the site at the break of the slope, c.0.4m east of [016]. [018] measured 0.13m in diameter and 0.07m in depth with steep sides and flat base. [018] was filled by single fill (017), a friable mid-grey brown silty clay with moderately frequent angular stone inclusions 0.01m to 0.03m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.



- [020] was a sub-circular cut interpreted as probable rooting activity rather than a post hole. The feature was located in the south end of the site at the break of the slope, c.0.5m east of [018]. [020] measured 0.13m in diameter and 0.07m in depth with moderately steep sides and flat base. [020] was filled by single fill (019), a friable mid-grey brown silt clay. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [022] was a sub-circular cut interpreted as probable rooting activity rather than a post hole. The feature was located in the south end of the site at the break of the slope, c.2.5m south east of [020]. [022] measured 0.18m in diameter and 0.13m in depth with near vertical sides and flat base. [022] was filled by single fill (021), a friable mid-grey brown silty clay with moderately frequent angular stone inclusions 0.01m to 0.05m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [024] was a sub-circular cut interpreted as probable rooting activity rather than a posthole. The feature was located in the south end of the site at the break of the slope, c.3m south east of [022]. [024] measured 0.1m in diameter and 0.05m in depth with moderately shallow sides and flat base. [024] was filled by single fill (023), a friable mid-grey brown silty clay with moderately frequent angular stone inclusions 0.03m to 0.05m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [026] was a sub-rectangular cut with curved sides interpreted as probable rooting activity rather than a posthole. The feature was located in the south end of the site at the break of the slope, c.1m north of [024]. [026] measured 0.15m in length, 0.07m in width and 0.03m in depth with steep sides and flat base. [026] was filled by single fill (025), a friable mid-grey silty clay with moderately frequent subangular stone inclusions 0.03 to 0.05m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [028] was a sub-rectangular cut with curved sides interpreted as probable rooting activity rather than a posthole. The feature was located in the south end of the site at the break of the slope, c.1m north of [026]. [028] measured 0.1m in length, 0.06m in width and 0.04m in depth with steep sides and flat base. [028] was filled by single fill (027), a friable mid-grey brown silty clay with moderately frequent angular stone inclusions 0.01m to 0.02m in diameter. No finds were associated with this feature.
- [033] was a linear cut located in north west corner of the site on a roughly north-east south-west alignment. The feature ran parallel with the lane and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north and west. The east side of the feature was visible only, the west side extending beyond the limit of excavation. [033] measured in excess of 1m in length, 1.2m in width and was 0.50m in depth with a moderately steep side and shallow concave base. The feature was interpreted as a possible boundary ditch. It is possible the feature is the same as linear [542] recorded within Trench 5 of the Evaluation Report (Tavener 2009). However, [542] was on a northwest southeast alignment. [033] was filled by lower fill (032) and upper fill (031). (032) was a friable mid-grey brown clayey silt with frequent sub-angular inclusions 0.03 to 0.05m in diameter. (032) measured in excess of 1m in length, 1m in width and was 0.17m in depth. (031) was a friable mid-yellow brown silty clay with infrequent sub-angular

stone inclusions 0.03m in diameter. (031) measured in excess of 1m in length, 1.1m in width and 0.3m in depth and contained small fragments of animal bone.

- (031) was cut by linear cut [030]. [030] was on the same alignment as [033] and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the north and west. The east side of the feature was visible only, the west side extending beyond the limit of excavation. [030] measured in excess of 1m in length, 1.60m in width and was 0.55m in depth with a moderately steep side and shallow concave base. The feature was interpreted as a possible boundary ditch. It is possible linear [030] is the same as linear [540] recorded within Trench 5 of the Evaluation Report (Tavener 2009). However, [540] was on a northwest southeast alignment. [030] was filled by single fill (029), a friable mid-grey brown silt with moderately frequent sub-angular stone inclusions 0.03 to 0.05m in diameter. The fill contained several pottery sherds.
- (004), (008), (010), (011), (013), (015), (017), (019), (021), (023), (025), (027) and (029) were overlaid by (002), a subsoil comprising a firm mid-grey brown silt with a moderate frequency of sub-angular stone inclusions 0.03m-0.05m in diameter. (002) extended across the entire site and measured 0.25m in depth. Several pottery sherds were recorded (see 5. Finds). Deposit (002) was overlaid by (001), a topsoil characterized as a firm mid-grey brown silt with a moderate frequency of sub-angular stone inclusions 0.03m to 0.05m in diameter. (001) extended across the entire site and measured 1m in depth at the south end of the site and 0.25m in depth at the north end of the site several pottery sherds and a glass fragment were recorded (see section 5).

## 5. Finds

Context (029) from boundary ditch [030] contained five pottery sherds. They were as follows: a modern green glazed pot rim 0.05m in length; a modern decorated porcelain sherd 0.03m in length; a modern brown glazed pot rim 0.03m in length; a modern unglazed body sherd 0.02m in length; a post medieval courseware basal sherd with unglazed surface 0.04m in length.

Context (002) contained several pottery sherds. They were as follows: a post-medieval green/brown handle fragment 0.02m in length; a post-medieval brown glazed body sherd 0.08m in length; a late post-medieval basal sherd with an inner surface brown glaze 0.06m in length; a modern blue decorated porcelain sherd 0.02m in length; 3 modern grey glazed sherds; green/brown glazed rim 0.03m in length.

Context (001) contained a basal fragment of a green onion bottle of possible early 18<sup>th</sup> century date and several pottery sherds. They were as follows: two greyware body sherds of possible late medieval date each 0.02m in length; a post-medieval inner brown glazed sherd 0.07m in length; a post-medieval green/brown glazed rim 0.03m in length; a post-medieval brown glazed sherd 0.02m in length, a post-medieval unglazed rim 0.04m in length; a post-medieval green/brown glazed body sherd 0.02m in length.

## **6. Discussions and Conclusions**

The depth of the excavation was determined by changing development plans. There was a general paucity of finds and features from the excavation that suggests low level domestic activity on the site. Finds from the topsoil and subsoil were post-medieval and modern in date with the exception of two greyware sherds of possible late medieval date. The several features identified in the south end of Plot 1 were tentatively interpreted as rooting activity due to their irregular shape and lack of finds rather than stake holes and postholes. The sub-oval pits revealed in the north end of Plot 1 may have been deliberately cut though they were very sterile. The NE-SW aligned ditch, and the possible ditch it truncates, appear to run parallel to the lane and may therefore represent boundary ditches.

## **9. Bibliography**

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation.

English Heritage (2006) Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide (re issue 2015)

NERC. (2016) British Geological Survey Maps (accessed at [www.bgs.ac.uk](http://www.bgs.ac.uk))

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**APPENDIX I:**

## Appendix 1. Context Register

<i>No.</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Relationship</i>
001	Deposit	Firm mid-grey brown silt	Above (002)
002	Deposit	Firm mid-grey brown silt	Below (001)
003	Deposit	Friable mid-grey yellow sandy clay	Cut by [006], [007], [009], [012], [014], [016], [018], [020], [022], [024], [026], [028], [030], [033]
004	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown sandy clay. Fill of [006]	Below (002)
005	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown sandy clay. Fill of [006]	Below (004)
006	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Possible pit	Cuts (003)
007	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Possible pit	Cuts (003)
008	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown sandy clay. Fill of [007]	Below (002)
009	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Probable tree bole	Cuts (003)
010	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown sandy clay. Fill of [009]	Below (002)
011	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown sandy clay. Fill of [012]	Below (002)
012	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Probable tree bole	Cuts (003)
013	Fill	Friable mid-brown grey brown sandy clay. Fill of [014]	Below (002)
014	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Probable rooting activity	Cuts (003)
015	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown silty clay. Fill of [016]	Below (002)
016	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Probable rooting activity	Cuts (003)
017	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown grey silty clay. Fill of [018]	Below (002)
018	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Probable rooting activity	Cuts (003)
019	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown silty clay. Fill of [020]	Below (002)
020	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Probable rooting activity	Cuts (003)
021	Fill	Mid-brown black silty clay. Fill of [022]	Below (002)
022	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Probable rooting activity	Cuts (003)
023	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown silty clay. Fill of [024]	Below (002)
024	Cut	Sub-circular cut. Probable rooting activity	Cuts (003)
025	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown silty clay. Fill of [026]	Below (002)
026	Cut	Sub-rectangular cut. Probable rooting activity	Cuts (003)
027	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown silty clay. Fill of [028]	Below (002)
028	Cut	Sub-rectangular cut. Probable rooting activity	Cuts (003)

029	Fill	Friable mid-grey brown silt. Fill of [030]	Below (002)
030	Cut	Linear cut. Boundary ditch	Cuts (031)
031	Fill	Firm mid-yellow brown silty clay. Fill of [033]	Above (032)
032	Fill	Firm mid-grey brown clayey silt. Fill of [033]	Below (031)
033	Cut	Linear cut. Boundary ditch	Cuts (003)

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**APPENDIX II:**

## Appendix 2. Finds

Location		Context No.	Finds Type	No of fragments	Description	Date
Plot 1		(001)	Ceramic	2	Greyware sherds	Late medieval
Plot 1		(001)	Ceramic	1	Green/brown glazed rim	Post medieval
Plot 1		(001)	Glass	1	Green onion bottle basal fragment	18 <sup>th</sup> century
Plot 1		(001)	Ceramic	2	Brown glazed sherds	Post medieval
Plot 1		(001)	Ceramic	1	Green/brown glazed body sherd	Post medieval
Plot 1		(001)	Ceramic	1	Unglazed rim	Post medieval
Plot 1		(002)	Ceramic	1	Brown glazed body sherd	Post medieval
Plot 1		(002)	Ceramic	1	Green/ brown glazed handle fragment	Post medieval
Plot 1		(002)	Ceramic	1	Brown glazed body sherd	Late post medieval
Plot 1		(002)	Ceramic	1	Brown glazed basal sherd	Late post medieval
Plot 1		(002)	Ceramic	1	Blue decorated porcelain sherd	Modern
Plot 1		(002)	Ceramic	3	Grey glazed sherds	Modern
Plot 1		(029)	Ceramic	1	White porcelain sherd	Modern
Plot 1		(029)	Ceramic	1	Green glazed rim	Modern
Plot 1		(029)	Ceramic	1	Brown glazed rim	Modern
Plot 1		(029)	Ceramic	1	Unglazed body sherd	Modern
Plot 1		(029)	Ceramic	1	Glazed courseware basal sherd	Post medieval





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**APPENDIX III:**

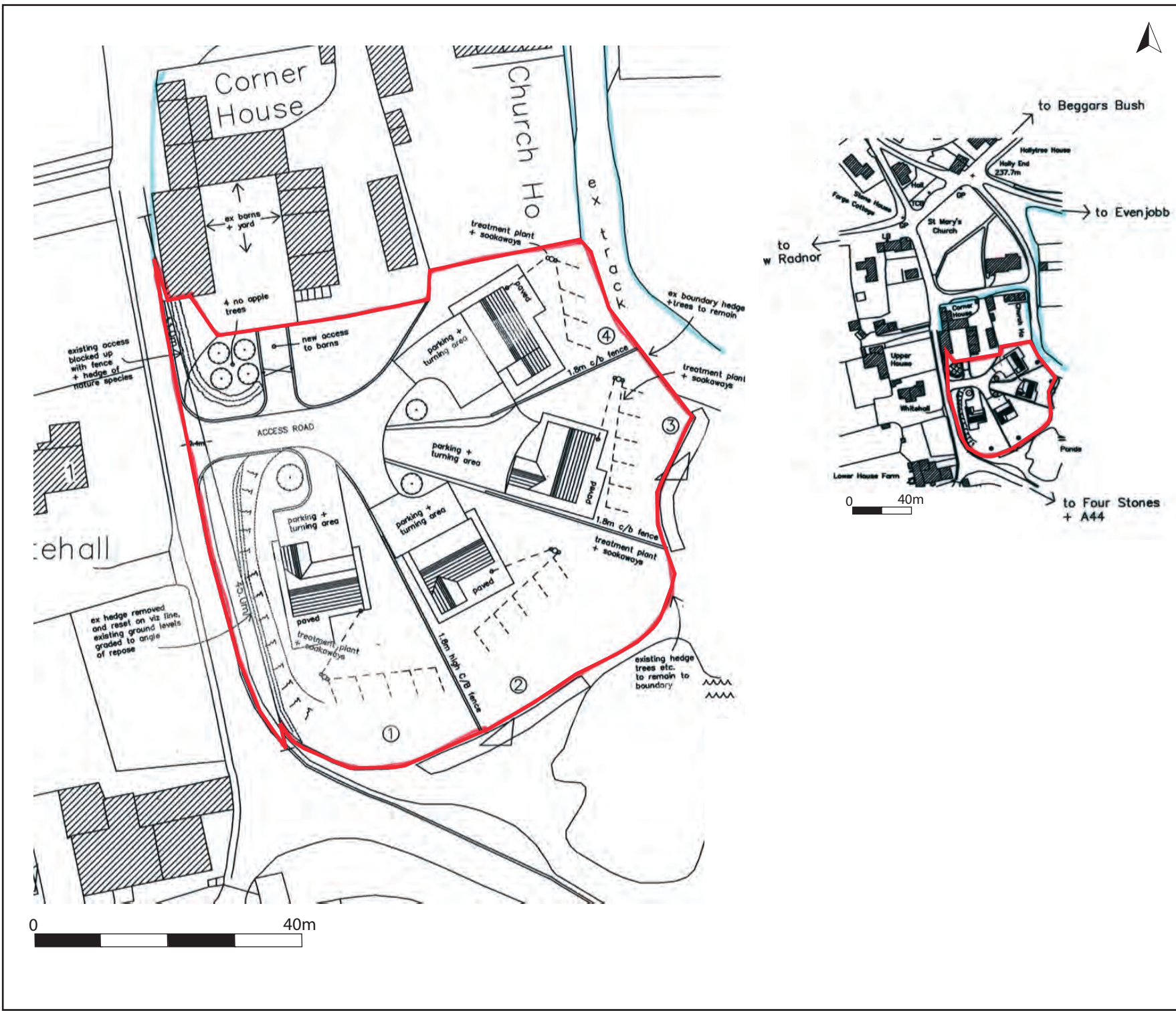


Figure 1  
Location plan

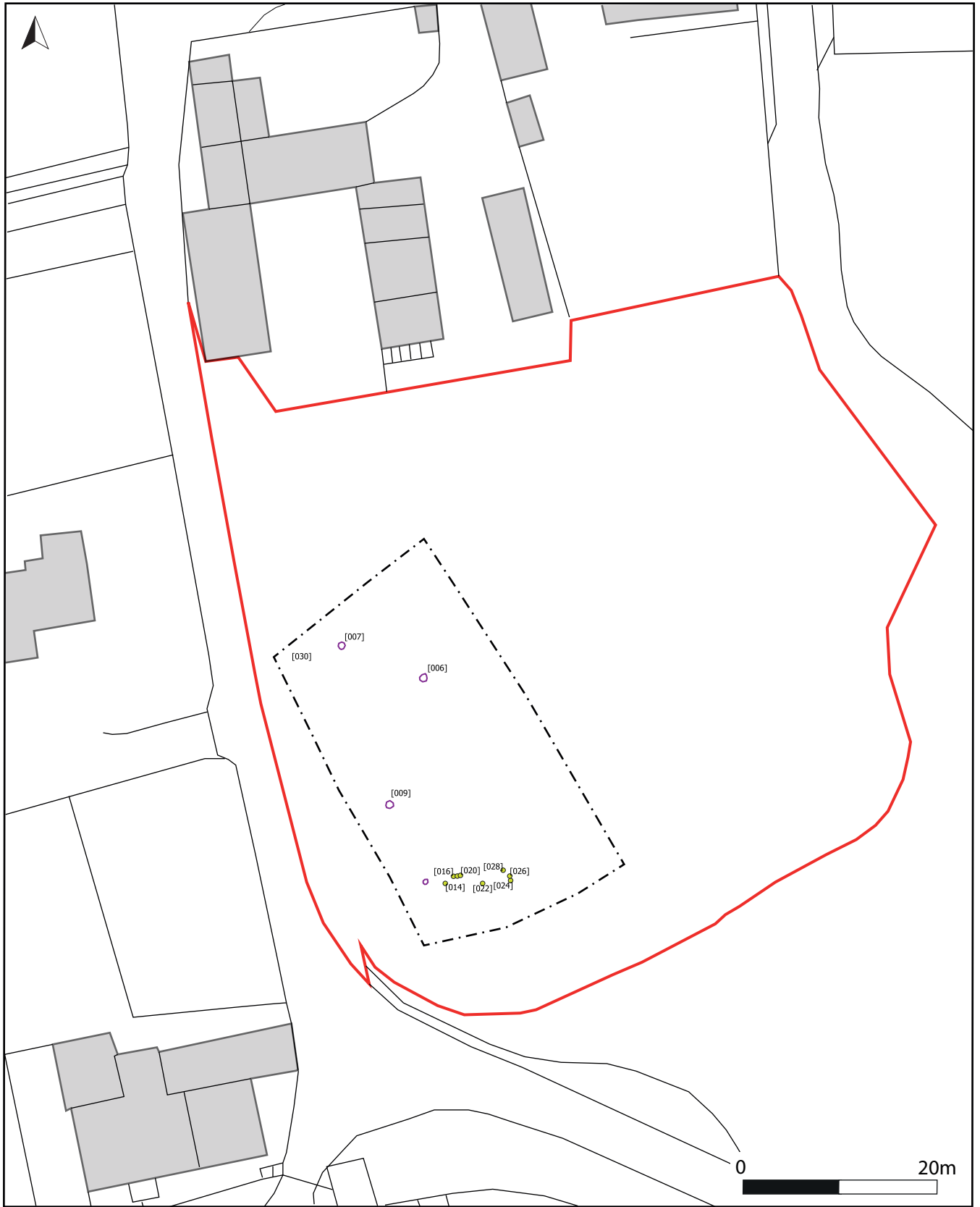


Figure 2  
Site plan

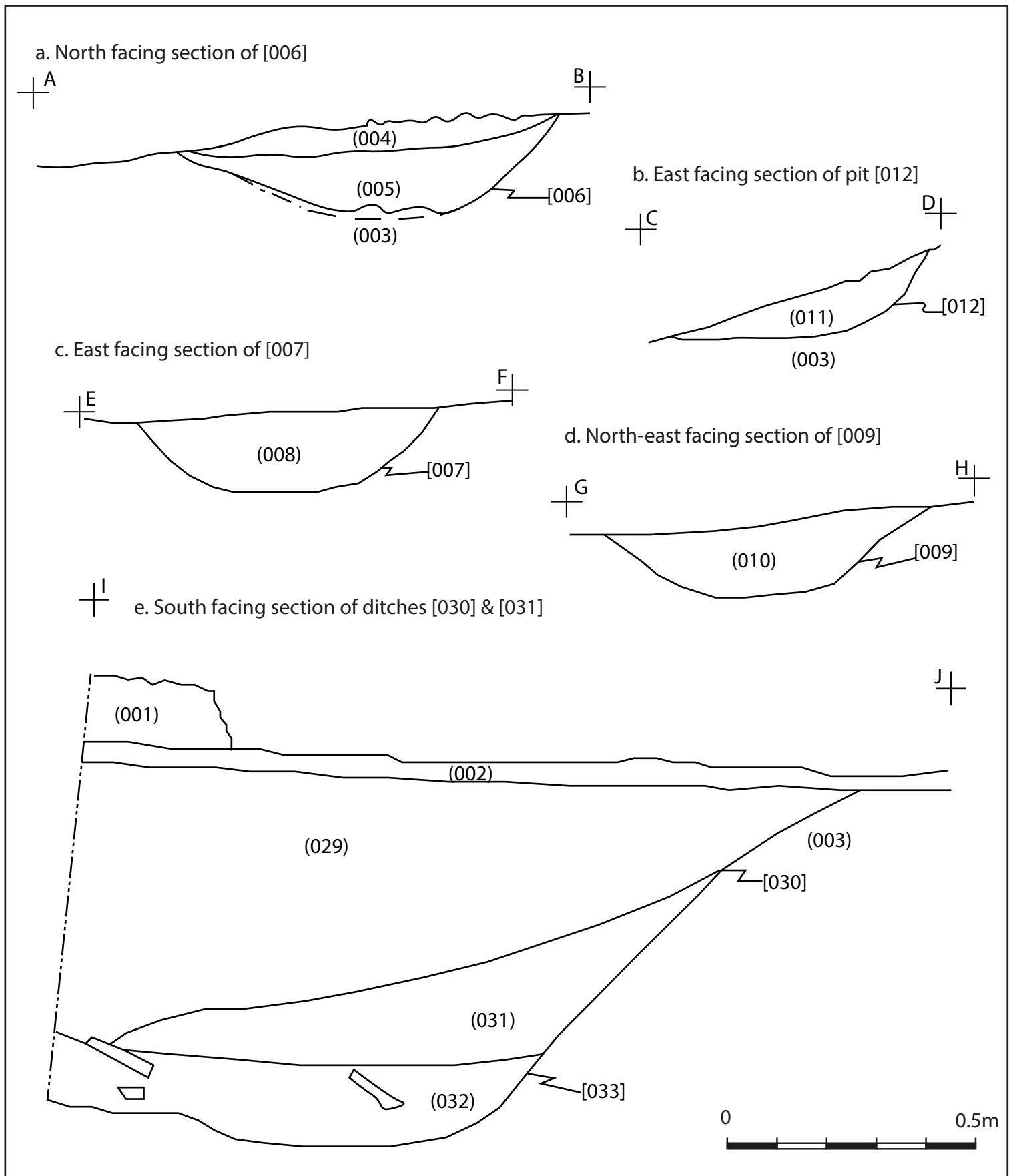


Figure 3. Sections

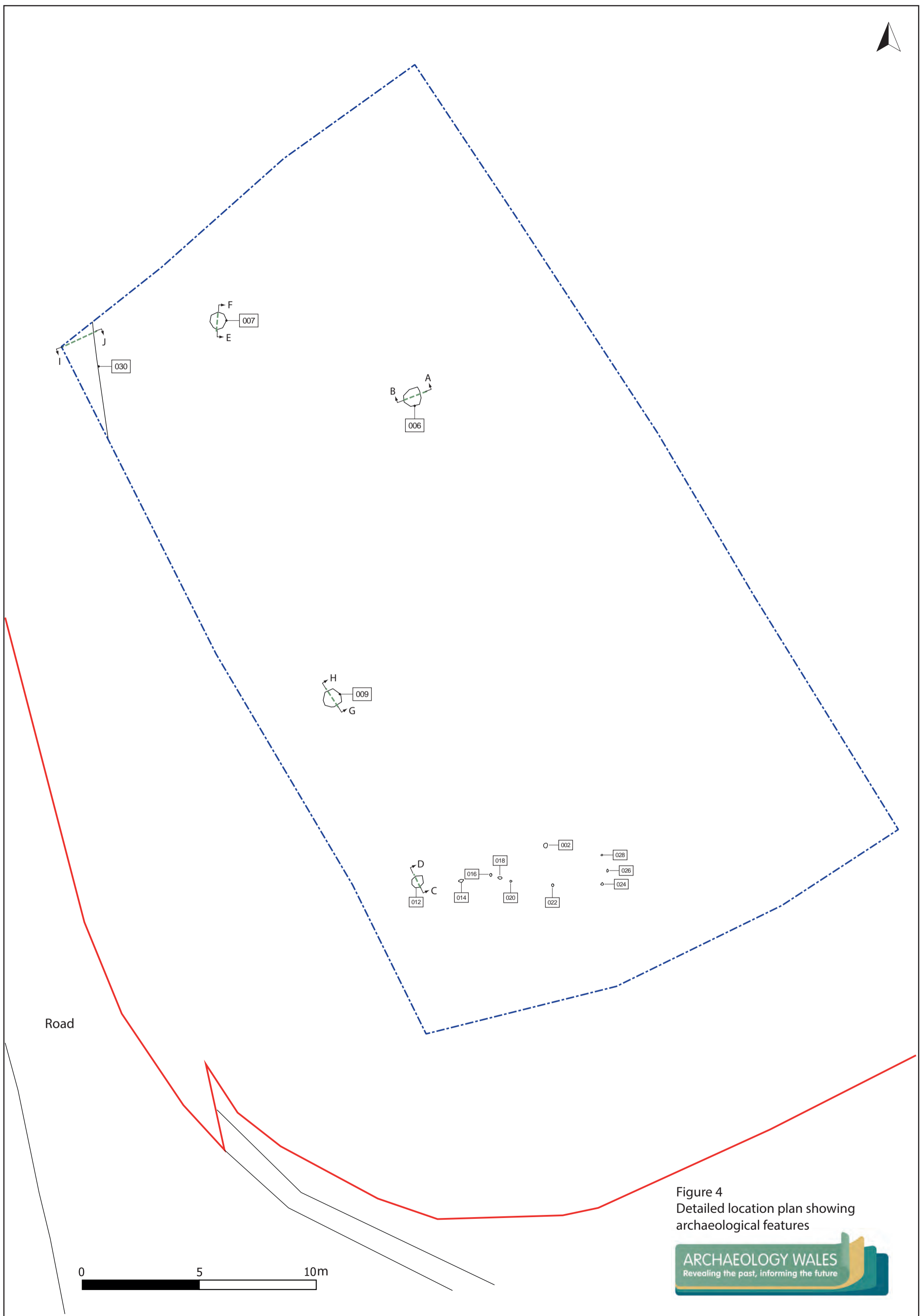


Figure 4  
Detailed location plan showing  
archaeological features



Plate 1. Working shot, cleaning area after soil strip.



Plate 2. Plot 1 after strip-map-record, looking N.



Plate 3. Shot of sondage showing depths of natural horizon, looking N.



Plate 4. Trench section, looking E.





Plate 5. West facing section of east limit of excavation showing (001), (002), (003).  
Scale 1m & 2m



Plate 6. North facing section of Pit [006]. Scale 0.5m



Plate 7. Northeast facing section of pit [009]. Scale 0.5m



Plate 8 East facing section of pit [012]. Scale 0.5m



Plate 9. Plan of [014]. Scale 0.3m



Plate 10. South facing section of ditch [030] and ditch [033]. Scale 1m

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

**FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL**

**EXCAVATION**

**AT SITE SOUTH OF CORNER HOUSE KINNERTON, PRESTEIGNE,  
RADNORSHIRE**

**Prepared for:**

**Mr & Mrs Panniers**

**Planning Application Number: P/2010/0967**

**Project No: 2653**

**September 2018**



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Figure 1. Site Location

Figure 2. Development plan

## **Summary**

*This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a programme of archaeological excavation to be undertaken by Archaeology Wales at the request of Mr & Mrs Panniers.*

*The archaeological excavation will be undertaken prior to the commencement of ground works associated with the proposed development of erection of four residential dwellings with sewage treatment plants and associated infrastructure works at site south of Corner House, Kinnerton, Presteigne, Powys, LD8 2PE centred on SO 24416 63057. The associated Planning Application No. is P/2010/0967.*

*The regional HER notes that the site is located in an area of high archaeological potential related to the medieval historic core of Kinnerton. Furthermore, the site is located immediately northwest of a scheduled motte and bailey castle. An archaeological evaluation carried out in 2008 demonstrated the presence of 12-14<sup>th</sup> century features within the development area. CPAT-DC has recommended that an archaeological excavation is undertaken as condition of planning consent.*

*All work will be undertaken in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).*

## **1. Introduction and planning background**

This WSI details the methodology for a programme of archaeological excavation to be undertaken in association with the proposed development of erection of four residential dwellings with sewage treatment plants and associated infrastructure works at site south of Corner House, Kinnerton, Presteigne, Powys, LD8 2PE centred on SO 24416 63057 (Figure 1-2). The associated Planning Application No. is P/2010/0967.

The regional HER notes that the site is located in an area of high archaeological potential related to the medieval historic core of Kinnerton. Furthermore, the site is located immediately northwest of a scheduled motte and bailey castle. An archaeological evaluation carried out in 2008 demonstrated the presence of 12-14<sup>th</sup> century features within the development area (see Tavener 2009). CPAT-DC has recommended that an archaeological excavation is undertaken as condition of planning consent.

This WSI has been prepared by Dr Irene Garcia Rovira, Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth - AW) at the request of Mr & Mrs Panniers.

The methodology set out in this WSI has been agreed with CPAT-DC in its capacity as archaeological advisors to Powys County Council. CPAT-DC has recommended that an archaeological excavation of the development area is undertaken prior to the

commencement of ground works to mitigate the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.

The recommendations made by CPAT-DC are set out in a brief prepared on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2018.

The purpose of the archaeological excavation is to provide the local planning authority with sufficient information regarding the nature of archaeological remains on the site of the development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (revised edition 9, 2016), Section 6.5 and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017). The work is to ensure that all buried artefacts and deposits are fully investigated and recorded if they are disturbed or revealed as a result of activities associated with the development.

All work will be undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014). AW is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA.

## **2. Site Description**

The development area is located to the south of the village of Kinnerton, and it is characterised by a pasture field, measuring c. 3877 square meters (see Figure 2).

The underlying geology is characterised by the Ludlow Rock formation formed during the Silurian period. The superficial soils are defined by Till Diamicton formed during the Quaternary period (BGS 2018).

## **3. Archaeological background**

The earliest human activity in the area is defined by two standing stones located to the south of the settlement. A stone mace-head was found in close to Kinnerton Court in the 1950s (Tavener 2009).

Kinnerton Castle mound (RD045) located adjacent to the site, dates to 1066 -1540 AD. This monument is defined by the remains of a motte and a ditch, and it is considered of significant potential as it retains structure evidence and intact associated deposits. The proposed development area is, therefore, considered a perfect location for early medieval settlement. An archaeological evaluation carried out in 2009 confirmed that features dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> centuries are present at the site.

A number of 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> century structures are documented in the immediacies of the site. Kinnerton Court (PRN 31136; LB 9180) is located SE of the motte, and Upper House (LB 9181) is located to the W of the proposed site.

#### **4. Objectives**

This WSI sets out a program of works to ensure that the archaeological excavation will meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2014).

The objective of the proposed excavation is to preserve, by record, detailed information on all archaeological deposits in the area of the proposed development, prior to their likely destruction as a consequence of the development. Overburden and modern deposits will be removed by mechanical excavator equipped with a toothless bucket under archaeological supervision. All archaeological deposits, horizons and artefacts encountered will be recorded and removed stratigraphically by the excavation team.

An assessment report will be completed within one month of the conclusion of all onsite work. This report will evaluate the potential of the data collection to contribute to archaeological knowledge and to identify any further study necessary. Sufficient desk-top research will be undertaken to ensure that the results of this work are properly understood, interpreted and reported. An interim report will be produced once each phase of works has been completed.

##### **4.1. Site Specific Research Aims**

It is important to recognize that whilst primarily designed to mitigate impacts, developer-led archaeology is also regarded as research activity with an academic basis, the aim of which is to add to the sum of human knowledge. Curators recognize the desirability of incorporating agreed research priorities as a means of enhancing the credibility of the development control process, ensuring cost-effectiveness and legitimately maximizing intellectual return.

A research framework for the archaeology of Wales has been produced (2011-2014) and currently in the process of review.

This archaeological excavation has the capacity to identify areas where subsequent mitigation may contribute to the following published research aims:

- The location and distribution of medieval settlement sites
- The wider environmental context of settlements in the agricultural landscape in medieval times



Other themes are also to be addressed as follows:

- Better understandings of the character of the medieval historic core of Kinnerton.
- The relationship between the remains encountered at the site and the adjacent motte and bailey castle mound and medieval church.
- Better understanding of the are pre-dating early medieval times.

## **5. Timetable of works**

### **5.1. Fieldwork**

The programme of archaeological excavation will be undertaken prior to the commencement of ground works associated with the proposed development. The work will be carried out in four main phases.

Phase 1 will comprise the area defined for the access road and Plot 1; Phase 2 will comprise the area selected for Plot 2; Phase 3 will comprise the area selected for Plot 3; Phase 4 will comprise Plot 4. An Interim Statement will be produced at the end of each phase. Archaeology Wales will update CPAT-DC with the exact dates.

### **5.2. Report delivery**

An Interim Statement will be submitted to the client and to CPAT-DC within one month of the completion of each phase of fieldwork. An Assessment Report will be submitted to the client and to CPAT-DC within three months of the completion of the fieldwork. A copy of the report will also be sent to the regional HER (see section 8.2 for details).

## **6. Fieldwork**

### **6.1. Detail**

The work will be undertaken to meet the standard required by The Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2014).

The archaeological project manager in charge of the work will satisfy him/herself that all constraints to ground works have been identified, including the siting of live services and Tree Preservation Orders.

The location of the excavated area (Figure 2) will be agreed with CPAT-DC prior to the commencement of works.

The agreed excavation area will be excavated to the top of the archaeological horizon by a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket under close archaeological supervision. The machine work will be supervised by an archaeologist at all times. He/she will observe, clean and identify archaeological features and finds as the machine cleans back.

The resulting surface will be hand cleaned using hoes and/or pointing trowels, as appropriate, to prove the presence, or absence, of archaeological features and to determine their significance. Prior to their excavation, all archaeological features identified will be accurately mapped onto scaled plans.

All such features will be recorded, and where appropriate, excavated. All archaeological contexts will be excavated down to the level of natural soils/geology beneath the archaeology. Should the formation levels be considerably higher level than the natural substrate, a meeting will be held between the client, AW and CPAT-DC to discuss the possibility of preserving archaeological remains in situ.

Sample rates of features and their fills should be at least 25% for long linear features, 50% for post holes/pits and 100% for significant discrete features and burials.

Palaeoenvironmental sampling will be carried out from securely datable and sealed contexts. No less than a 10l sample from each context will be collected from pits, ditches and any buried soil horizon revealed. All samples must be appropriately stored and dispatched for analysis and reporting to specialists.

The trenches will be stepped to reach the required depths following health and safety guidelines. Shoring will be added if required.

## **6.2. Recording**

Recording will be carried out using AW recording systems (pro-forma context sheets etc) using a continuous number sequence for all contexts.

Plans and sections will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required and related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

All features identified will be tied in to the OS survey grid and fixed to local topographical boundaries.

Photographs will be taken in digital format with an appropriate scale, using a 12MP camera with photographs stored in Tiff format.

The archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will have access to the AW metal detector and be trained in its use.

### **6.3. Finds**

The professional standards set in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological* (2014) will form the basis of finds collection, processing and recording.

All artefacts will be treated in accordance with UKIC guidelines, *First Aid for Finds* (Watkinson and Neal 2001) All finds will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered, ready for later cleaning and analysis. All registered finds will be processed and packaged according to standards of good practice.

All manner of finds regardless of category and date will be retained.

Finds recovered that are regarded as Treasure under *The Treasure Act 1996* will be reported to HM Coroner for the local area.

Any finds which are considered to be in need of immediate conservation will be referred to a UKIC qualified conservator (normally Phil Parkes at Cardiff University).

If finds are made of gold or silver these will be archaeologically excavated and removed to a safe and secure location. These finds will also be reported immediately to the local Coroner (within 14 days, in accordance with the 1996 Treasure Act).

### **6.4. Environmental sampling strategy**

Deposits with a significant potential for the preservation of palaeoenvironmental material will be sampled, by means of the most appropriate method (bulk, column etc). Where sampling will provide a significant contribution to the understanding of the site AW will draw up a site-specific sampling strategy alongside a specialist environmental archaeologist. All environmental sampling and recording will follow English Heritage's *Guidelines for Environmental Archaeology* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2011), and *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2002).

### **6.5. Human remains**

In the event that human remains are encountered, their nature and extent will be established and the coroner informed. The contractor will comply with all statutory

consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981 or other Burial Acts (Section 25 of the Burial Act 1857) regarding the exhumation and internment of human remains.

All human remains will be left *in situ* and protected during backfilling. Where preservation *in situ* is not possible the human remains will be fully recorded and removed under conditions that comply with all current legislation and include acquisition of licenses and provision for reburial following all analytical work. Human remains will be excavated in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains: Technical Paper Number 13* (1993).

### 6.6. Specialist advisers

In the event of certain finds, features or sites being discovered, AW will seek specialist opinion and advice. A list of specialists is given in the table below although this list is not exhaustive.

Artefact type	Specialist
Flint	Kate Pitt (Archaeology Wales)
Animal bone	Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
CBM, heat affected clay, Daub etc.	Rachael Hall (APS)
Clay pipe	Hilary Major (Freelance)
Glass	Rowena Hart (Archaeology Wales)
Cremated and non-cremated human bone	Malin Holst (University of York)/Richard Madgwick (Cardiff University)
Metalwork	Kevin Leahy (University of Leicester)/Quita Mold (Freelance)
Metal work and metallurgical residues	Dr Tim Young (GeoArch)
Neo/BA pottery	Dr Alex Gibson (Bradford University)
IA/Roman pottery	Jane Timby (Freelance)

Roman Pottery	Rowena Hart (Archaeology Wales)/ Peter Webster (Freelance)
Post Roman pottery	Stephen Clarke (Monmouthshire Archaeology)
Charcoal (wood ID)	John Carrot (Freelance)
Waterlogged wood	Nigel Nayling (University of Wales – Lampeter)
Molluscs and pollen	Dr James Rackham
Charred and waterlogged plant remains	Wendy Carruthers (Freelance)

### 6.6.1. Specialist reports

Specialist finds and palaeoenvironmental reports will be written by AW specialists, or sub-contracted to external specialists when required.

## 7. Monitoring

CPAT-DC will be contacted approximately seven days prior to the commencement of archaeological site works, and subsequently once the work is underway.

Any changes to the WSI that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to CPAT-DC for approval on behalf of Planning Authority.

Representatives of CPAT-DC will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the archaeological excavation. No area will be back-filled, until CPAT-DC has had the opportunity to inspect it, unless permission has been given in advance. CPAT-DC will be kept regularly informed about developments, both during the site works and subsequently during post-excavation.

## **8. Post-fieldwork programme**

### **8.1. Archive assessment**

#### **8.1.1. Site archive**

An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2006) upon completion of the project.

The site archive (including artefacts and samples) will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record (Wales) agreed structure and deposited with an appropriate receiving organisation, in compliance with ClfA Guidelines (*Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, 2014). The legal landowners consent will be gained for deposition of finds.

#### **8.1.2. Assessment of the site archive**

The purpose of the assessment is to evaluate the potential of the data collection to contribute to archaeological knowledge and to identify any further study necessary. This should be completed within one month of the conclusion of all on site fieldwork. At this point the contractor should submit the following to the curator for approval:

- a. A brief summary of the excavation results.
- b. A full description of the site archive.
- c. An assessment of the site archives potential for further analysis including assessments of environmental samples, artefacts and ecofacts.

### **8.2. Reports and archive deposition**

#### **8.2.1. Report to client**

Copies of all reports associated with the archaeological excavation, together with inclusion of supporting evidence in appendices as appropriate, including photographs and illustrations, will be submitted to the client and CPAT-DC upon completion.

### **8.2.2. Additional reports**

After an appropriate period has elapsed, copies of all reports will be deposited with the relevant county Historical Environment Record, the National Monuments Record and, if appropriate, Cadw.

### **8.2.3. Summary reports for publication**

Short archaeological reports will be submitted for publication in relevant journals; as a minimum, a report will be submitted to the annual publication of the regional CBA group or equivalent journal.

### **8.2.4. Notification of important remains**

Where it is considered that remains have been revealed that may satisfy the criteria for statutory protection, AW will submit preliminary notification of the remains to Cadw.

### **8.2.5. Archive deposition**

The final archive (finds) will, whenever appropriate, be deposited with a suitable receiving institution, usually the relevant Local Authority museums service. Arrangements will be made with the receiving institution before work starts.

Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, copies of all reports and the final archive will be deposited no later than six months after completion of the work.

Copies of all reports, the digital archive and an archive index will be deposited with the *National Monuments Record*, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth, and to the HER.

Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER. A summary of the contents of the archive will be supplied to CPAT-DC.

### **8.2.6. Finds deposition**

The finds, including artefacts and ecofacts, excepting those which may be subject to the Treasure Act, will be deposited with the same institution, subject to the agreement of the legal land owners.

## **9. Staff**

The project will be managed by Dr Irene Garcia Rovira (AW Project Manager) and the fieldwork supervised by James Weaver (Archaeology Wales). Any alteration to staffing before or during the work will be brought to the attention of CPAT-DC and Mr & Mrs Panniers.

## **Additional Considerations**

### **10. Health and Safety**

#### **10.1. Risk assessment**

Prior to the commencement of work AW will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations* 1992. A copy of the risk assessment will be kept on site and be available for inspection on request. A copy will be sent to the client (or their agent as necessary) for their information. All members of AW staff will adhere to the content of this document.

#### **10.2. Other guidelines**

AW will adhere to best practice with regard to Health and Safety in Archaeology as set out in the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) health and safety manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (2002).

### **11. Community Engagement and Outreach**

Wherever possible, AW will ensure suitable measures are in place to inform the local community and any interested parties of the results of the site investigation work. This may occur during the site investigation work or following completion of the work. The form of any potential outreach activities may include lectures and talks to local groups, interested parties and persons, information boards, flyers and other forms of communication (social media and websites), and press releases to local and national media.

The form of any outreach will respect client confidentiality or contractual agreements. As a rule, outreach will be proportional to the size of the project.

Where outreach activities have a cost implication these will need to be negotiated in advance and in accordance with the nature of the desired response and learning outcomes.

### **12. Insurance**

AW is fully insured for this type of work, and holds Insurance with Aviva Insurance Ltd and Hiscox Insurance Company Limited through Towergate Insurance. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied on request.



## **13. Quality Control**

### **13.1. Professional standards**

AW works to the standards and guidance provided by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists*. AW fully recognise and endorse the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*, *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* and the *Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs* currently in force. All employees of AW, whether corporate members of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists or not, are expected to adhere to these Codes and Standards during their employment.

### **13.2. Project tracking**

The designated AW manager will monitor all projects in order to ensure that agreed targets are met without reduction in quality of service.

## **14. Arbitration**

Disputes or differences arising in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' *Arbitration Scheme for the Institute for Archaeologists* applying at the date of the agreement.

## **15. References**

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*.

English Heritage, 2006, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide* (re issue 2015).

EH, 2006e, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment. The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*. English Heritage (Swindon).

*EH 2011 Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation. English Heritage Centre for Archaeology Guidelines* (London).

Watkinson, D.E., and Neal, V., 1998, *First Aid for Finds*. (3rd edition) RESCUE/United Kingdom Institute for Conservation, Archaeology Section and Museum of London

ClfA, 2014, *Standard and Guidance for the Collection, Documentation, Conservation and Research of Archaeological Materials*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Reading)

ClfA, 2014, Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Reading)

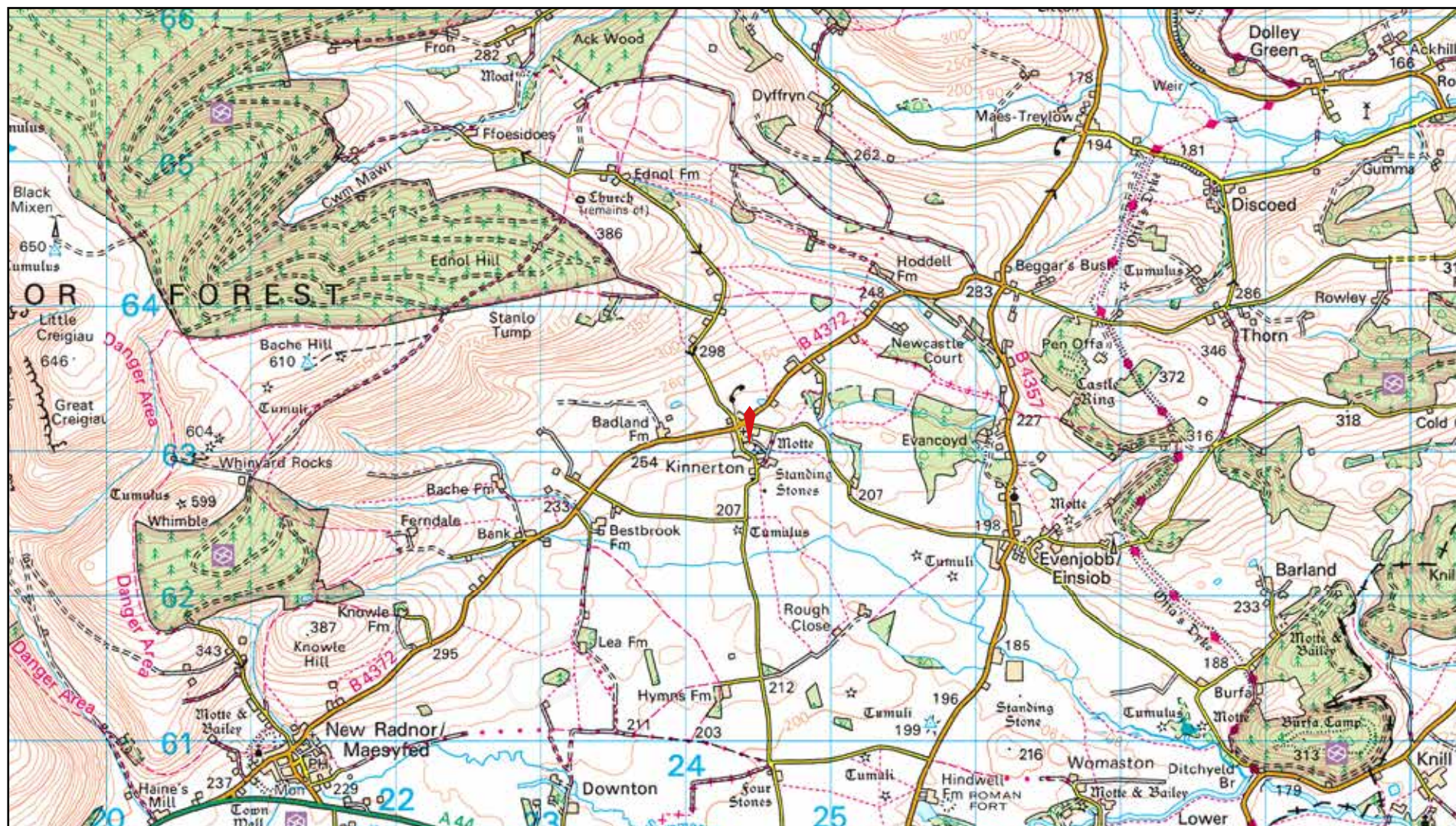
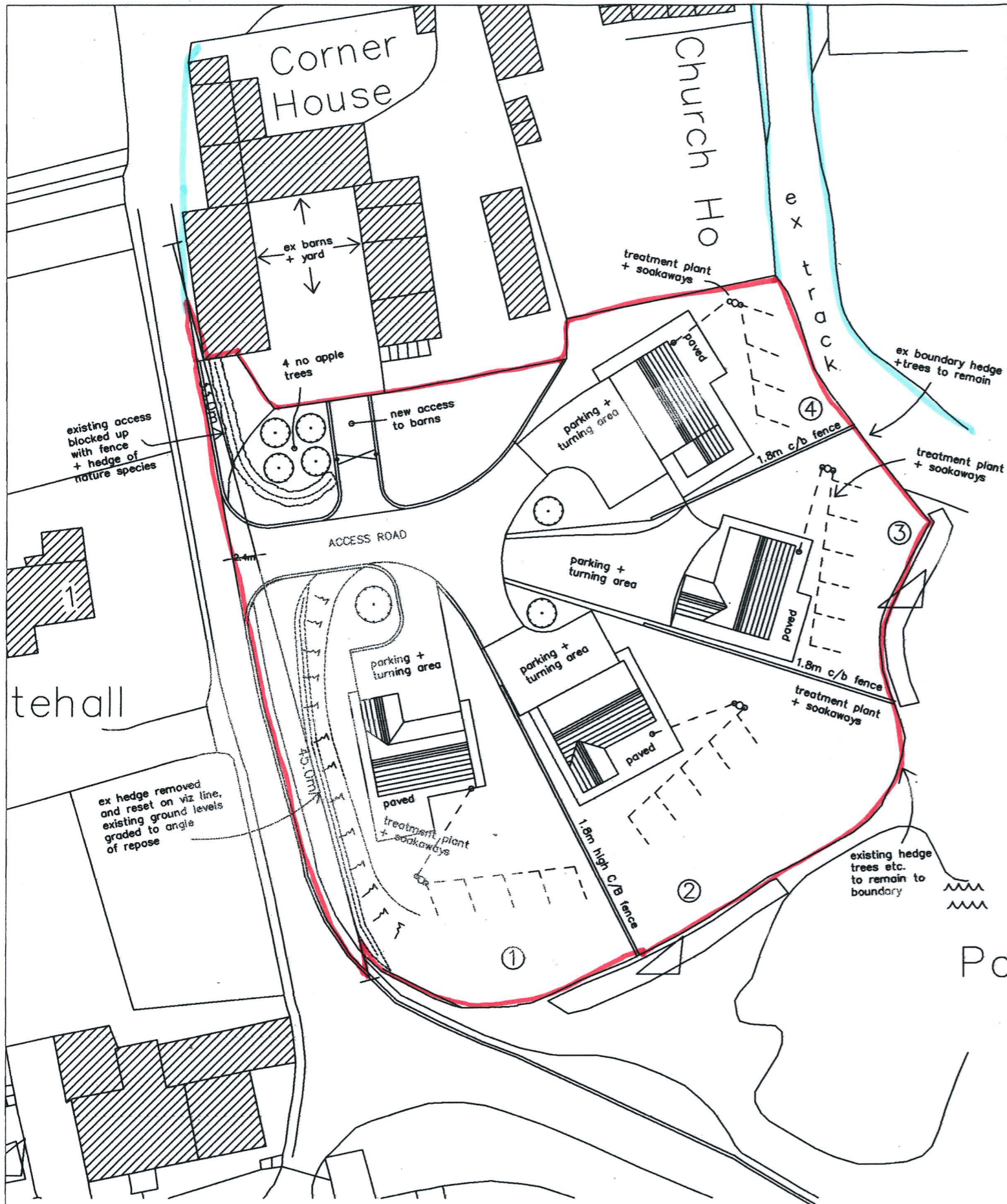
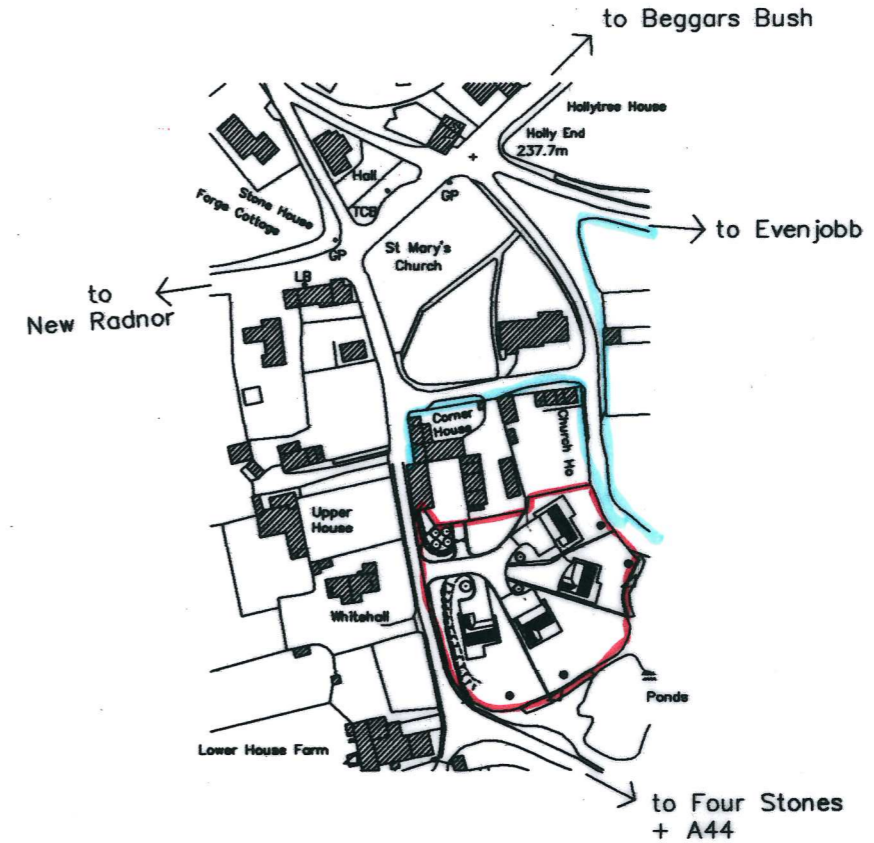


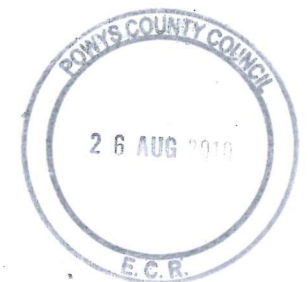
Figure 1. Location Plan




SITE LAYOUT PLAN 1:2500



SITE LOCATION 1:2500



Ponds

<b>Partneriaeth Garner Southall Partnership</b>   <small>Architect-Surveyor - Historic Building Consultants Pensaer-Tirfesurydd -Ymgynghorwyr Adeiladau Hanesyddol</small>	Job <b>Residential Development. South of Church House, Kinnerton.</b>			
	Subject <b>Site Plan and Site Location Plan</b>			
	Drn <b>JT</b>	Date <b>August 2009</b>	Scale <b>1:500, 1:2500</b>	Drg.No <b>3956/1</b>
	Amendments	By	Date	Amendments By Date
Ashby House, Middleton Street, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 5ET		Tel: 01597 822412/824144 Fax: 01597 822556		
3 Broad Street, Knighton, Powys LD7 1BL		Tel: 01547 520130 Fax: 01547 529199		

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