

EXCAVATIONS AT CAERAU HILLFORT, CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES, 2013

An Interim Report



By
O. Davis & N. Sharples

CARDIFF STUDIES IN ARCHAEOLOGY



SPECIALIST REPORT NUMBER 34



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with contributions by
M. Allen & J. Jones



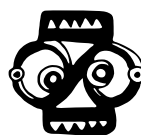
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1. Introduction

Excavations were undertaken from 24 June to 19 July 2013 across the interior of Caerau Hillfort, Cardiff, directly over three of the evaluation trenches opened by Time Team in April 2012. This work is intended to be part of an initial proposed two-year programme to fully characterise the features identified by the Time Team survey and excavations (Wessex Archaeology 2013). It will also provide significant new information about the nature of Iron Age occupation and daily life within hillforts and establish an important chronological framework. In addition, the investigation of Romano-British features at Caerau, some of potential ‘invasion period’ date, as well as Medieval features, will significantly add to our knowledge of these important periods in south-east Wales.

The project was directed by Dr Oliver Davis, Professor Niall Sharples and Dr David Wyatt of Cardiff University. The core project team consisted of 11 staff and 15 student archaeologists from Cardiff University. From the outset the Caerau excavations have linked nationally significant research with a broad mission to engage with the public, particularly the local communities of Caerau and Ely. The engagement strategy this year was to raise the public’s awareness of, and participation in, local heritage and archaeological fieldwork, providing educational opportunities and widening access to further education. The aim was to challenge stigmas and unfounded stereotypes ascribed to this part of Cardiff. The excavation also provided an excellent opportunity to involve 15 undergraduate students and numerous volunteers in knowledge transfer and community engagement activities that will provide them with significant employability skills.

The interior of the hillfort is privately owned and we are very grateful to Mr Ralph David of Penylan Farm for permission to carry out the investigations. The wooded boundary earthworks of the hillfort are owned by Cardiff Council and our thanks are extended to Nicola Hutchinson and her colleagues at Cardiff Council Park Services for allowing us to extend Trench 3 into this area. The hillfort is a Scheduled Ancient Monument and Scheduled Monument Consent was granted by Cadw and we are grateful to Jon Berry and his colleagues at Cadw for their continuing support. Funding for the excavations was provided by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and Cardiff University.

This report summarises the results of the excavations and includes the stratigraphic sequences recorded in each of the three trenches, and a discussion of the excavation’s significance for understanding hillforts in south-east Wales. The animal bone report was undertaken by Dr Jennifer Jones, Cardiff University, but the other specialist finds and palaeo-environmental reports are currently in preparation and only brief summaries are provided here. A selection of radiocarbon samples is currently pending an application to NERC in August 2014. Mike Allen, AEA, undertook the preliminary environmental assessment of the soils and we are pleased to include a summary of his report in this interim. A summary of the community engagement activities is also provided here. We would like to thank Tim Young, Ian Dennis and Sue Virgo for their logistical support Dave Horton and all his colleagues at Action Caerau and Ely for their support and encouragement.

2. Background

2.1 Background of CAER Heritage Project

Funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, the Caerau And Ely Rediscovering (CAER) Heritage Project is a collaborative project begun in 2011 between Cardiff University, Action in Caerau and Ely (a charity that runs the Community First Programme), local schools and local residents. The project is based around one of Cardiff's most important, but little-known, archaeological sites, Caerau Hillfort, and seeks to engage local people and school children in their shared history and challenge marginalisation.

Ely and Caerau are suburbs of Cardiff, Wales' capital city, and currently face significant social and economic problems (Cardiff Council 2007). Yet, before the advent of the Roman invasions in AD74, Caerau Hillfort was the major power centre for the entire Cardiff region and is one of the largest and most impressive hillforts in south-east Wales. During the Medieval period a ringwork and church (St Mary's) were built within the ancient Iron Age boundaries and indicate the site remained a position of importance. Their impressive remains can still be seen today and provide an important focus for the local community.

The CAER Heritage Project's objective is to help the people of Caerau and Ely to connect with this site's fascinating past and make it relevant to the present. From the outset the project's key objectives have been to put local people at the heart of cutting-edge archaeological research, to develop educational opportunities and to challenge stigmas and unfounded stereotypes ascribed to this part of Cardiff.

The first phase of the project involved community participants in a variety of projects, including the exploratory excavations and geophysical survey of the hillfort undertaken by Time Team. Despite being one of the largest multivallate hillforts in south Wales, Caerau had never been subject to archaeological investigation and there was no evidence for the date of the monument nor for the nature of the occupation.

The second phase of the project, known as 'Digging Caerau', intends to complete the characterisation of activity within the interior of the hillfort (Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the research design – see Davis and Sharples 2013). Investigation of the site is challenging as the

whole area is a focus for a range of anti-social behaviour including casual fire raising, graffiti and demolition of the upstanding buildings. The CAER Heritage Project's research objective is to help the people of Caerau and Ely take responsibility for the site by making it relevant to the present community; to provide a heritage asset for the locality and the region; and to use the excavations to provide educational and aspirational opportunities for the local community.

Building on existing partnerships and trust, local community members, schools and academic researchers have worked together to provide an interpretation of the site that has not only enhanced research knowledge but has also informed an innovative experimental heritage reconstruction of Iron Age Life at St Fagans National History Museum just over a mile away, providing a remarkable project legacy. Community participants have been involved in co-production of research activities and interpretations with university academics, creating educational opportunities, learning skills, building confidence, confronting stigmas and challenging the aspirational poverty which blights so many families within these communities. The project constitutes a journey which has seen community participants and researchers 'deconstructing' a decommissioned Iron-Age replica village at St Fagans National Museum of Wales, then taking the skills and team spirit forged in that process to explore an authentic and under-researched Iron-Age and Medieval archaeological site at the heart of their communities. They will use the knowledge and skills that they have uncovered to inform construction of a new experimental recreation of an Iron Age settlement at St Fagans National History Museum. Through these initiatives Digging Caerau has forged a much closer relationship between the Caerau and Ely communities and the National Museum and University on their doorstep. This will be further cemented by the expansion of a heritage trail from Caerau Hillfort to St Fagans National History Museum proposed by the HEART of Cardiff funding bid which was successfully granted £35,000 in January 2013.

2.2 Description of the site

Caerau Hillfort is situated at NGR ST13377489 and is a multivallate hillfort covering a total area, including the hillfort boundaries, of 88,400 m². The hillfort occupies the western tip of an extensive plateau, now cut through

by the A4232, in western Cardiff (Figure 1). The northern and southern boundaries are defined by three banks and ditches, whereas the east side is defined by a single massive bank and ditch, which is penetrated by two inturned entrances; these enclose a triangular area of 51,000 m². The parish church, St. Mary's (13th century), and a small ringwork, are located in the north-eastern corner of the hillfort and have resulted in a substantial modification of the earthworks. The entire area is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, apart from the church, which is a Grade II Listed Building. The OS 2nd edition map also shows a vicarage or small farmhouse to the south-west of the church, which is now largely destroyed (Figure 2).

The site is situated c. 70-80 m OD at the western end of a broad ridge of land that drops off steeply to the west, north and south. The highest point of the ridge is actually c. 1,800 m east of Caerau Hillfort on Cock Hill. To the south of the hillfort, a small stream (Bullcroft Brook) winds its way to Dinas Powys. To the north of the fort is a flat lowland plain leading to the banks of the river Ely. Land to the south-west is slightly steeper, and the remains of a possible prehistoric field system are evident here on

Twyn Bwmbegan at NGR ST 1229 7417.

The solid geology is Triassic in age and formed of Mercia Mudstone (New Red Sandstone). The geology is essentially arranged horizontally – the lower part of the hill is made up of undifferentiated Mercia Mudstone Group dominated by reddish claystones and siltstones (Keuper Marl), whilst the upper part is the Blue Anchor Formation, dominantly grey-green claystone and siltstones (Tea-green marls). The weathering of these Tea-green marls provides the sticky grey clays apparent within the western and northern areas of the hillfort. The top of the hill has a small, thin, capping of boulder clay deposited during the last glaciation and draped over the Blue Anchor Formation. The junction of this boulder clay and Blue Anchor Formation is the location of a spring line on the hilltop.

2.2.1 The hillfort boundaries

The steep north and south slopes are both enclosed by three earthwork banks with accompanying ditches. The boundaries are closely set, and currently form terraces as presumably the ditches have silted up. Until this year,

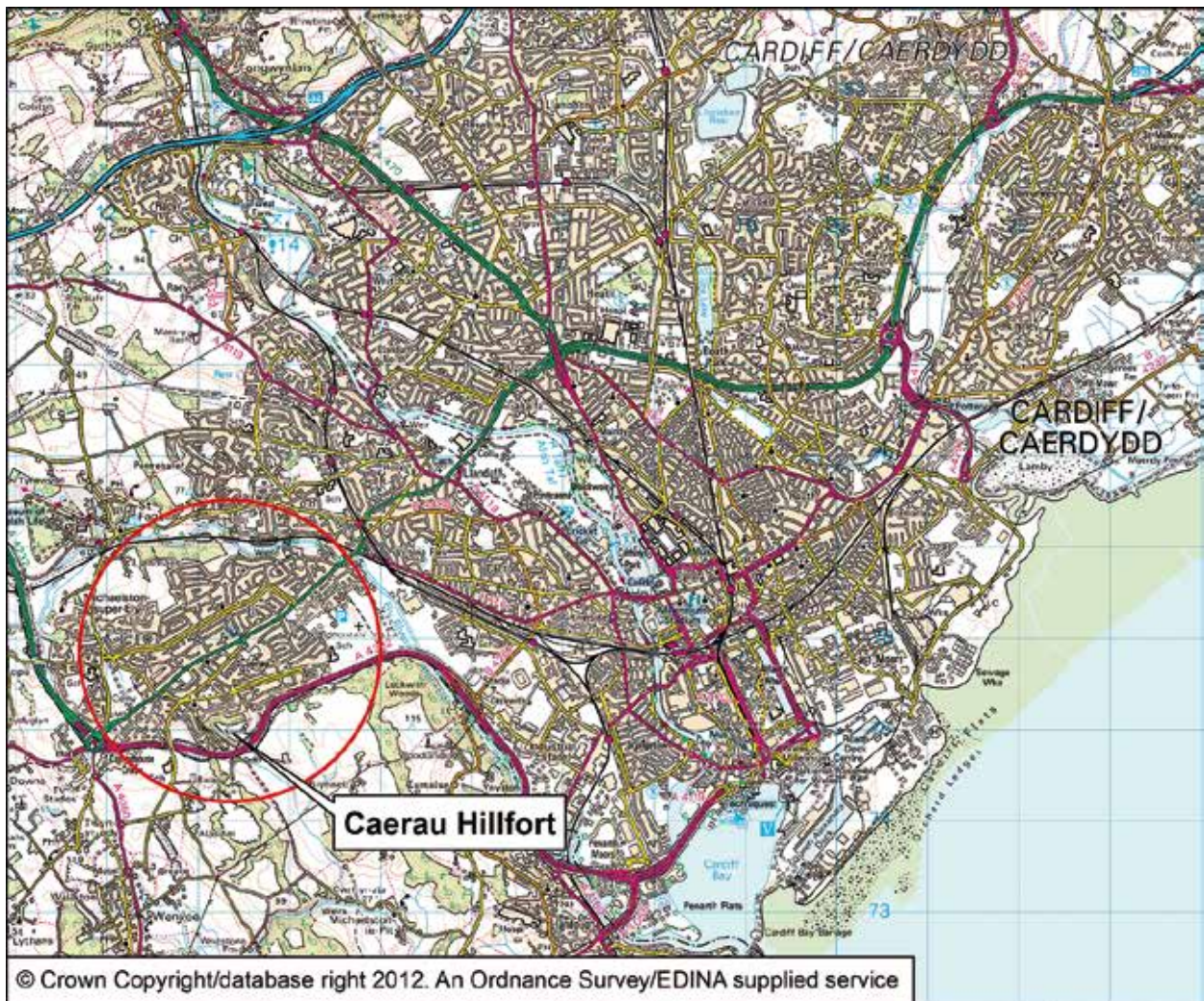


Fig. 1. Location map of Caerau Hillfort

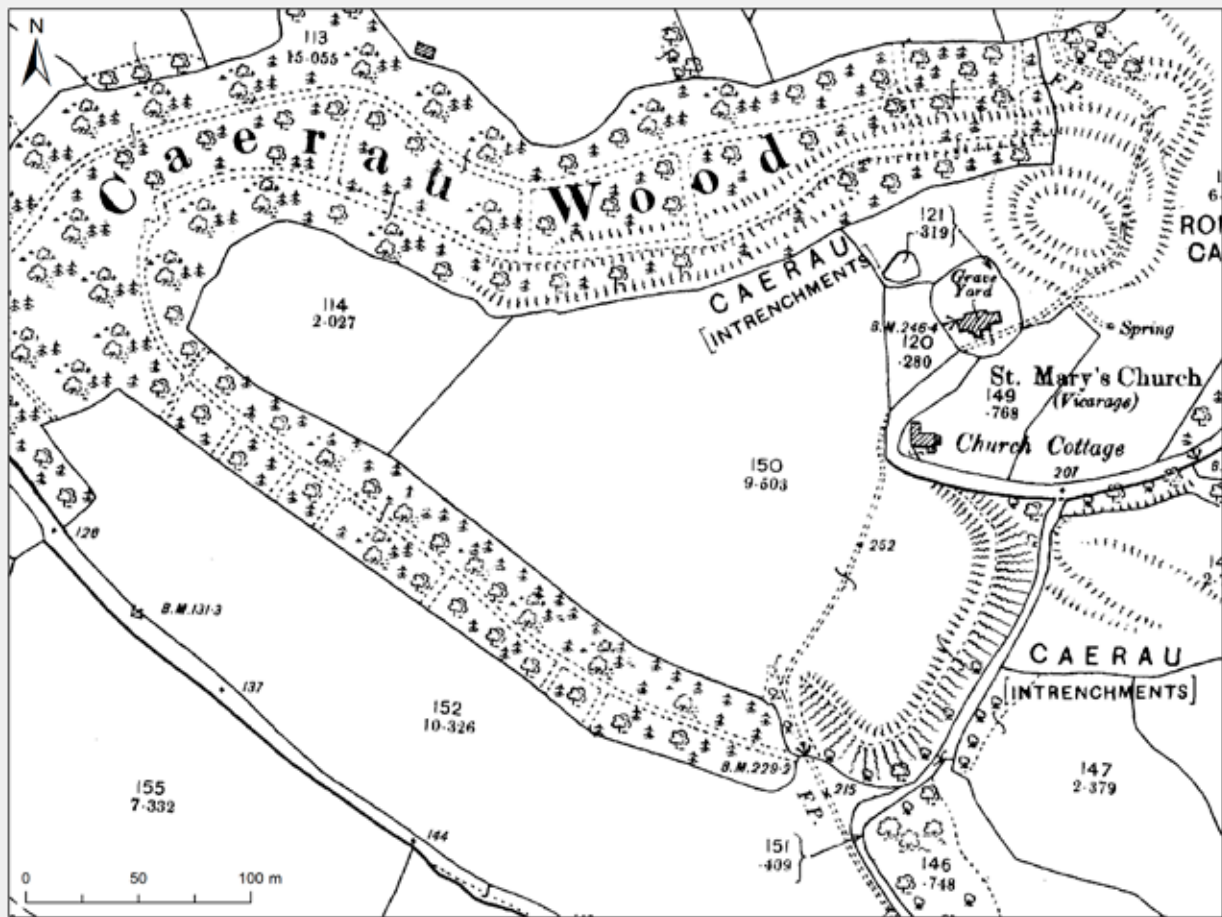


Fig. 2. Ordnance Survey 2nd Edition map (c. 1900)

their construction method was unknown, but assumed to be stone or timber revetted similar to the construction of the ramparts at Castle Ditches, Llanarfarn (Hogg 1976). The northern and southern boundaries of the hillfort have been wooded since at least the beginning of the 20th century as they are recorded as such on the OS 1st Edition; the interior appears to have been agricultural land throughout the historic period and has been heavily cultivated in the recent past.

On the east side the boundaries appear to have been reduced to two banks to the north of the east entrance. A single bank and ditch between the east and south-east entrance by contrast is very substantial and fronted by a low counterscarp bank. The size reflects the fact that the natural approach to the fort lies to the east and the ground in this area (before the construction of the A4232) is relatively flat and provides a link with the limestone plateau of the Vale of Glamorgan.

To the north of the eastern entrance the boundaries have suffered significantly from erosion and disturbance, possibly in the medieval and post-medieval periods, although the banks may always have been less substantial here as the ground drops off sharply to the east. What the Iron Age morphology of the north-east corner was actually like is not clear. There is erosion here from

two spring heads, but the Iron Age spring line may not have been at the same level. Also, material from the Iron Age banks in this location may have been re-used for the construction of the ringwork bank and there is clearly some levelling of the ground here, perhaps to create a garden for the vicarage. If the banks had been stone-revetted in this location it is likely that the (lime)stone was robbed and used for the construction of the vicarage and church, while the ditches may well have been used as rubbish dumps in the medieval period.

2.2.2 The hillfort entrances

There seem to have been at least two entrances to the hillfort, one in the middle of the east side and one in the south-east corner, which lead into valleys on either side of the ridge on which the fort is located. At the east entrance the Iron Age boundaries curve round to command the approach and create an elongated corridor c. 50 m in length. The gate, and possibly a bridge between the ramparts, would presumably have been at the inner end of the corridor. Such simple in-turned entrances in southern England seem to date to the Middle Iron Age. Castle Ditches, Llanarfarn has a similar in-turned entrance, and this is also apparent at Rhiw Season Camp (Caerau), Llantrissant. Interestingly, two, parallel, linear earthworks extend from the eastern entrance of the hillfort. The southern linear appears to extend around 70

m on a line north-west/south-east. The northern linear extends along the same orientation for 150 m and appears to bifurcate at around 80 m. Their form is unclear, but they have now been destroyed by the construction of the A4232, which was completed in 1982. There are no records of an archaeological intervention during the period of road construction. The south-eastern entrance is flanked on one side by an in-turn of the eastern boundary, but the multiple ditches on the southern side of the entrance are not in-turned.

A gap in the west end of the hillfort may be a third entrance. However, a concrete water tank has been installed here, probably in the late 19th century, and the construction of this feature has considerably disturbed the earthwork boundaries in this location.

2.2.3 *The hillfort interior*

Geophysical survey by the CAER Heritage Project and small-scale excavation by Time Team (Wessex archaeology 2013) demonstrated that the interior of the hillfort was intensively occupied with several rows of roundhouses and a number of ditched enclosures (see section 3.3).

Also within the central area of the hillfort are the remains of several earthwork banks and ditches. The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) survey (see section 3.1) suggests that the curvilinear bank that follows much of the north side of the fort is a lynchet, formed as a result of cultivation. The Time Team excavations (Wessex Archaeology 2013, 5-6) showed that this was clearly a ditch, not a lynchet. Another earthwork ditch and bank runs diagonally across the centre of the hillfort. As other ditch features of Romano-British date, identified during excavations, are entirely in-filled with no surface traces, it seems likely that the surviving earthworks are of later date, possibly associated with the medieval or post-medieval activity on the hill.

2.2.4 *St. Mary's Church*

St Mary's church is situated in the north-east corner of the hillfort. The church is a Grade II Listed building, but is now a ruin. The ruins consist of stone walls defining a nave with south porch and north vestry, chancel and a tower. The original structure probably dates to the 13th century, and is set within an oval churchyard (Brook 1992).

St Mary's was restored c. 1885 by John Prichard, the Llandaff diocesan architect, who rebuilt the chancel, while the vestry was added in c. 1920. Presumably, the vicarage depicted on the OS 2nd Edition map was related to this phase of activity on the site. The church was temporarily closed in 1957 before being reopened in 1961 by Father Victor Jones. However, after Father Jones left the diocese in the late 1960s, the church was allowed to fall into disrepair.

2.2.5 *The ringwork*

Adjacent to the church is a medieval ringwork, 52 m by 34 m. The oval enclosure is defined by a rampart and ditch with an entrance facing south-west towards St Mary's church. There are no documented records of its construction, but it is possible that it is an unrecorded castle belonging to the Bishops of Llandaf. Its chronological relationship with St Mary's church is not known, but 12th century pottery has been recovered from the eroding earthworks (Felicity Taylor pers. comm.).

A stratigraphic relationship appears to exist between the churchyard boundary and the ringwork ditch. The churchyard boundary appears to truncate the south-west area of the ringwork ditch. This could suggest that the churchyard, and presumably the church, post-dates the setting out of the ringwork. However, a study of the 3rd and 4th edition OS maps show that the churchyard was expanded northwards in the early 20th century, which accounts for this truncation of the ringwork ditch.

3. Previous Archaeological Work

3.1 RCAHMW survey

A topographic survey was conducted in 1976 by the RCAHMW. This plan is shown in Figure 3.

3.2 LiDAR survey

LiDAR survey work funded by Cadw, RCAHMW and National Museum Wales has been conducted covering the Caerau area as part of the St Fagans Historic Landscape Project led by Mark Redknap, National Museum Wales. This data has kindly been made available to the CAER Heritage Project by the RCAHMW (Figures 4 and 5). The data shows the surviving earthworks in and around Caerau Hillfort. This data has been used in conjunction with the geophysical surveys and Time Team evaluation trenches to establish appropriate invasive trenching locations.

3.3 Geophysical surveys

In March 2012, a magnetometry and resistivity survey was undertaken within the interior of the hillfort (Young 2012). This was a community engagement project organised by the CAER Heritage Project. Much of the data was collected by children from three of the local schools and by local residents who attended an open day.

The survey was concentrated in the western part of the fort interior and successfully identified the interior enclosure and bisecting ditch which is distinctly visible on the LiDAR survey (Figure 6). The response, however, was very weak and the conclusion of the survey was that this feature did not represent an earlier hillfort enclosure. It concluded instead that this ditch, which is approximately aligned with the outcrop of the boulder clay, may be an agricultural boundary. Two possible sets of ridge and

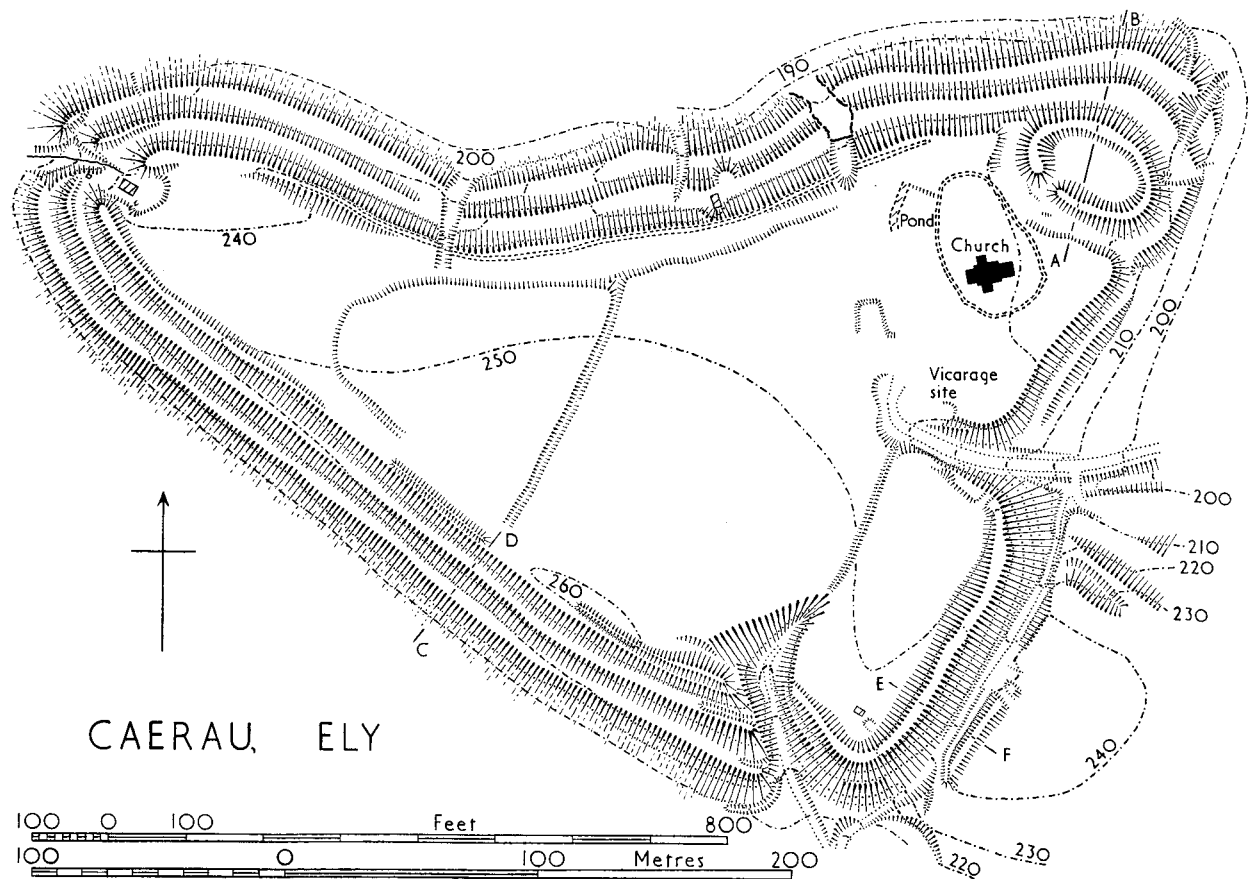


Fig. 3. RCAHMW topographic survey (contours in feet)



Fig. 4. LiDAR digital surface model (Copyright Environment Agency)

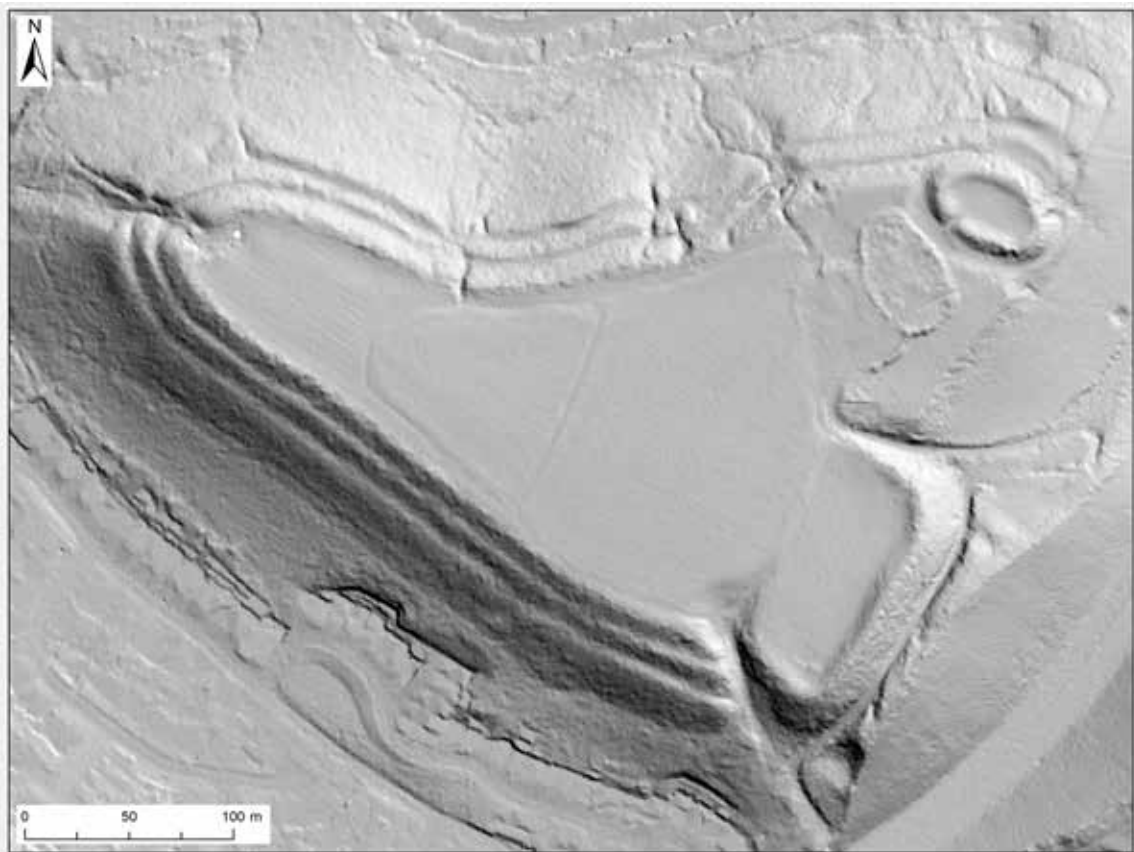


Fig. 5. LiDAR digital terrain model (Copyright Environment Agency)

furrow were also seen, aligned north-west–south-east and north-east–south-west. A north-west–south-east linear anomaly was also seen running through the centre of the survey area, possibly turning to the south-west. Two strongly defined roughly north–south, slightly sinuous anomalies near the central part of the survey area have two roughly parallel smaller linear features between them. These smaller anomalies appear to merge and coalesce to the north and may demarcate a trackway.

Further geophysical survey was carried out over an approximate area of 50,000 m² using a fluxgate gradiometer (Figure 7) by GSB Prospection Ltd in April 2012 as part of the Time Team investigations.

The survey results recorded a number of features associated with occupation on the summit of the hillfort. The majority of the archaeological anomalies are within the eastern section of the fort. Whilst some of the features can clearly be seen as archaeological, others are less clear and remain unclassified until further exploratory excavations have taken place. A detailed analysis of the archaeology was presented in section 2.4.1 of the research design (Davis and Sharples 2013).

3.4 Time Team Excavations

In April 2012 Channel Four's Time Team undertook a limited archaeological evaluation of the hillfort (Wessex Archaeology 2013). Six small trenches were opened (Figure 8)

Trench 1, in the western part of the hillfort, was positioned over a ditch which appears to be a small earthwork enclosure running concentrically with the hillfort boundaries. Excavation revealed a ditch, 1.2 m deep and 1.8 m wide, with a narrow 'ankle breaker' V-shaped gully in the centre of an otherwise relatively flat base. Within the upper secondary fill was a fragment of rotary quernstone, but no other dating evidence was found. Three small postholes on the inside of this ditch may represent an internal fence. A small pit was truncated by the ditch and contains an interesting assemblage of carbonised grain. The ditch was not securely dated and its function is unknown.

Trench 2 was designed to examine structural evidence and was based on the preliminary results of the geophysical survey. Five postholes were identified, together with two intercutting pits with a charcoal rich stony fill. These four postholes were interpreted as the remains of a small four-

post building. However, the possibility remains that more postholes lie beyond the southern limit of excavation.

Trench 3 was located to examine a particularly clear roundhouse identified by a circular ditch in the geophysical survey. The area examined also contained a linear feature running parallel to the inner rampart. The excavation identified a curvilinear ditch that was interpreted as the drip gully of a roundhouse. Beyond the external edge of gully was a small pit that contained most of a small pot that has been dated to the beginning of the Iron Age. The edge of the ditch running parallel to the rampart was identified but this was a relatively shallow feature in this trench. Little dating evidence was obtained for the roundhouse and the nature and longevity of its use and occupation was unknown.

Trench 4 was located to explore the entrance of a sub-oval enclosure identified by the geophysical survey. Excavation of the eastern terminal of the enclosure ditch showed it to be a substantial feature with a narrow concave base. A large unweathered rimsherd was recovered from the basal fill of this feature that suggests the enclosure was constructed at the end of the Late Iron Age or at the beginning of the Roman period. The western terminal was not excavated. A number of possible postholes were also observed within the trench, though they did not form any obvious pattern or structure within the small excavated area.

Trench 5 was positioned over the oval enclosure investigated by Trench 4 and a north–south linear which appears to form a large enclosure inside the hillfort. The oval enclosure ditch contained Romano-British pottery but was found to be slightly shallower than the eastern terminal investigated in Trench 4. The linear was interpreted as a large ditch 3.6 m wide, which due to health and safety considerations was not fully excavated. It contained large quantities of coal and slag as well as Romano-British pottery; this would seem to be a deliberate dump of potential furnace or hearth debris on the eastern edge of a settlement occupying the interior of the fort.

Trench 6 was targeted on a 'magnetic spike' within the geophysical survey, suggestive of a possible kiln or furnace activity. Three shallow scoops were identified containing dark, coal-rich deposits and slag. The recovery of large amounts of hammerstone from the environmental samples suggests smithing activity occurred at this location.

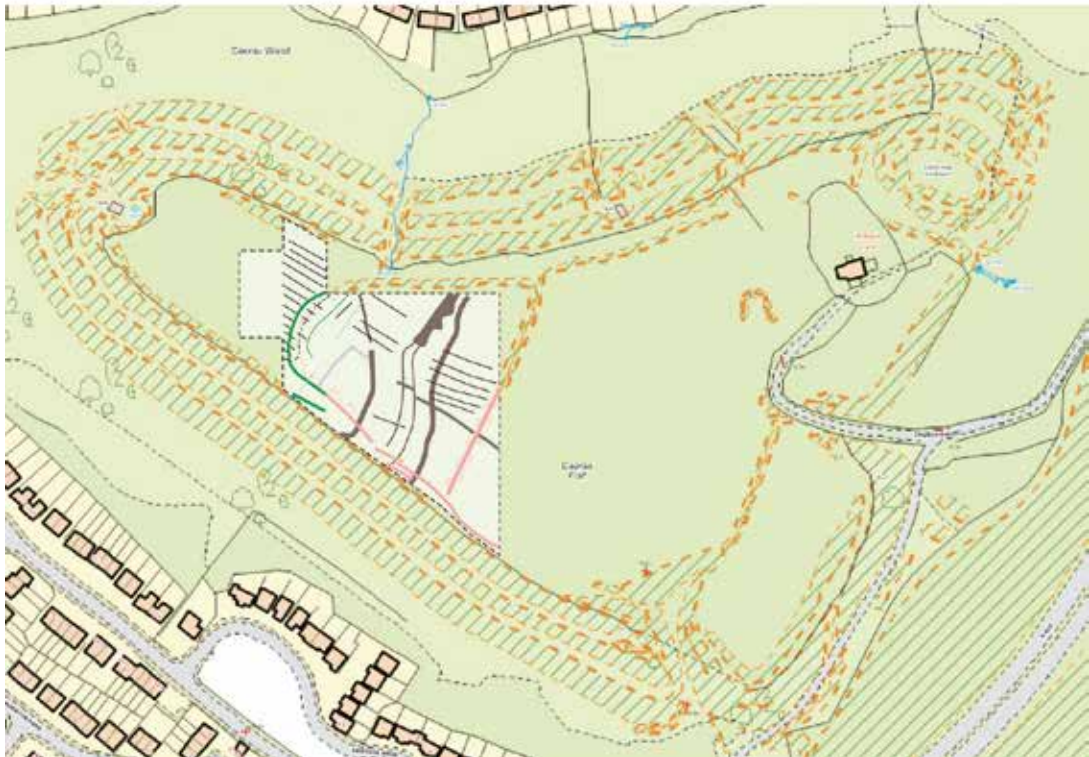
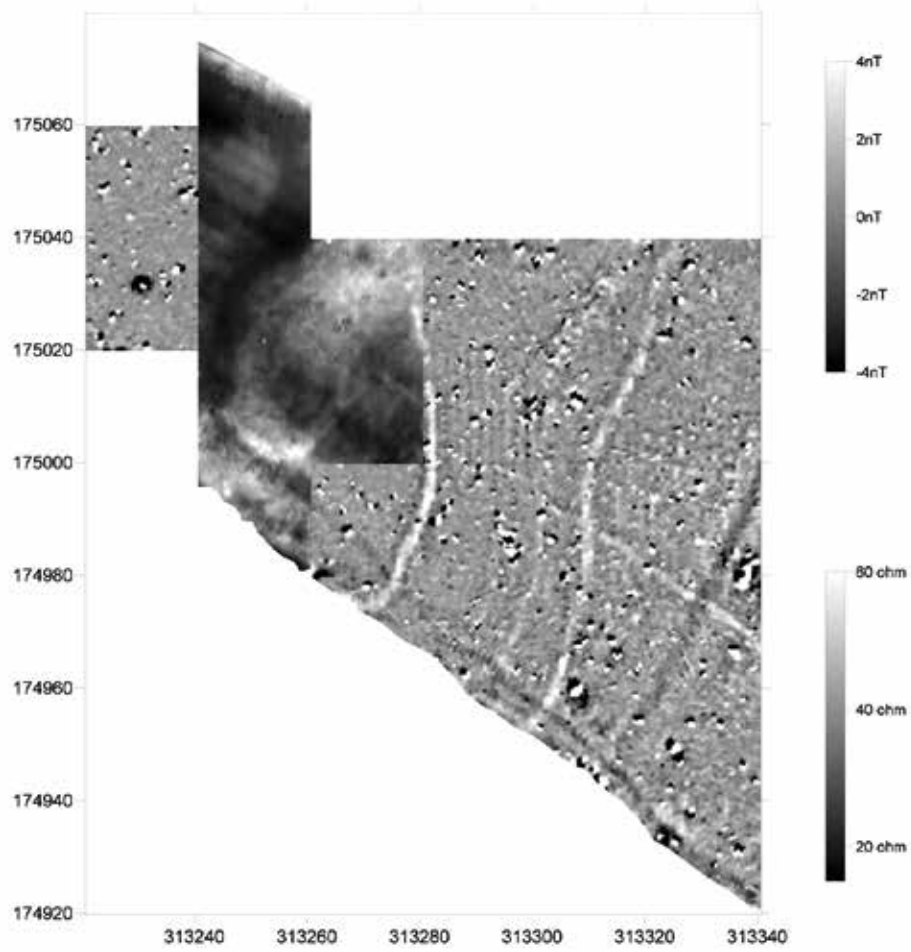


Fig. 6. Results of GeoArch magnetometry and resistivity survey

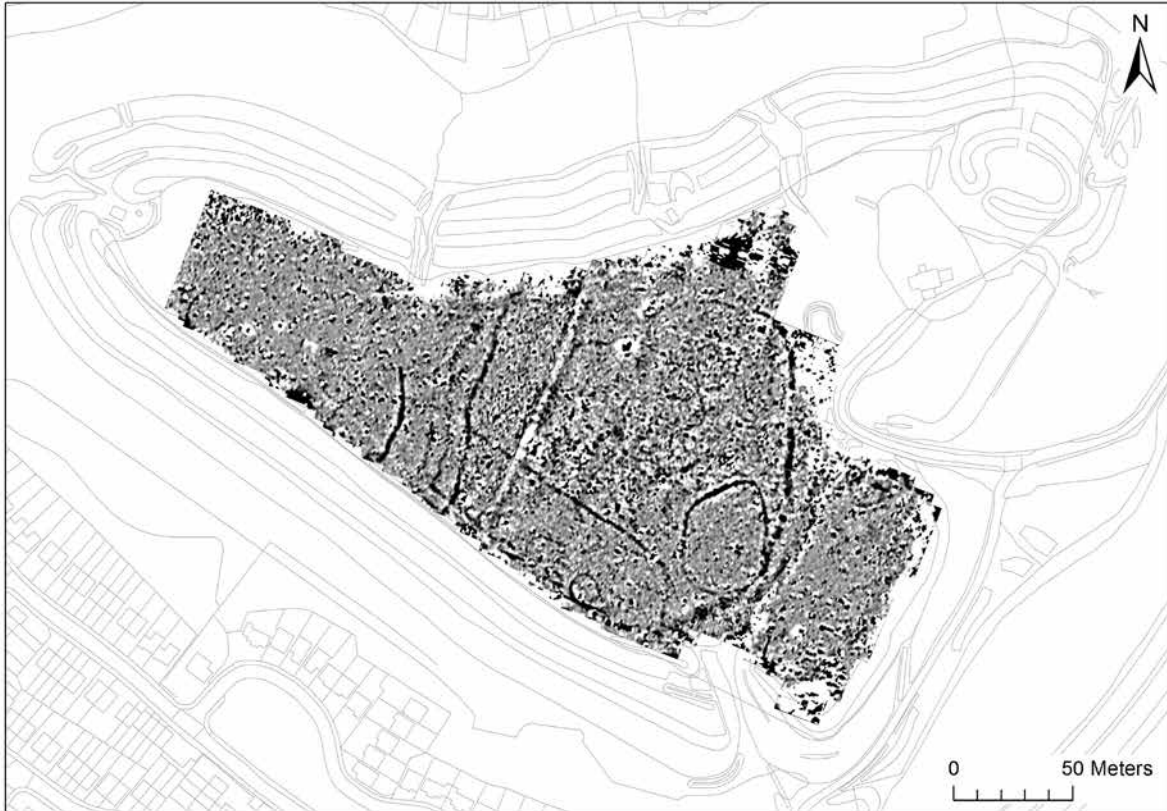


Fig. 7. Time Team geophysical (magnetometry) survey (Copyright GSB Prospection)

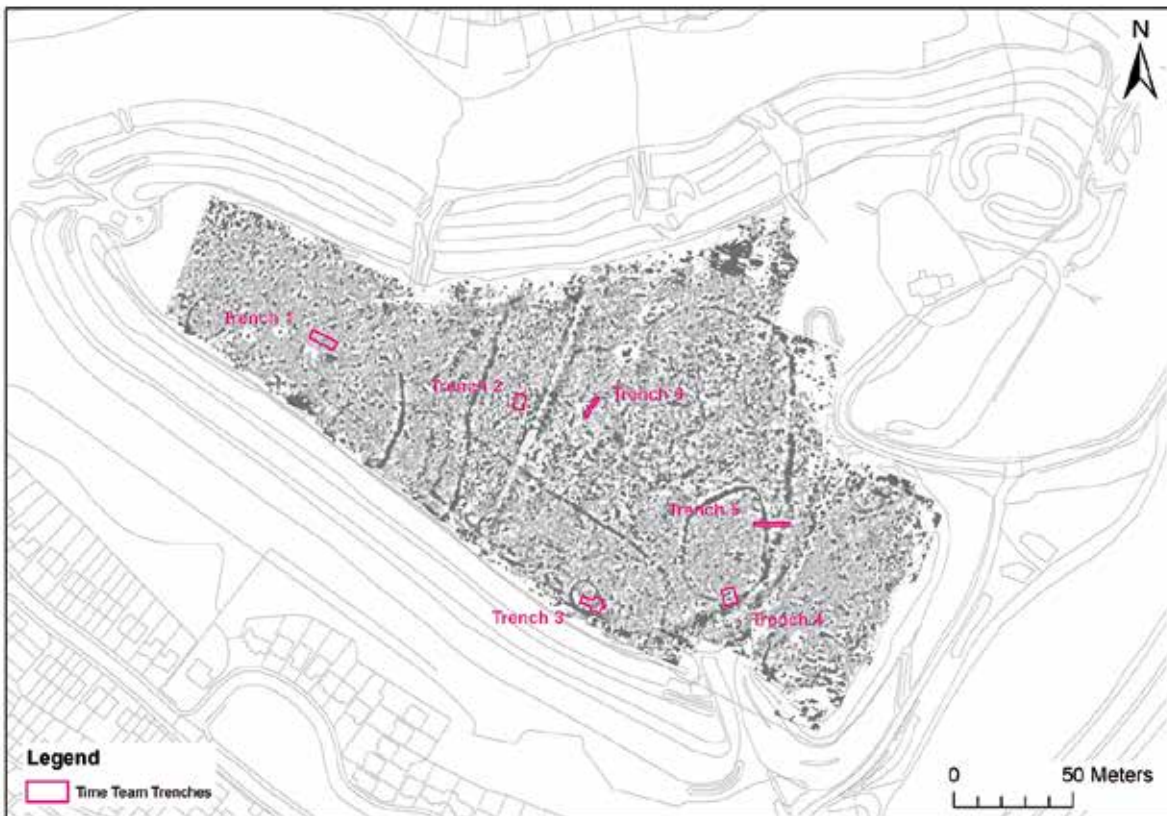


Fig. 8. Location of Time Team trenches

4. Project Aims & Objectives

4.1 Research aims summary

The recent LiDAR and geophysical surveys, combined with the Time Team excavations, although of considerable research value, have provided us with only a very small dataset on which to base our interpretation of the site. Furthermore, the Time Team excavations were by their nature time restricted not allowing the full excavation or understanding of features and structures partially identified. This has left many unanswered questions concerning the nature, use and duration of activity at the site. No aspect of the medieval story of the hill has so far been explored by invasive or non-invasive methods.

4.1.1 Research context

Strong regional variations in hillfort sizes have long been recognised in Wales and the Marches (Hogg 1972). Iron Age and Roman settlement within the old county of Glamorgan has been the subject of a RCAHMW survey (1976) although Gwent has not. More recent surveys by the Glamorgan and Gwent Archaeological Trust (Evans 2001; 2002; Evans *et al.* 2006) have identified more than 130 hillforts within the region of south-east Wales and further defined their morphological diversity. However, it is one thing to be able to locate hillforts and describe their morphology, yet quite another to fix their construction, development and occupation through time.

Previous accounts have tended to see the hillforts of south-east Wales as late arrivals (Davies and Lynch 2000; Savory 1976) in contrast to Late Bronze Age beginnings in north and west Wales. Yet, too few have been excavated on a sufficient scale to support a credible picture or chronology for the region. Only Twyn-y-Gaer, in northern Gwent (Probert 1976) has seen large-area excavations of boundaries and interior, although the full report remains unpublished. Small-scale excavations have established important local sequences and assemblages at Llanmelin, Monmouthshire (Nash-Williams 1933), Sudbrook, Monmouthshire (Sell 2001), Lodge Wood Camp, Newport (Howell and Pollard 2000), Castle Ditches, Llancarfan (Hogg 1976) and Caer Dynnaf, Llanblethian (Davies 1967). Only eight radiocarbon dates from three hillforts in the region exist in the literature (Gwilt 2007, 298). This leaves a weak chronological framework, dependent upon comparative hillfort architecture and associated material culture, which needs to be addressed.

The lack of substantial assemblages of environmental remains from hillforts is also problematic and means that questions about Iron Age agricultural regimes – how the daily work schedule was arranged and how it varied with the seasonal cycle – are not clear. Work by Martin Bell on the Severn Levels (Bell *et al.* 2000) has identified temporary camps connected with seasonal movements of people and animals, but how these wetland sites relate to the dryland occupation of hillforts is not well understood.

Most of our knowledge of Iron Age daily life therefore comes from excavations at smaller, non-hillfort, settlements. Large area excavations at Mynydd Bychan (Savory 1954; 1955), Coed y Cymdda (Owen-John 1988), Whitton (Jarrett and Wrathmell 1981) and Cae Summerhouse (Davies 1966) have revealed coherent interior plans, although the latter remains unpublished. Yet the relationship of the occupation and use of these settlements with the occupation and use of hillforts is not clear. In particular, the construction of Late Iron Age rectilinear enclosures, such as at Cae Summerhouse (Davies 1966), Whitton (Jarrett and Wrathmell 1981) and possibly Ely (Young 2001), hint at the emergence of a class of high-status settlement at a time in the first century AD when the continued use and elaboration of hillforts is not well understood. Some non-hillfort sites were continuously occupied from the Iron Age into the Roman period (e.g. Biglis (Robinson 1988, xi)) and more than half of the excavated hillforts have produced some evidence for Romano-British activity (Gwilt 2007).

The excavations at Caerau, therefore, provide the opportunity to explore these issues through co-produced research with the community. In particular, an important chronological framework will be established and questions about the nature of Iron Age occupation and daily life addressed. In addition, the investigation of Romano-British features at Caerau, some of potential ‘invasion period’ date, will significantly add to our knowledge of this important time in south-east Wales. The subjugation of the Welsh tribes, particularly the Silures, took about thirty years in the face of stubborn resistance and is well documented by the Roman author Tacitus (Annals XII). These excavations will therefore allow for the examination of interesting questions about power relations, Roman control and native-Roman acculturation in this region during the first century AD.

The ringwork at Caerau is an oval bank and ditch enclosure, 52 m by 34 m, sited in the north-east corner of the hillfort. It is not historically documented but has been identified as a ‘castle-ringwork’ of early Norman date on typological grounds (Cathcart, King and Alcock 1969; Spurgeon 1987), an identification restated by the RCAHMW in their volume on the Early Castles of Glamorgan (1991, 86-9). As such it fits into a substantial and interesting group of such monuments in the southern Vale of Glamorgan (RCAHMW 1991, 31-46, figs 9-11). The presence of the adjacent church of St Mary’s contributes to the identification and, on the basis that the church was originally a chapel of the bishops of Llandaf, the earthwork is suggested to have been an Episcopal castle (RCAHMW 1991, 87-9).

The only apparent dating evidence for the ringwork is a sherd of ‘12th century’ pottery (RCAHMW 1991, 87) and recent work at Llanfor, Gwynedd has raised the possibility of a pre-Norman date for some such earthworks (Burke-Davies 2011). Confirmation of the date of the Caerau site and its Norman attribution would be a valuable exercise in itself. Geophysics might reveal evidence of timber or masonry structures comparable to those known from excavations at Penmaen, Pennard, Llantrithyd, all Glamorgan, and Rumney, Gwent (RCAHMW 1991, 43-6). The possibility of a gate tower in the entrance as known from Penmaen could also be a target for geophysics or excavation (Alcock 1966).

St Mary’s church is set south-east from, and adjacent to, the ringwork. The church is first documented in the 13th century as a chapel of Llandaf, though it became a parish church after the Reformation (RCAHMW 1991, 86-9). The building includes elements of early 14th century and 16th century date. There is no evidence of a pre-Norman church on the site. Brook identified the church enclosure as nearly circular in its earliest 1841 Tithe plan (Brook 1992). This might support the idea of a pre-Norman foundation with a reported holy well – ‘saint well’ south-west of the church - though this suggestion is tentative. There is good evidence from both Cornwall and Wales that circularity is a feature of many pre-Norman churchyards though not all curvilinear churchyards are of this date (Brook 1992). In the absence of correlating evidence such as pre-Norman sculpture or a Welsh church dedication any suggestion of a pre-conquest origin must be regarded as tentative. The acquisition of dating evidence for the church or its enclosure would be desirable.

4.1.2 Overall research aims

The overall aims of the research programme are:

- To understand the development of a multivallate hillfort from the Late Bronze Age to Roman period in south-east Wales
- To understand the pattern of occupation and

organisation of activities within the interior of a hillfort and how this changed over time

- To better understand the social and economic life of the inhabitants of the hillfort and the region
- To understand the significance of the Romano-British occupation of the hillfort
- To confirm the date of construction of the ringwork and the survival of internal features including a gatehouse
- To understand the chronological and structural relationship, if any, between the ringwork and St Mary’s church
- To establish a chronological framework for the later prehistoric, Roman and Medieval activity on the site
- To understand how Caerau relates to the surrounding settlement landscape

These aims directly address three of the research themes identified in the Later Bronze Age and Iron Age Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales (www2): Chronology, Settlement and land-use and Processes of change, and two in the Medieval Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales (www3): Settlement and Land-use.

4.2 Research objectives of 2013 excavations

In order to realise these overall aims there is a two-stage research plan (see Davis and Sharples 2013 for full research plan and objectives). The excavations in 2013 form part of Stage 1 designed to meet the following objective:

Objective: Further examine and characterise the features identified by the Time Team excavations (Wessex Archaeology 2013).

Six trenches were excavated by Time Team all within the interior of the hillfort (see Section 3.4). Due to time restraints, many features were not fully characterised, dated or were left partially or completely un-excavated. It was also considered that further features may become more apparent after a period of exposure to the elements. The principal identified issues to be resolved are:

Trench 1 – The ditch was not satisfactorily dated with the only chronological indicator being a possibly residual quern fragment.

Trench 2 – The features identified were interpreted as a four-post structure. A larger area could be opened here to ascertain whether this structure was correctly characterised.

Trench 3 – The excavations revealed the existence of a well-defined house but not enough was exposed to characterise and understand the construction, use and

abandonment of the house. The discovery of Early Iron Age ceramics is very important and further work needs to be done to assess the extent of the activity of this date and its relationship to the use and occupation of the house.

Trench 4 – The area opened was not large enough to understand the gateway into the enclosure. The ditch terminals contained dateable ceramics and the full excavation of both terminals should provide sufficient material to accurately date the creation of this Late Iron Age or Early Roman enclosure.

Trench 5 – The feature interpreted as a large enclosure ditch was not bottomed and so no dating material was recovered from the primary fills, although later Roman material (pottery) was recovered from the secondary fills).

Trench 6 – The area opened was too small to fully understand the nature of the metalworking activity.

This year, three of these locations were selected for larger-scale trenching (see Trenches 3, 4 and 5, Section 6) with the intention of recovering a large assemblage of finds material to date the features, combined with a program of radiocarbon dating of stratigraphic sequences to confirm chronological phases, and also the recovery of environmental remains. A fourth trench was also intended to be opened this year – Trench 7 – to examine the feature identified by Time Team in Trench 1 further around its circuit. However, after stripping of Trench 3 it was decided not to open this final trench during this season's work (see section 6).

A further three trenches to complete the evaluation are planned for 2014 (see the detailed research design, Davis and Sharples 2013), although this work will of course be subject to successful granting of Scheduled Monument Consent by Cadw. Trench 8 is planned to explore the large enclosure boundary revealed in Trench 5 further around its circuit. Trenches 9 and 10 will examine the hillfort boundaries.

5. Excavation Methodology

All excavations were conducted in compliance with the Institute for Archaeologist's (IFA) Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations (www1), except when superseded by statements made in the research design (Davis and Sharples 2013).

Mechanical excavators were on-site for the removal and re-instatement of clearly identifiable topsoil and re-deposited building material. All machine-excavated trenches were carried out under archaeological supervision and ceased when in situ archaeology was revealed. Remaining invasive investigations were conducted by hand.

5.1 Treatment of Finds

Finds were treated in accordance with the relevant guidance given by the IfA's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavations (www1).

All artefacts were retained from excavated contexts, except features or deposits of undoubtedly modern date. In those circumstances sufficient artefacts were retained to elucidate the date and function of the feature or deposit. The excavated spoil was examined for artefacts and these were retained and recorded. Material of undoubtedly modern date from spoil heaps was noted, but not retained.

Conservation and post-excavation analysis of finds is currently being undertaken by the staff of Cardiff University and National Museum Wales. The landowner has generously agreed to donate all finds from the excavations to National Museum Wales.

5.2 Sampling strategy

5.2.1 Topsoil sampling

Ploughing of the hillfort interior in the medieval and post-medieval periods has resulted in an overlying deposit of topsoil and relict ploughsoil ranging in depth from 0.4 to 0.5 m (Wessex Archaeology 2013, 5). The Time Team excavations revealed this overburden to contain a mixed assemblage of unstratified ceramics and other small finds. Prior to mechanical excavation of this deposit, 1 x 1 m test pits were dug by hand to the top of surviving archaeology at a density of 1 test pit every 25 m² in each proposed trench location, providing a 4 % sample of the artefacts contained within the overburden. Metal detectorists from Cardiff Scan Club were invited to survey the spoil heaps

and recovered a variety of corroded iron, copper alloy and lead artefacts.

5.2.2 Radiocarbon sampling

Radiocarbon dates will be obtained from suitable well contexted single entity samples (articulated animal and human bone, discrete and distinctive carbonised plant samples and carbonised residues from diagnostic and stratified ceramics). These are currently the subject of an application to NERC.

5.2.3 Environmental sampling

Bulk soil samples for plant macro fossils, small animal bones and other small artefacts were taken from appropriate well sealed and dated/datable archaeological contexts or features associated with clearly defined structures (see Appendix 3). Samples of between 40-60 litres were taken or 100% of smaller contexts. Samples were not taken from the intersection of features.

Bulk samples were processed by standard flotation methods at St Fagans National History Museum in November 2013. The flot was retained on a 0.5 mm mesh, with residues fractionated into 5.6 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm fractions and dried. Coarse fractions (>5.6 mm) will be sorted, weighed and discarded, finer residues will be retained until after analysis.

Flots will be assessed to define the presence and preservation of environmental material and to address the project aims and research questions. Assessment will be conducted under a x 10 – x 40 stereo-binocular microscope at Cardiff University and the presence of environmental material; charred remains quantified to record the preservation and nature of environmental material, e.g. charred plant remains, wood charcoal, small animal and mollusc remains.

5.3 On-site recording

Standard Cardiff University recording systems were used: all contexts and features were recorded using standard pro-forma context record sheets; a record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits encountered were made (1:20); appropriate sections were drawn (1:10); the OD of all principal strata and features were indicated on appropriate plans and sections. Complex structured deposits were planned in greater detail (1:10 or even 1:5). A full photographic record was maintained.

6. Excavation Results

Three trenches (3, 4 and 5) were opened over areas partially explored by Time Team in April 2012 (Figure 9). The excavation conditions were in general extremely dry and hot which baked the natural clay subsoil and made excavation difficult. Fortunately, a brief period of wet weather at the beginning of the excavation allowed for the easier identification of archaeological features, which were surveyed using a Leica TS06 Flexline Total Station.

The entire hilltop has clearly been ploughed in the Medieval and Post-Medieval periods which has largely destroyed any surviving archaeological features above the natural geology. The exception to this is in the immediate lee of the inner hillfort rampart where silty deposits, considered to be aeolian and colluvial in origin (see section 8.1), have blown and washed against the back of the rampart bank sealing some archaeological features. There are also a series of shallow periglacial features scattered across the site cut into the natural clay subsoil.

A machine was used to strip the overburden to the top of surviving archaeology over the area of the trenches. The initial intention was to open four trenches (Trenches 3, 4, 5 and 7), however, after stripping of Trench 3 it was recognised that this was an area of much more intensive archaeological activity than had been imagined and it was decided to concentrate resources here and not to open Trench 7 this year. This strategy was discussed and agreed with Louise Mees (Cadw Regional Inspector).

6.1 Trench 3

An area 30 m by 20 m was opened up (Figure 10) directly overlying the trench excavated by Time Team that had identified a curvilinear ditch that was interpreted as the drip gully of a roundhouse (315). Beyond the external edge of gully was a small pit (304) that contained most of a small pot that has been dated to the beginning of the Iron Age (c. 500 BC). The area examined also contained a linear feature (308) running parallel to the inner rampart

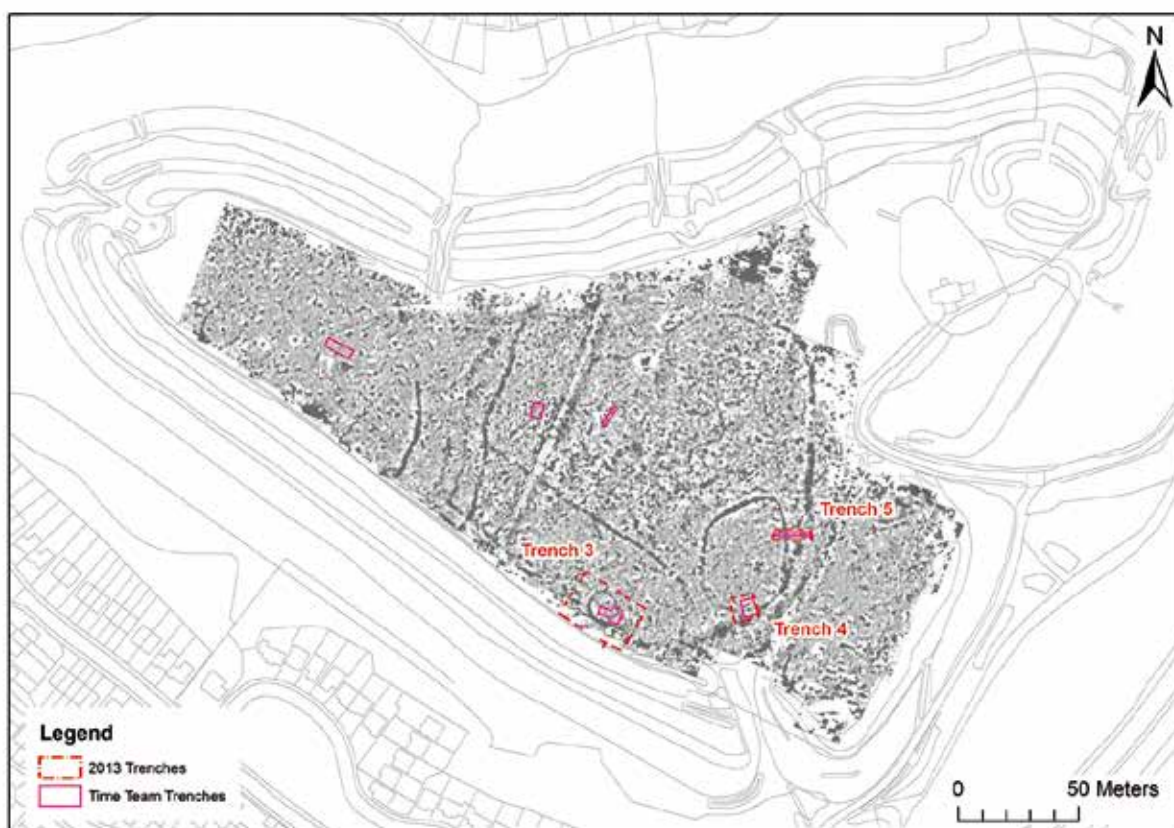


Fig. 9. Location of 2013 trenches

that was interpreted as a ditch and assumed to be a continuation of the large enclosure boundary identified in Trench 5 (see below).

Little dating evidence was obtained by Time Team for the roundhouse which meant that the nature and longevity of its use and occupation was unknown. Therefore, the objective this year was to characterise and understand the construction, use and abandonment of the house, and identify the extent of Iron Age activity. The opportunity was also taken to explore the nature of the inner hillfort rampart which defined the southern extent of the trench.

Below the modern turf and topsoil (3001) was a moderately compacted light brown, silty, clayey deposit up to 0.3 m in depth (3002). Before stripping by machine, five 1 m by 1 m test pits were excavated by hand over the area of the trench stopping when surviving *in situ* archaeological deposits were identified. The deposits (3001, 3002) were

sieved using 10 mm sieves and were found to contain highly fragmented pottery sherds, predominantly Roman and Post-Medieval, flints and corroded metal objects (Figure 11).

After stripping by machine, it was clear that in the northern half of the trench the ploughsoil (3002) directly overlay natural geology (3003), which was a compact yellowy-orange clay. Cut into the clay natural (3003) were a large number of archaeological features including two ring gullies, postholes and pits, and several irregularly-shaped features likely to be of natural periglacial origin. By contrast, in the southern half of the trench, 3002 overlay a series of archaeological deposits running in parallel linear bands across the width of the trench (3004, 3005, 3007). A compact, greeny-grey, clay deposit (3139), presumed to be the inner hillfort rampart, was also exposed running parallel with the southern edge of the trench, although it appeared to be discontinuous and

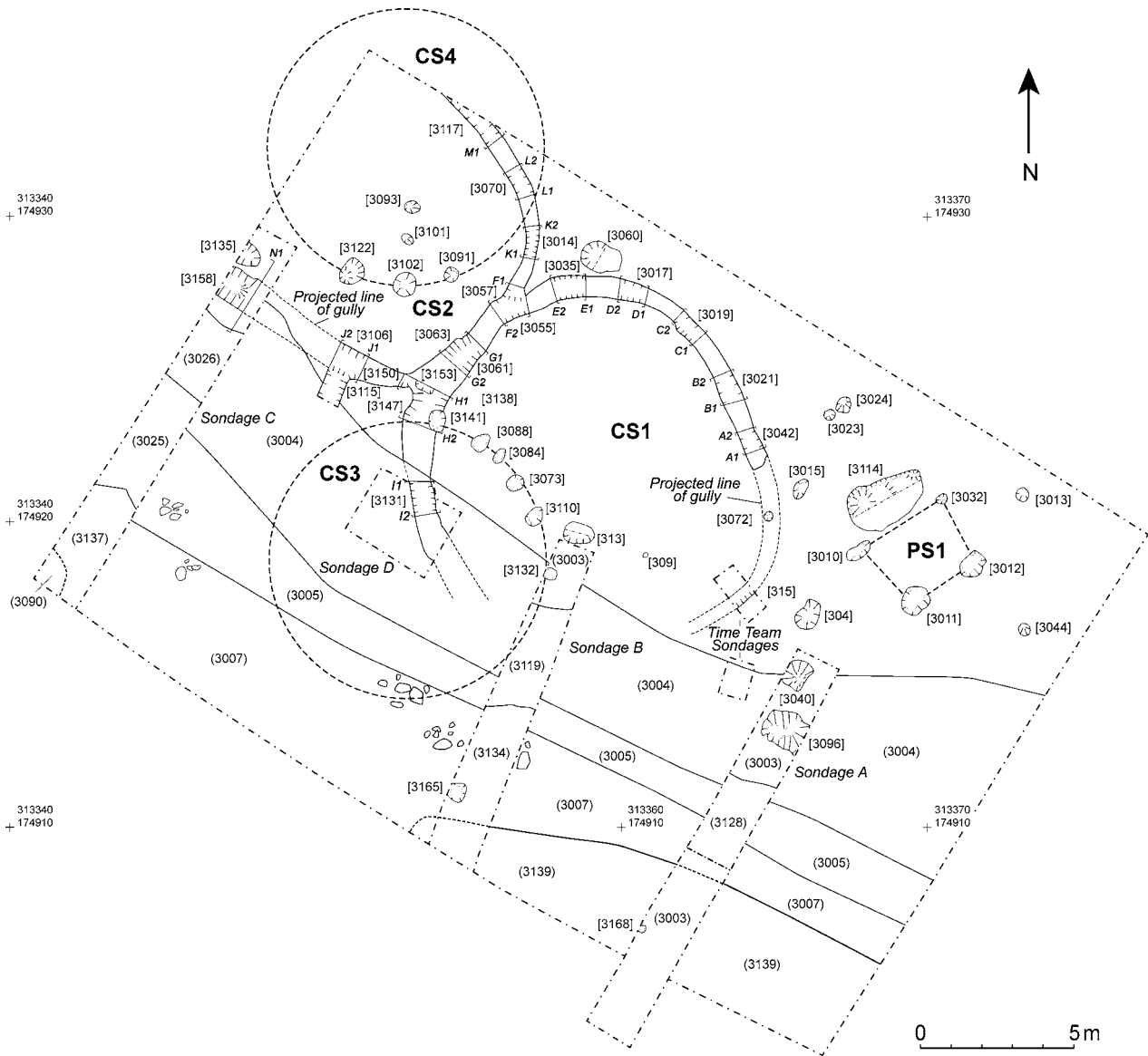


Fig. 10. Trench 3 post-excavation plan



Fig. 11. Test pitting the ploughsoil before stripping by machine of Trench 3

stopped abruptly midway through the trench (see below for detailed description). Four cuttings (Sondages A, B, C and D – see Figure 12) were excavated through these deposits to characterise the sequence of deposits on the hillfort boundary.

6.1.1 *Sondage A*

3003, 3004, 3005, 3007, 3008, 3009, 3040, 3041, 3081, 3096, 3097, 3120, 3121, 3127, 3128, 3139, 3159, 3167, 3168, 3169, 3170

This cutting, in the south-east of the trench, was 11.5 m north to south by 1.6 m east to west. Permission was granted by Cadw to extend the trench 2.5 m south into the woods surrounding the hillfort. This was necessary to identify and record the primary hillfort rampart, and to recover dating material (see below).

At the southern end of the cutting the earliest deposit identified was a mottled pale yellow and light brown silty clay (3159). This overlaid the natural clay (3003) and presumably represents a buried subsoil. Above 3159 was a dark brown clayey silt (3128), up to 0.30 m thick, containing animal bone, charcoal and hand-made, prehistoric, pottery sherds. This is likely to represent a slowly-formed occupation deposit pre-dating the construction of the hillfort inner rampart. Two soil samples were taken by Mike Allen (see section 8.1) of deposits 3128 and 3159 for pollen and micromorphological analysis. Cutting through 3128 and 3159

was posthole 3168. This was circular in plan, 0.27 m in diameter and at least 0.30 m in depth, and it was filled by a dark brown clayey silt (3167) containing animal bone and charcoal flecks. Its exact stratigraphic relationship with deposit 3128 was not entirely clear as the fill was indistinguishable from that soil, but it is likely that the posthole post-dates the formation of 3128.

Sitting above 3128 was a firm brownish-grey clay (3170) containing small stones. This increased to a maximum height of 0.6 m at a point about 0.7 m from the southern end of the sondage before decreasing rapidly to the trench edge. This is likely to be the primary inner Iron Age hillfort rampart and appeared to be a unstructured dump with no evidence for an outer revetment, though one might exist beyond the limit of the excavation to the south of the trench. Above this layer was a brownish-green-grey compact clay containing small stones and hand-made, prehistoric, pottery sherds (3127). This deposit was 0.15 m thick and extended for 6.5 m into the interior of the hillfort where it sealed a light yellowish-brown silty clay (3120). The simplest interpretation is that 3127 and possibly 3120 were probably originally part of the primary inner hillfort rampart which has been deliberately levelled – the rampart core being pushed back into the interior of the hillfort to create a level surface.

Above 3127 was a narrow band, up to 0.10 m thick, of compact reddish-brown silty clay (3121). This extensive and well defined layer suggests a period of stabilisation

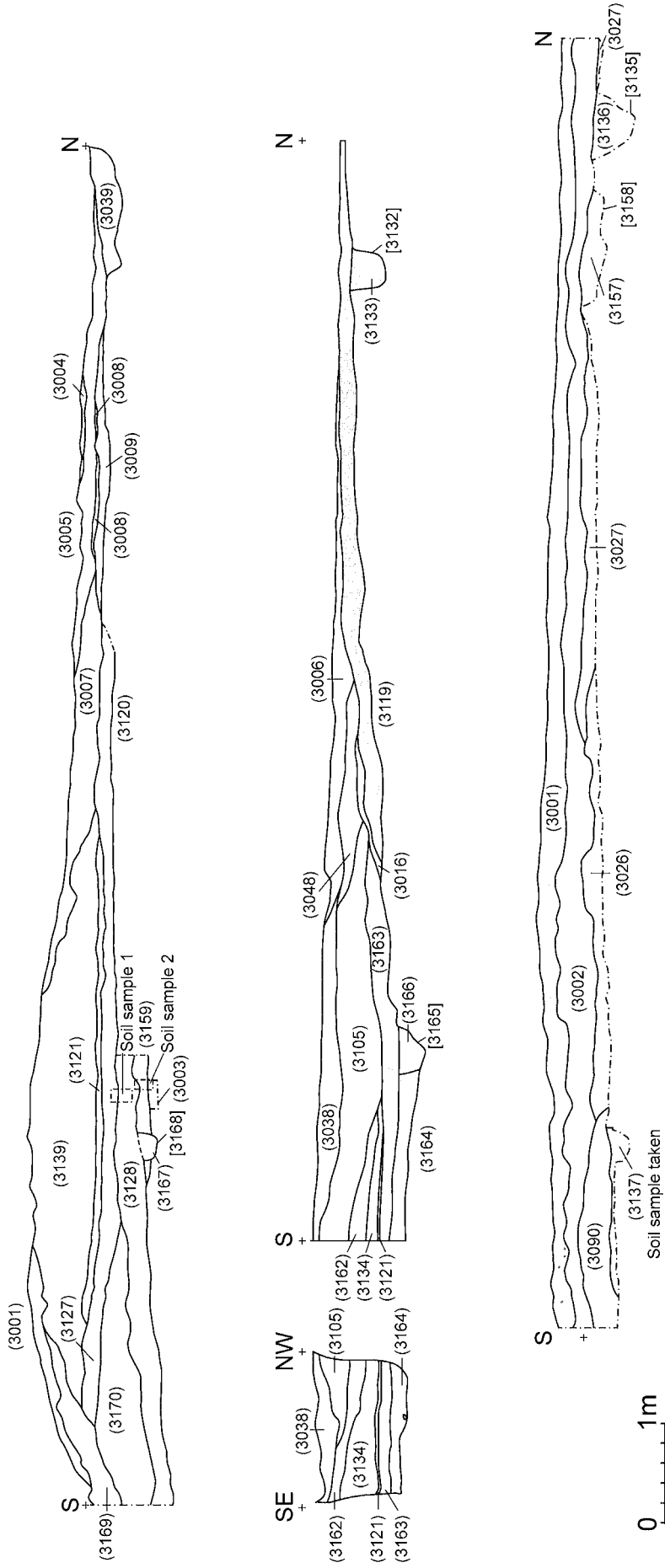


Fig. 12. Sondage sections (Top: Sondage A; Middle: Sondage B; Bottom: Sondage C)



Fig. 13. Photo of cutting through inner hillfort rampart (looking west). Note the 'clean' greenish-grey clay (3139) of the secondary rampart at the top. This sits above a dark band of soil (3121) which is a possible turf horizon forming over the levelled primary rampart (3127).

though Allen (Section 8.1) has postulated an alternative explanation. It contained one sherd of Roman Greyware pottery which suggests it was formed or existed in the Roman period. On top of this layer was a bank of compacted greenish-grey clay (3139) containing very few small stones. The bank rises to a height of 0.8 m and covers an area of 6 m and there was no indication of a front or rear revetment. This is clearly a secondary hillfort rampart and suggests substantial remodelling of the southern hillfort defences, including the digging of a new ditch (presumably outside the inner rampart) to provide the clay for its construction. It contained several sherds of Roman Greyware pottery suggesting that its construction is Roman or post-Roman in date (Figure 13).

At the northern end of sondage A the earliest features encountered were two pits (3040, 3096) cutting the clay natural. Pit 3040 was irregularly-shaped in plan, about 1.10 m in diameter, with an uneven base ranging in depth from 0.08 m to 0.30 m. It was filled by a dark brown sandy clay containing flecks of charcoal, small stones and sherds of hand-made, prehistoric, pottery (3081). Pit 3096 was of similar dimensions and profile. It was filled with a dark greyish-brown sandy clay with charcoal flecks and small stone inclusions (3097). The fills of these features suggest they are likely to be anthropogenic

in origin. The simplest interpretation of their function is that they are quarry pits to extract clay for house or rampart construction (Figure 14).

Between pits 3040 and 3096 and the rampart was a cobbled surface (3009) of small, sub-rounded and sub-angular, pebbles, up to 0.10 m in size, contained within a dark grey brown sandy clay matrix (Figures 15-16). This deposit covered a strip 2.9 m north to south. At its northern extent it appears to have slumped into pit 3040 where it was recorded as fill 3041. This metallated surface is equivalent to 3119 in Sondage B and 3130 in Sondage D suggesting it is a pathway running east to west across the trench. Above this layer was a greyish-brown silty clay (3008) containing charcoal and wheel thrown pottery sherds probably representing a layer of trample from people walking over the metallated surface.

The cobbled surface was sealed by a reddish-brown silt (3007) which had accumulated against the tail of the rampart. Overlying this layer was another dark reddish brown silt (3005) that sealed the artefact rich layer (3005). At its northern end, this was overlain by a dark grey sandy silt (3004). These deposits are likely to be aeolian and colluvial in origin having blown and washed against the back of the rampart bank (see section 8.1).



Fig. 14. Possible quarry pit (3096) looking southeast



Fig. 15. Photo of a metallised surface running east to west through Trench 3 (looking west)

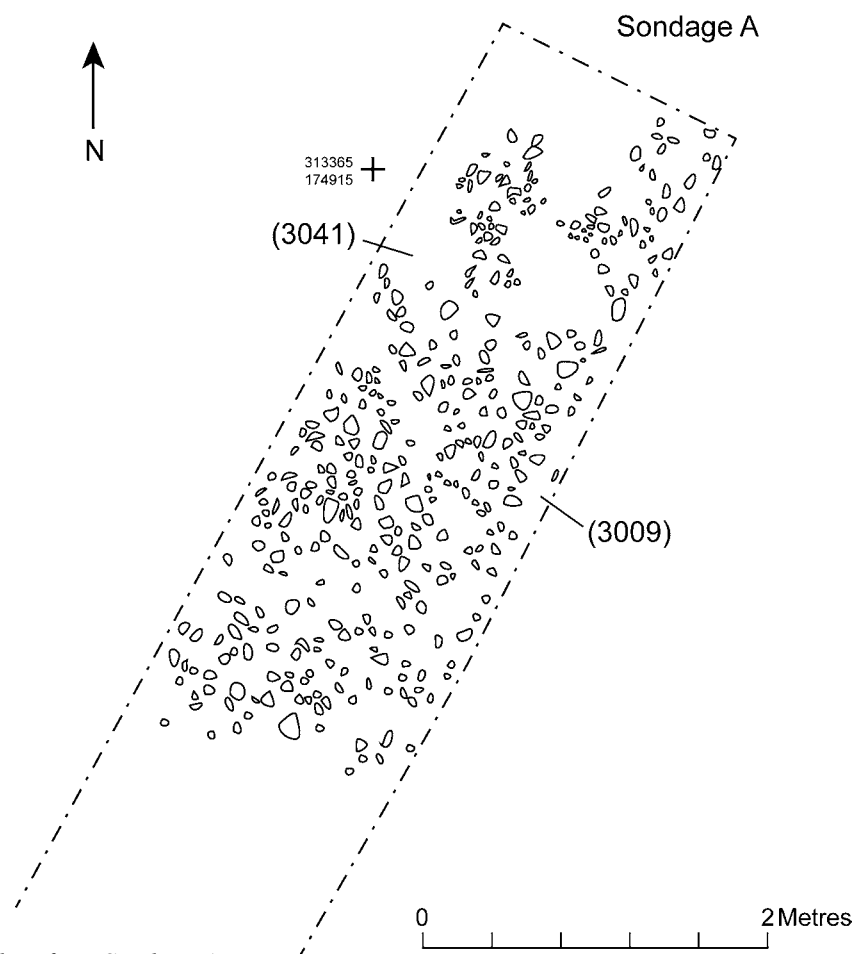


Fig. 16. Metalled surface, Sondage A

The front of the rampart (3139) was covered by a mid brown silty clay (3169) which represents the creation of a topsoil beneath the turf layer 3001.

6.1.2 Sondage B

3006, 3016, 3038, 3048, 3105, 3119, 3121, 3132, 3134, 3162, 3163, 3164, 3165, 3166

This cutting, in the centre of the trench, was 10.7 m north to south by 1.6 m east to west. At the southern end of the cutting the earliest deposit identified was a dark brown clayey silt, up to 0.30 m thick, containing animal bone, charcoal and hand-made, prehistoric, pottery sherds (3164). This is likely to represent a slowly-formed occupation deposit pre-dating the construction of the hillfort inner rampart and equivalent to 3128 in Sondage A. Cutting through 3164 was posthole 3165. This ran into the section edge, but appeared to be circular in plan, 0.50 m in diameter and 0.40 m in depth. It was filled by a dark orangey-brown sandy silt containing charcoal flecks (3166).

Above this layer was a brownish-greenish-grey compact clay containing small stones (3163). This deposit was 0.15 m thick and extended for 4 m into the interior of the hillfort. At its northern extent it was slightly lighter in colour and overlaid 3016. It is likely that 3163 is equivalent

to 3127 in Sondage A and is part of the primary inner hillfort rampart which has been deliberately levelled – the rampart core being pushed back into the interior of the hillfort to create a level surface.

Above 3163 was a narrow band, up to 0.10 m thick, of compact reddish-brown silty clay (3121) also observed in Sondage A. This is clearly a soil horizon forming above the levelled primary rampart suggesting a period of stabilisation and turf formation. On top of this layer was a very compacted deposit of greenish-grey clay (3134) equivalent to 3139 in Sondage A. This represents the secondary hillfort rampart. In the north facing section it was clear that the deposit decreased in thickness from east to west, suggesting that the secondary rampart terminates in this sondage (Figure 17).

Overlying this layer were a series of silty deposits likely to be aeolian and colluvial in origin, accumulating against the back of the secondary hillfort rampart. Sealing 3134 was a mid reddish-brown clayey silt (3162) which was in turn sealed by a mid orangey-brown clayey silt (3105) equivalent to 3007 in Sondage A. At its northern extent this layer was overlaid by a firm greyish-brown silt (3048). A light reddish-brown clayey silt (3038) sealed both 3105 and 3048. This is likely to be equivalent to 3005 in Sondage A.



Fig 17 North facing section through sondage B showing the secondary rampart (3134) decreasing in thickness from east to west and sitting above a soil horizon (3121) and the levelled primary rampart (3163)

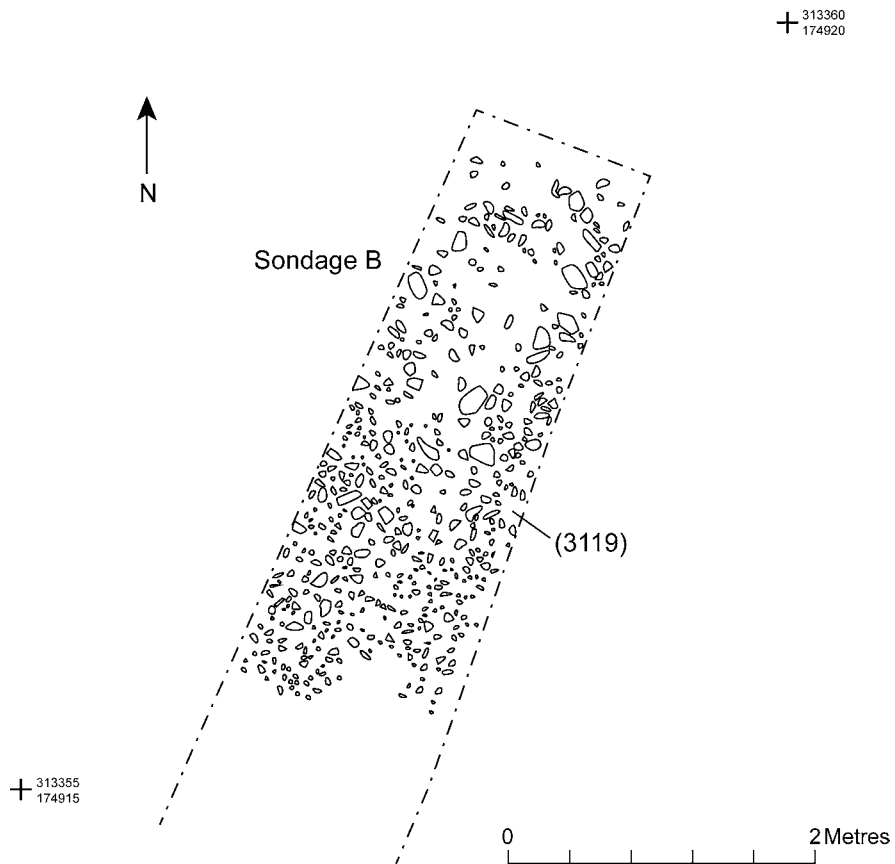


Fig. 18. Metallised surface, Sondage B

At the northern end of the sondage the earliest feature encountered was a posthole (3132) cutting through the natural clay (3003). The posthole formed part of a post ring of a roundhouse (CS3 – see section 6.1.5.2 below). This was sealed by a cobbled surface (3119) of sub-rounded and sub-angular small pebbles, up to 0.07 m in size, contained within a mid brown silty clay matrix (Figure 18). This deposit was spread 3.3 m north to south and is equivalent to layer 3009 in Sondage A. This clearly represents a laid surface or pathway running across the trench. Above this layer was a light greyish-brown silty clay containing sherds of wheel-thrown pottery and corroded iron artefacts (3016). This is probably a layer of trample, equivalent to 3008 in Sondage A, resulting from people walking over the metalled surface. At its southern extent, this layer was sealed by 3163 suggesting that the levelling of the primary rampart post-dated the construction of the metalled surface. Above this layer was a dark grey sandy silt (3006) equivalent to 3004 in Sondage A.

6.1.3 Sondage C

3025, 3026, 3027, 3090, 3135, 3137, 3158

This cutting, parallel with the western edge of the trench, was 13 m north to south by 1.6 m east to west. The earliest deposit encountered at the southern end of the sondage was a dark brown-black silty clay, charcoal rich and containing very frequent animal bones and wheel-thrown pottery sherds (3137). This probably represents

an occupation or midden deposit and a soil sample was taken for pollen and micro-morphological analysis (see section 8.1). Unfortunately there was not time to complete the excavation of this deposit, but a narrow core taken with a hand auger revealed it to be at least 0.30 m thick and overlying a firm green-grey clay, possibly the remains of the primary hillfort rampart (Figure 19). Sealing this deposit was a compact greenish-grey clay (3090) containing flecks of charcoal and sherds of Roman Greyware pottery. The north-facing section revealed this to be increasing in thickness from east to west suggesting that this is the terminal of the secondary hillfort rampart. The implication is that the 13 m gap between the terminal ends of the secondary rampart encountered in Sondages B and C represents either an entrance through the remodelled defences or that the defences were discontinuous and unfinished. A LiDAR Digital Terrain Model (Figure 5) appears to show a path leading up the slope from the south which may indicate that this was used as an entrance into the hillfort at some point.

Accumulating against the back of the secondary hillfort rampart were a series of silty deposits. Overlying 3090 was a mid brown silty clay containing sherds of wheel-thrown pottery and some slag fragments (3025). This was sealed by a dark grey silty clay (3026) equivalent to 3004 (Sondage A) and 3006 (Sondage B). Above this layer at its northern extent was a light yellowy-grey-brown silty clay (3027). At the northern end of the sondage, 3027 partially sealed two cut features (3135, 3158), although



Fig. 19. Photo of east facing section of sondage C showing secondary rampart (3090) sitting above a dark brown midden deposit (3137)

this was not seen in section. Linear feature 3158 cut the clay natural and was part of a curving roundhouse ring gully (CS2 – see section 6.1.5.1), while 3135 was a large posthole (see section 6.1.5.1 for full description).

6.1.4 Sondage D

3058, 3130, 3131

This cutting, 3 m by 2.5 m, was located west of the centre of the trench in order to ascertain whether the ring gully of CS1 (see section 6.1.5.2 for full description) extended to the south. The earliest feature encountered in this sondage was a curving arc of a ring gully (3131 – described below). This was sealed by a cobbled surface (3130) of sub-rounded and sub-angular small pebbles, up to 0.06 m in size, contained within a mid brown silty clay matrix. This deposit was spread across the entire area of the sondage and is equivalent to the metallated surface 3009 in Sondage A and 3119 in Sondage B, although here it was more patchy with smaller and less consolidated stones. Sealing this layer was a mid grey silty clay (3058) equivalent to 3005 (Sondage A) and 3006 (Sondage B).

6.1.5 Circular structures

The remains of at least four circular structures, presumably Iron Age roundhouses, were exposed in Trench 3 (Figure 20). The surviving structural evidence suggests that two basic constructional methods were employed: post-built structures (recognisable from the ring of postholes that represents the wall of the building) and stake-built structures (identified by the presence of external drainage gullies). The stratigraphy of the circular structures suggest there are two phases of house construction:

Phase 1 Ring gully (stake-built) houses

Phase 2 Post-built houses

6.1.5.1 Phase 1 Ring gully (stake-built) houses

3014, 3017, 3018, 3019, 3020, 3021, 3022, 3035, 3036, 3042, 3043, 3054, 3055, 3056, 3057, 3058, 3061, 3062, 3063, 3064, 3067, 3069, 3070, 3071, 3072, 3078, 3079, 3083, 3089, 3106, 3115, 3116, 3117, 3118, 3127, 3131, 3135, 3136, 3138, 3145, 3146, 3147, 3148, 3149, 3150, 3151, 3152, 3153, 3154, 3157, 3158

Two, adjacent, curvilinear gullies were exposed in the trench (CS1 and CS2). CS1 was defined in plan by an oval-shaped gully, 11 m north-south and 12 m east-west (3017, 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3055, 3061, 3131, 3138) (Figure 21). Its eastern extent was not clear, although a shallow section was identified by Time Team (315). It is possible that it has been heavily damaged in this location, probably by the plough. Alternatively, it is conceivable that there is a genuine gap in the gully here. A small circular posthole (3072), 0.32 m in diameter and 0.20 m in depth, was recognised in the projected line of the gully and may be a structural element of the house, possibly even a doorpost. The posthole was filled with a dark

brown clay (3079) overlain by a brownish-red sandy silt (3078). The southern section of the gully was also not entirely clear as it is likely that it is overlain by silts (3004, 3058) building up against the back of the hillfort rampart. A small sondage through this deposit (Sondage D) exposed a short section of the gully (3131), but it was not identified in Sondage B, suggesting that the gully may have been discontinuous on this side.

On its northern side (3017, 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042) the gully was around 0.70 m wide and 0.10 m deep, with gently sloping sides leading to a flat base. It was filled by a dark brown sandy clay (3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043) that contained a few small stones and some sherds of hand-made, prehistoric, pottery. On its southern side (3131) the gully was also about 0.70 m wide, with gently sloping sides and a flat base. However, the gully in this location had been sealed by silts building up against the rampart (3058) and it was much deeper, up to 0.30 m in depth. This suggests that it had likely been heavily damaged on its northern side, probably by ploughing. Two fills were recognised on the southern side – the basal fill was a light red-grey silty sand with charcoal flecks (3146) which was overlain by a yellowish-brown silty clay containing small stones, charcoal flecks and sherds of prehistoric pottery (3089).

Three cuttings were placed across the gully on its western side (3055, 3061, 3138) where it adjoined the gully of CS2. Although separate cut and fill numbers were ascribed to the CS2 gully in this location (described below), no discernable difference between the fills could be recognised and it is very likely that the gullies were contemporaneous. Cutting 3055, equivalent to 3057, showed the gully here to be 0.85 m wide and 0.20 m deep with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled with a dark brown silty sand (3056) equivalent to 3054 and 3083. Cutting 3061, equivalent to 3063, exposed the gully as 1.06 m wide and 0.17 m deep with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a brown-red sandy clay (3062) equivalent to 3064. The final cutting, 3138, was 1.05 m wide and 0.14 m deep with gently sloping sides and a flat base, and filled by a brown sandy silt (3145). The gully here cut through an oval-shaped posthole (3153) which must represent part of a structure that pre-dates the construction of CS1 and CS2. Its basal fill was a dark reddish-brown silty sand containing upright sub-angular stones (3154) and was overlain by a light brown sandy silt (3152). Its final fill was a dark brown sandy clay (3149).

Only the eastern half of the gully that defined CS2 was exposed as it extended beyond the limit of the excavation (3014, 3057, 3063, 3070, 3106, 3117, 3150, 3158). It appears to be D-shaped, rather than ovoid, around 10 m in diameter. On its north-eastern side (3014, 3070, 3117) the gully was around 0.50 m wide and 0.16 m deep, with gently sloping sides leading to a flat base. It was filled by



Fig 20 Photo looking southwest showing CS1, CS2 and CS3. Figures are standing in the excavated gully sections of CS1 and CS2 and postholes of CS3

a mid brown sandy clay (3067, 3071, 3118) that contained a few small stones and charcoal flecks.

Three cuttings were placed across the gully on its eastern side (3057, 3063, 3150) where it adjoined the gully of CS1. Cutting 3057 was equivalent to 3055 (CS1) and cutting 3063 was equivalent to cutting 3061 (CS1). The third cutting (3147, 3150) however showed the gullies of CS1 and CS2 beginning to diverge. Cut 3147, equivalent to 3150, was 0.66 m in width and 0.10 m in depth with gently sloping sides leading to a flat base. It was filled with a dark brown sandy silt (3148, equivalent to 3151).

The southern section of the gully was not entirely clear, and it may have been discontinuous here, although at its western extent it is likely that it is partially overlain by deposit 3004 building up against the back of the hillfort rampart. Cut 3106 was 0.91 m wide and 0.18 m deep, with gently sloping sides and a convex base. It was filled by a mid brown sandy silt (3069). Abutting 3106 to the south was linear feature (3115) with vertical sides and an irregularly-shaped base. This was filled with a light brown sandy silt (3116). The irregular nature of the feature may suggest that it is of natural, probably periglacial, origin. A final section (3158) was cut through the gully at the northern end of Sondage C where the overlying deposit (3127=3004) had been removed. In this location, the gully was 1.08 m wide and 0.16 m deep with gently sloping sides and a flat base, and filled by a

light brown silty clay (3157). Just to the north of 3158, running into the trench section, was a large posthole, 0.67 m in diameter and 0.50 m deep (3135). It was filled with a dark reddish-brown sandy silt which contained flecks of charcoal (3136).

The gully arcs of CS1 and CS2 are likely to represent drip gullies surrounding contemporaneous, stake-built, Iron Age roundhouses. In no case did the supposed stake-holes penetrate the underlying clay natural, or if they once did, subsequent ploughing has removed all trace.

6.1.5.2 Phase 2 Post-built houses

3073, 3074, 3082, 3084, 3085, 3086, 3087, 3088, 3091, 3092, 3093, 3094, 3095, 3100, 3101, 3102, 3103, 3104, 3110, 3111, 3122, 3123, 3132, 3133, 3141, 3142

In the centre of the trench an arc of six postholes were identified (3073, 3084, 3088, 3110, 3132, 3141), which likely represent the north-eastern section of a circular structure (CS3) 9.2 m in diameter (Figure 22). Posthole 3073 was oval in plan, 0.54 m by 0.44 m and 0.40 m deep, with vertical sides and a convex base. Its primary fill was a mid brown, silty clay containing some sub-rounded stones and charcoal flecks (3082). Above this was a friable red-brown, silty clay also containing charcoal flecks (3074). Posthole 3084 was oval in plan, 0.40 m by 0.25 m and 0.07 m in depth, with gently sloping sides, and filled by a light brown sandy silt (3085). Posthole 3088 was oval in plan, 0.50 m by 0.46

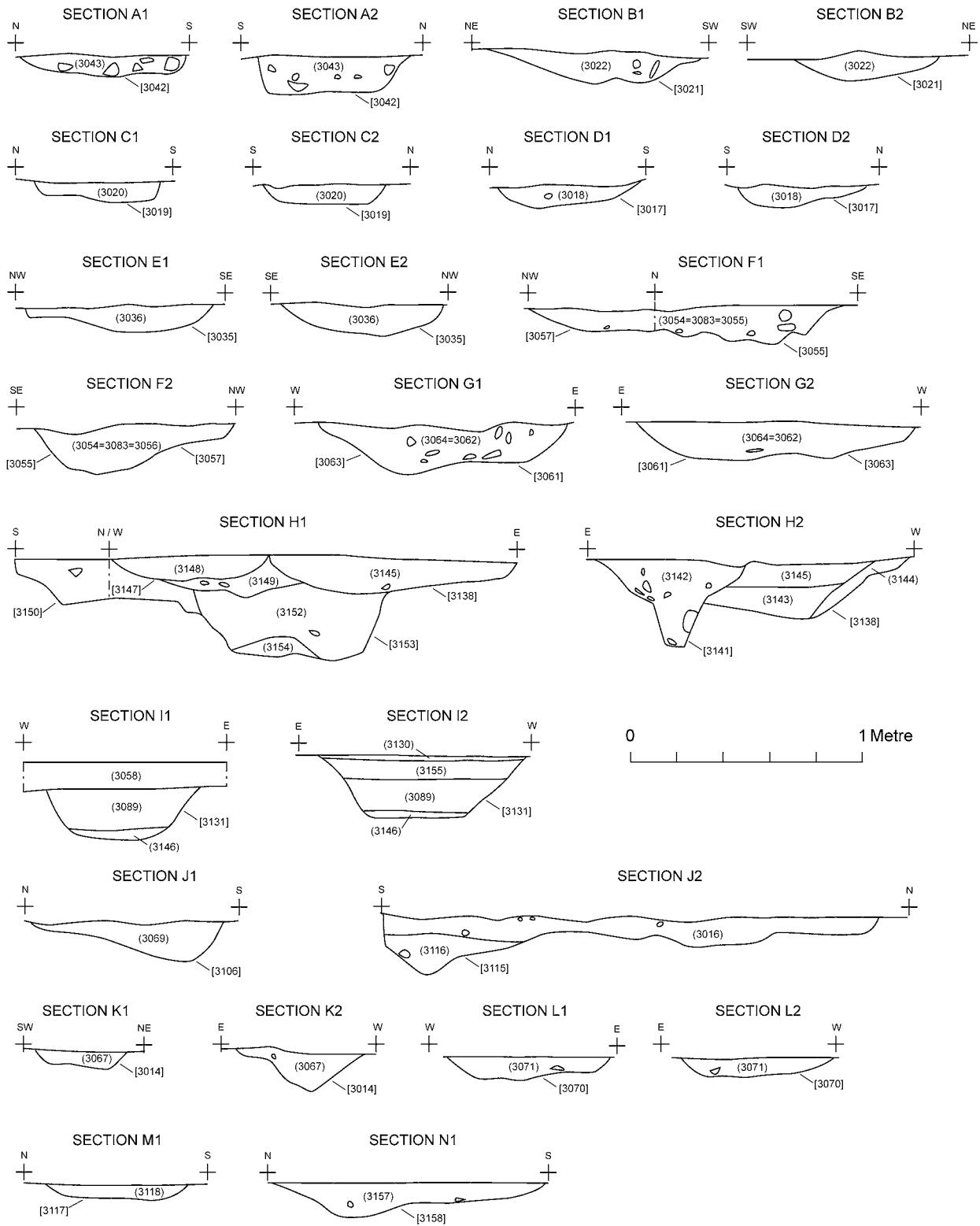


Fig.21. CS1 and CS2 gully sections

Excavation Results

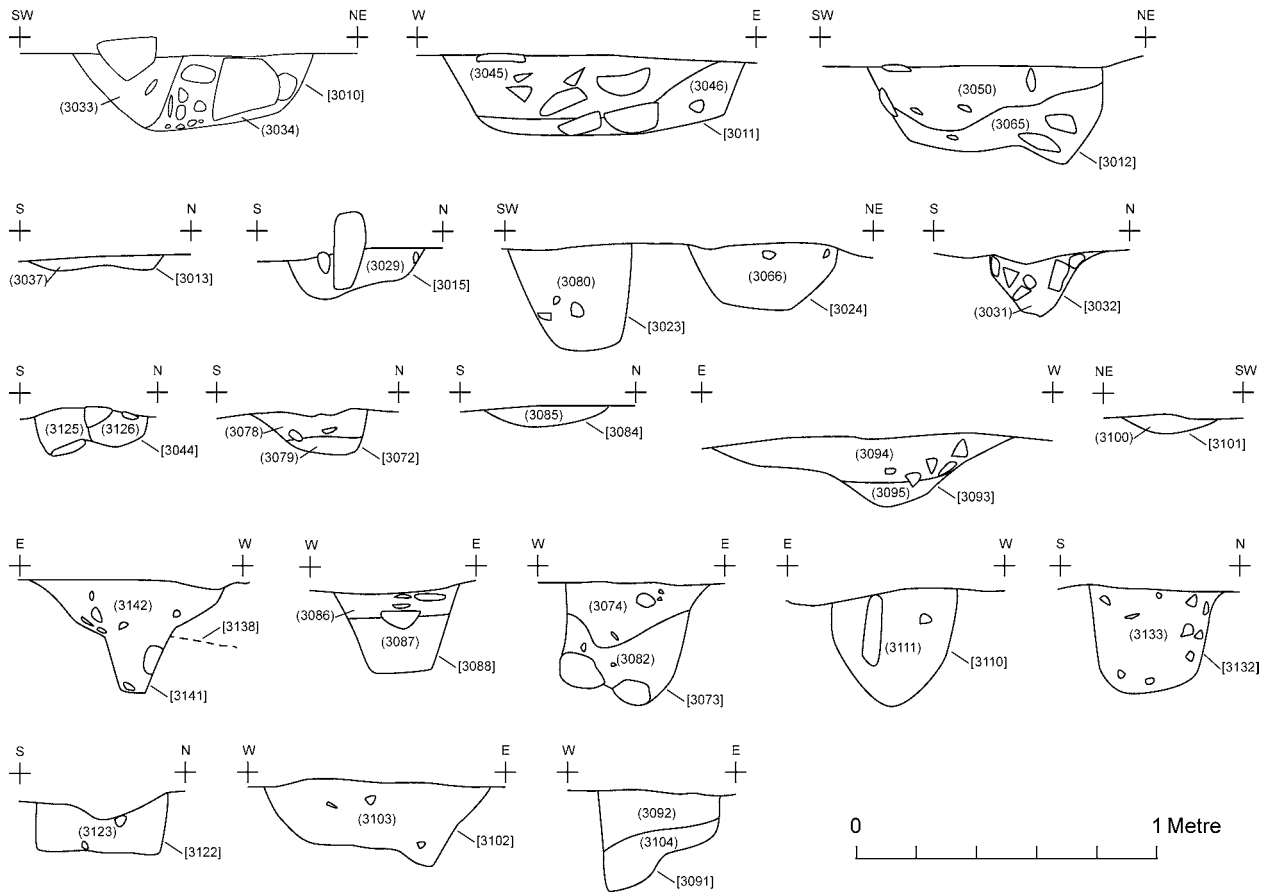


Fig. 22. Trench 3 posthole sections



Fig. 23. Photo showing possible arc of postholes forming CS4, looking southwest

m and 0.32 m in depth. Its primary fill was a greeny-brown, silty clay (3087). Above this was a compact grey-green, clayey silt that contained some sub-angular stones (3086). Posthole 3110 was also oval in plan, 0.55 m by 0.44 m and 0.25 m in depth, with steeply sloping sides. It was filled by a dark brown, silty clay that contained several sub-angular post packing stones, up to 0.20 m in size (3111). Posthole 3132 was circular in plan, 0.40 m in diameter and 0.35 m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled with a dark brown sandy clay that contained some charcoal flecks and sub-angular stones (3133). The posthole was sealed by metal surface 3119 and therefore must pre-date the laying of that surface. Presumably the other postholes that form the complete ring of CS3 are likewise sealed by the silty deposits (3004, 3005, 3007) that have built up against the back of the hillfort rampart, and suggest that an in situ floor surface of this structure may be preserved. The most north-westerly posthole exposed (3141) was oval in plan, 0.41 m by 0.70 m and 0.40 m in depth, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a reddish-brown silty sand which contained small sub-angular stones, up to 0.05 m in size (3142). Significantly, the posthole cut the ring gully of CS1 (3138) and therefore means that CS3 must post-date that structure.

To the north-west of CS3 and wholly contained within the area of CS2, but not running concentrically with the gully, were three postholes (3091, 3102, 3122). These were arranged in an arc, possibly representing the southern portion of a circular structure (CS4) 9.2 m in diameter (Figure 23). Posthole 3091 was circular in plan, 0.50 m in diameter and 0.37 m deep, with steeply sloping sides and an uneven base. The primary fill was a compact dark brown, silty clay (3104) containing charcoal flecks, burnt stone and animal bone. Above this layer was a light brown, sandy clay with charcoal inclusions and some small sherds of hand-made, prehistoric, pottery (3092). Posthole 3102 was oval in plan, 0.79 m by 0.70 m and 0.33 m in depth, with sloping slides leading to a flat base. It was filled by a dark brownish-grey, silty clay containing some sub-angular stones, charcoal flecks and burnt bone (3103). Posthole 3122 was oval in plan, 0.443 m by 0.40 m and 0.28 m in depth, with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by a greeny-grey, silty clay that contained several small sub-angular stones (3123). There was no stratigraphic relationship between these postholes and the ring gully of CS2, but given its constructional similarity to CS3 it probably post-dates the CS1 and CS2.

Two other postholes located within the interior of CS4 may be related to the post-built house. Directly north of posthole 3102 was posthole 3101. This was circular in plan, 0.37 m in diameter and 0.10 m in depth with gently sloping sides. It was filled with a dark reddish-brown silty sand (3101). To the north of 3101 was posthole 3093. This was oval in plan, 0.37 m by 0.21 m and 0.12 m deep, with gently sloping sides. The primary fill was

a brownish-red, silty sand (3095) and above this was a brownish-grey, silty clay that contained some small stones and a sherd of hand-made, prehistoric, pottery.

6.1.6 Other postholes and pits

3010, 3011, 3012, 3013, 3015, 3023, 3024, 3029, 3031, 3032, 3033, 3034, 3037, 3045, 3046, 3050, 3051, 3059, 3060, 3065, 3066, 3080, 3112, 3113, 3114, 3160, 3161

To the north and east of CS1 were a spread of eleven postholes and pits all cutting the clay natural (3010, 3011, 3012, 3013, 3015, 3023, 3024, 3032, 3044, 3060, 3114) (see Figures 22 and 24). Four of the postholes (3010, 3011, 3012, 3032) are set around 2.5 m apart in a roughly square arrangement. Posthole 3010 was oval in plan, 0.90 m by 0.44 m and 0.34 m in depth with vertical sides and a flat base. The primary fill was a dark reddish-brown silty clay containing large sub-angular stones, up to 0.25 m in size (3034) which probably represents post packing. Above this was a dark grey silty clay (3033) which may have been the post pipe. Posthole 3011 was oval in plan, 1.13 m by 0.54 m and 0.37 m in depth with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Its primary fill was a reddish-orange silty clay containing large packing stones, up to 0.15 m in size (3046). On top of this layer was a dark brown silty clay containing animal bones and small stones (3045). Posthole 3012 was oval in plan, 0.70 m by 0.72 m and 0.30 m in depth with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. Its basal fill was a dark brown silty clay (3065) containing frequent large angular stones, up to 0.20 m in size (3051) presumably the packing for a post. Over this layer was dark greyish-brown silty clay containing small charcoal flecks (3050). Posthole 3032 was circular in plan, 0.40 m in diameter and 0.29 m in depth with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a dark brown sandy clay (3031). Given that they form a square shape in plan it is possible that they are part of the same structure, potentially a four-post building (PS1) (Figure 25).

Five other postholes were identified. There was no coherent pattern to their distribution, but they likely form part of a number of structures whose other postholes extend beyond the limit of excavation. Posthole 3013 was oval in plan, 0.50 m by 0.42 m and 0.10 m in depth, and filled by a dark brown silty clay (3037). Posthole 3015 was also oval in plan, 0.46 m by 0.23 m and 0.23 m in depth with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by a mid greyish-brown silty clay containing large sub-angular stones, up to 0.20 m in size (3029). Posthole 3023 was oval in plan, 0.40 m by 0.34 m and 0.38 m in depth, with vertical sides and a flat base. It was filled by a dark reddish-brown silty clay containing frequent small stones (3080). Around 0.1 m to the north-east of 3023 was posthole 3024. This was also oval in plan, 0.57 m by 0.40 m and 0.36 m in depth. The fill was also similar – a dark reddish-brown silty clay containing frequent small stones, up to 0.10 in size (3066).

Excavation Results

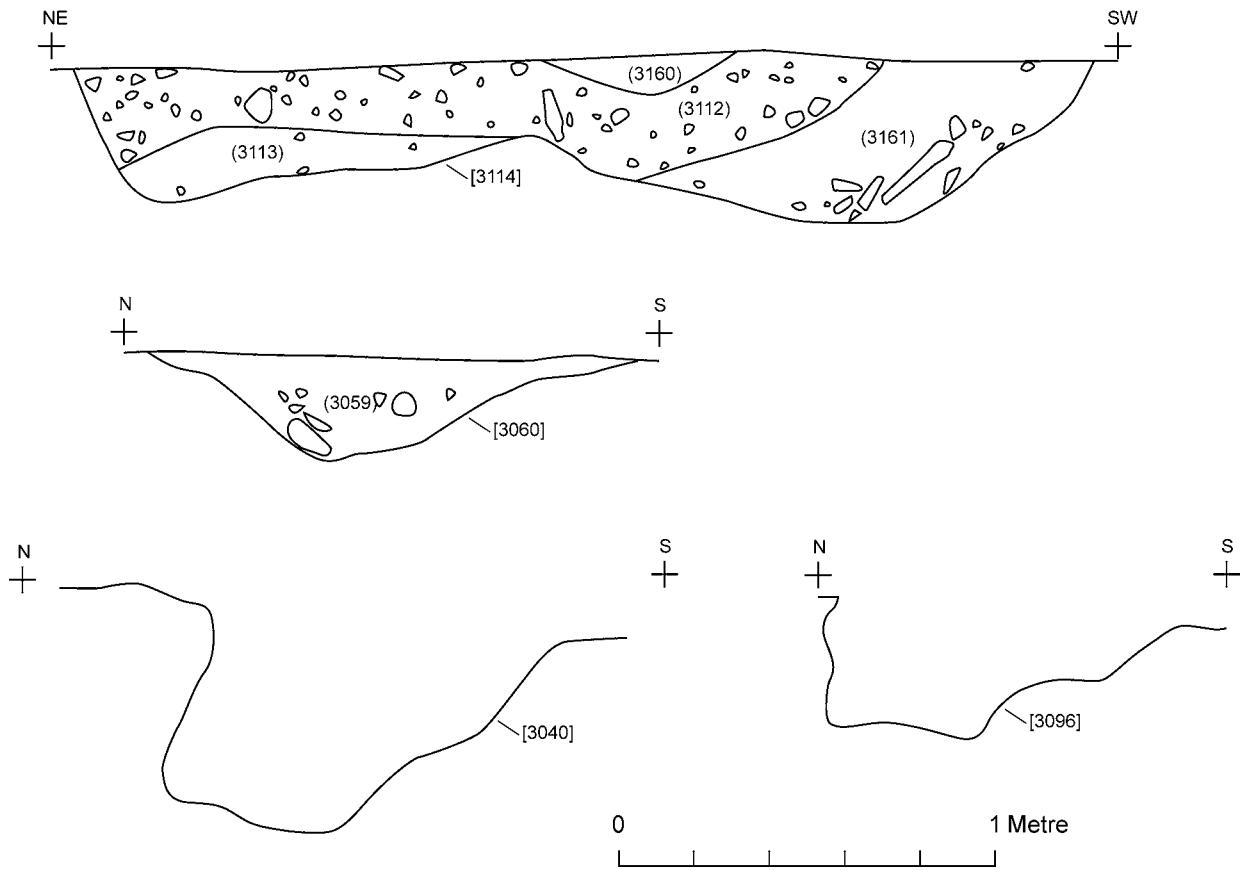


Fig 24 Trench 3 pit sections



Fig. 25. Photo showing possible four-poster (PS1) and pit 3114 (half-sectioned), looking southeast

Adjacent to the north-western side of PS1, was pit 3114. This was roughly oval in plan, 2.70 m by 1.50 m and 0.43 m in depth, with irregularly-shaped sides and base, suggesting that it was likely to be a natural feature rather than of anthropogenic origin. It had four fills. At its southern end the basal fill was a reddish-brown sandy silt with frequent small sub-rounded and sub-angular stones (3161), while at the northern end it was a reddish-brown silty clay (3113). Above these layers was a yellowish-brown silty clay with very frequent small stones (3112). The final fill was a mid brown silt (3160). None of the fills contained animal bone, charcoal or pottery, which suggested that the feature was likely to be either geological or the remains of a tree throw.

A smaller pit (3060) was identified just to the north of the ring gully of CS1. This was oval in plan, 1.40 m by 1.00 m and 0.29 m deep, with gently sloping sides and an irregularly-shaped base. It was filled by a dark reddish-brown silty clay containing some small stones, charcoal flecks, and sherds of hand-made, prehistoric, pottery (3059). Its irregularly-shaped base could suggest that this is a peri-glacial feature, but the inclusions of charcoal and pottery indicate an anthropogenic origin.

6.2 Trench 4

An area 10 m by 10 m was opened up by machine directly overlying what appeared on the geophysics, and was confirmed by the Time Team excavations, to be a gap in a roughly oval enclosure ditch 47 m north-south by 36 m east-west (Figures 26-27). Below the modern turf and topsoil (4001) was a loosely compacted orangey-brown, silty, clayey deposit up to 0.3 m in depth (4002). It contained highly fragmented pottery sherds, flints and corroded metal objects and presumably represents a relict ploughsoil. This deposit (4002) directly overlay the natural geology (4003), which was a compact yellowy-orange clay with blue-grey mottling. Cut into the clay natural (4003) were a number of archaeological features including two terminals of the enclosure ditch, postholes and pits. There were also a number of shallow, irregularly-shaped features likely to be of natural (periglacial) origin.

6.2.1 The oval enclosure ditch

4014, 4015, 4021, 4022, 4023, 4024, 4025, 4027, 4036, 4043, 4045, 4050, 4052

Two terminals of the enclosure ditch, separated by an entrance gap spanning 3.2 m, were identified and excavated. The eastern terminal (4022) was excavated by Time Team in 2012 and shown to be a V-shaped ditch, 1.2 m wide and 0.79 m deep. Re-excavation of the Time Team back-fill (4021) allowed for the recording of the ditch section (Figure 28) which showed three distinct fills – a primary fill of green clay was overlain by a layer of flat stone fragments and sealed by a secondary fill of compacted brown and green clay.

The plan of the western terminal (4052) was exposed for 5 m across the trench. Three 1 m wide cuttings were excavated across it separated by two 1 m wide baulks, which were subsequently excavated (4015, 4024, 4027, 4045, 4050). The ditch exhibited similar fills to that of the eastern terminal, although the shape of the profile was of a different character. At its western extent (4024) the ditch was U-shaped, 2.5 m wide and 0.62 m deep, with gently sloping sides curving towards a flat base. Towards its eastern extent (4015) the ditch was narrower (1.75 m wide) although its profile was also U-shaped. Three fills were identified. The primary fill was a compact, yellowish-brown, silty clay (4028, 4029, 4030, 4044, 4049) that contained small flecks of charcoal and black, bead-rimmed pottery sherds of probably 1st century AD date. Overlying this deposit was a layer of large flat stones (4026, 4032, 4035, 4042, 4048) ranging from 0.1 to 0.3 m in size. This layer of stones was sealed by a secondary ditch fill (4014, 4023, 4025, 4036, 4043). This deposit was a friable, greyish-brown, silty clay that contained charcoal flecks and bead-rimmed pottery sherds (Figure 29). A small colourless-glass bead with an opaque yellow 'wave' design was also recovered from this layer (4025). The bead is a Class 11 Meare variant, most likely produced at Meare, Somerset, and dating to the 1st century BC to 1st century AD (Guido 1978). No internal bank survived, but undoubtedly there was one.

The freshness of the pottery recovered from the fills suggest that the ditch was not open for a considerable length of time. It is likely that the primary fill represents natural silting, weathering and erosion before there was a deliberate placement of flat stones into the ditch – presumably from an internal bank, whose earthen core was then pushed in on top. This suggests a deliberate levelling of the ditch probably at some point in the 1st century AD.

6.2.2 Cut features

4004, 4005, 4008, 4009, 4010, 4011, 4012, 4013, 4016, 4017, 4018, 4019, 4020, 4031, 4033, 4034, 4038, 4039, 4040, 4041, 4046, 4051, 4053, 4054, 4055, 4056, 4058, 4059, 4060, 4061, 4062, 4063, 4064, 4065

Contained within the area defined by the oval enclosure ditch were eight postholes cutting the clay natural, although the area excavated was not large enough to determine what kind of structure(s) they were part of (Figure 30).

Located just to the north of both ditch terminals were two postholes (4005, 4054). Posthole 4005 was oval in plan, 0.16 m by 0.20 m and 0.17 m deep. It was steep-sided and filled by a light-brown, silty clay containing small stones (4004). Posthole 4054 was also oval in plan, 0.24 m by 0.22 m and 0.07 m deep. The sides sloped gradually to a flat base. The posthole was filled by a light-brown, silty clay (4053). The similarity of the size and fill of these

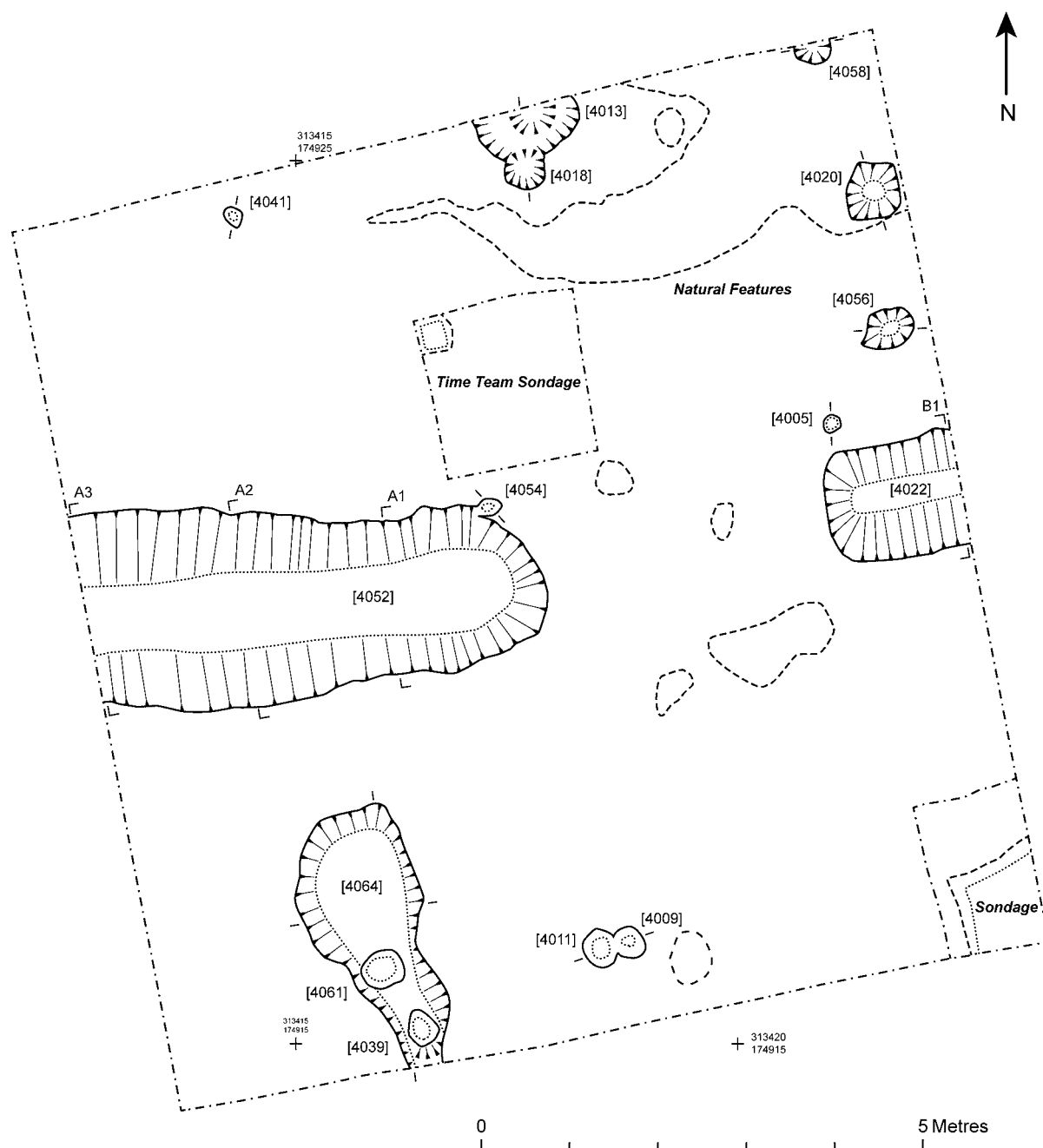


Fig. 26. Trench 4 post-excavation plan

postholes, and their position just to the north of either ditch terminal, suggest that they are a pair, representing the footings of a pair of gateposts at the entrance into the oval enclosure.

To the north of 4005 were three postholes (4056, 4020, 4058). Posthole 4020 was oval in plan, 0.48 m by 0.60 m and 0.10 m deep, with shallow, graduating sides to a flat base. It was filled by a friable, reddish-brown, silty clay that contained small angular stones and charcoal flecks (4019). Posthole 4056 was circular in plan, 0.54 m in diameter and 0.29 m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. It was excavated by Time Team in 2012 and allocated cut number 407. Posthole 4058 was not fully

exposed as it ran into the section to the north. It was 0.18 m in diameter and 0.17 m deep with shallow sloping sides forming a conical base. It was filled by a light-brown, sandy clay that contained medium sized sub-angular stones which possibly represent post-packing.

To the west were three more postholes. Posthole 4041 was sub-oval in plan, 0.33 m by 0.35 m and 0.08 m in depth. It had shallow sloping sides graduating to an uneven base. It was filled by a friable, light-brown, silty clay containing small stones (4040). Posthole 4013 was circular in plan, 0.54 m in diameter, and 0.14 m deep, with shallow sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by dark reddish-brown, sandy clay that contained many



Fig. 27. Photo of Trench 4 after excavation showing enclosure ditch terminals and entrance, looking southwest

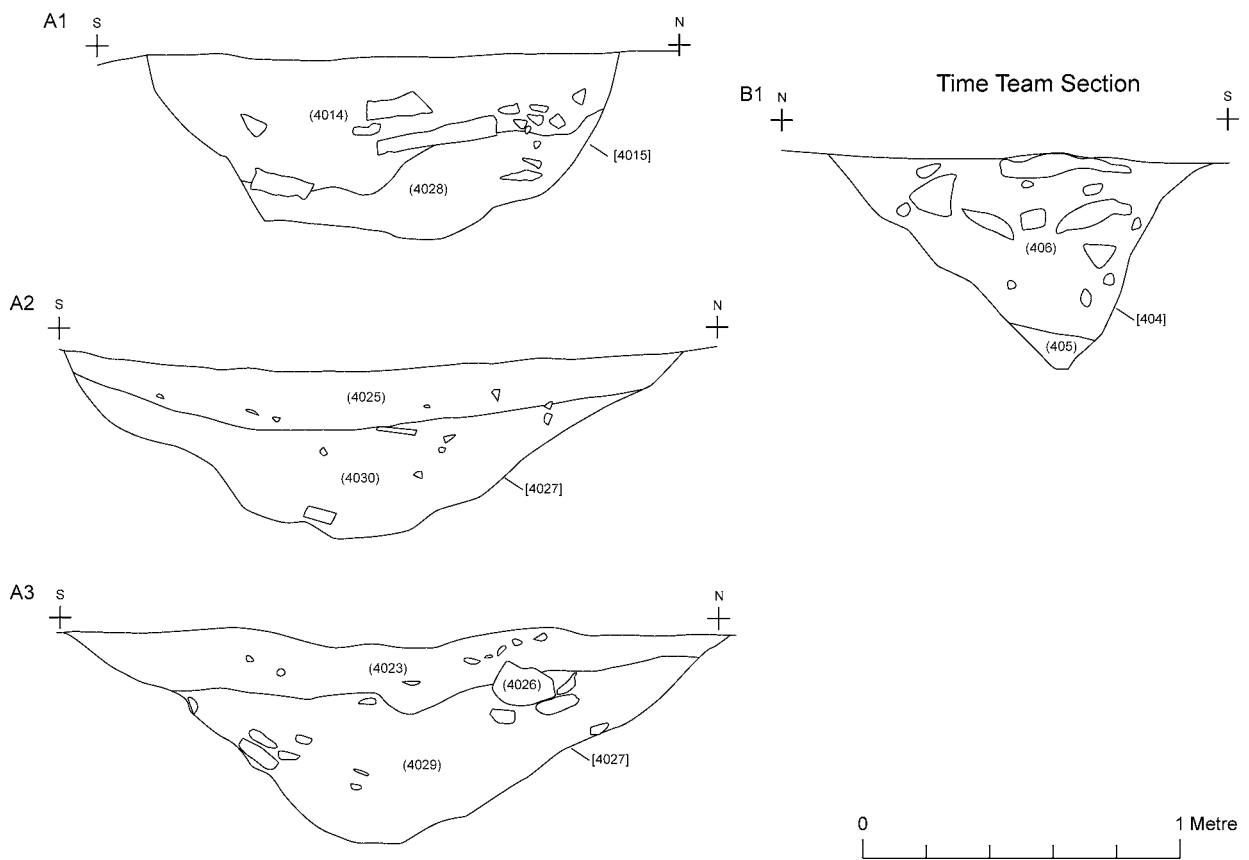


Fig. 28. Trench 4 enclosure ditch sections



Fig. 29. East facing section of enclosure ditch terminal showing rubble fill

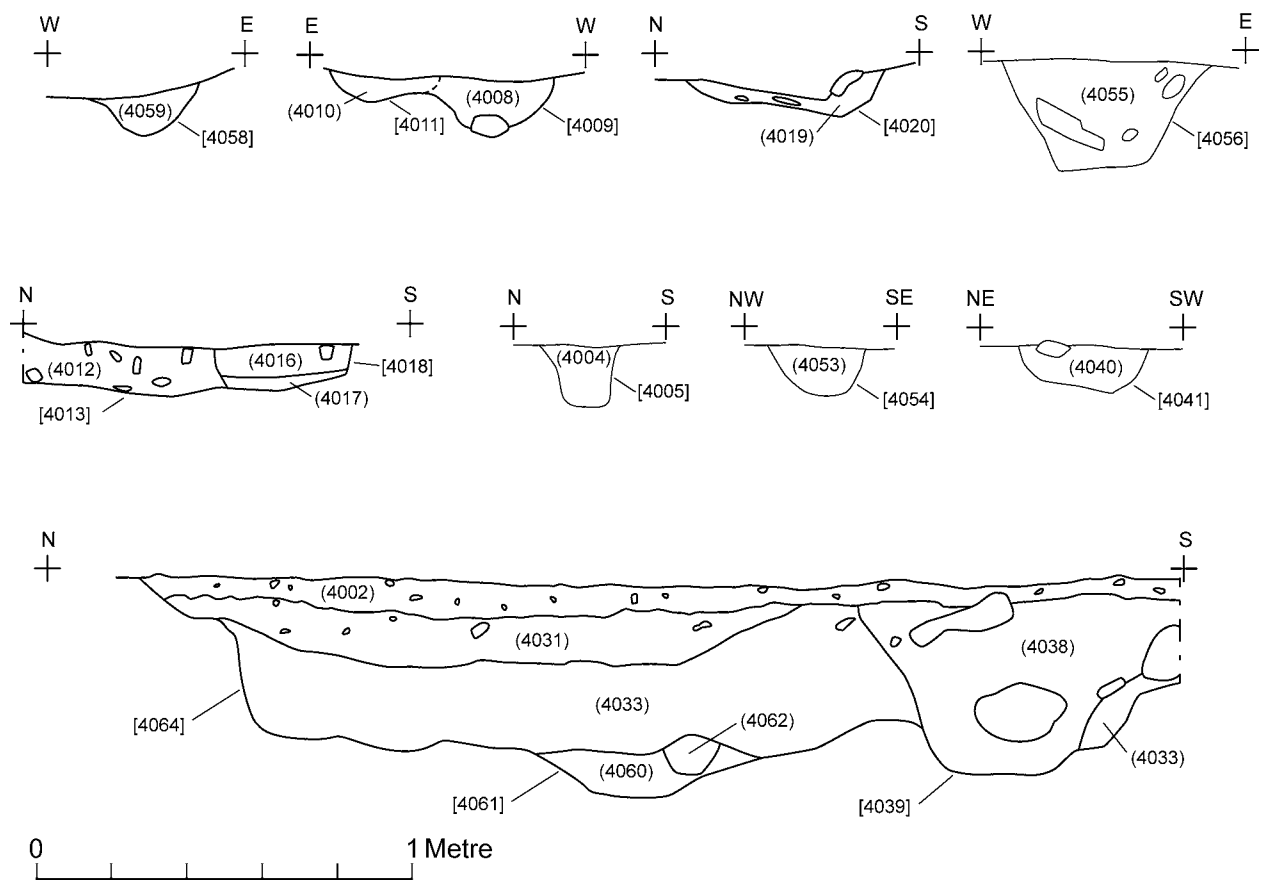


Fig. 30. Trench 4 posthole and pit sections



Fig. 31. Photo of possible corn drying kiln (4064), looking northwest. Note the fire-reddened stone at the pit's base.

stones, up to 0.16 m in size, and charcoal flecks (4012). This was cut by another posthole (4018), although this was not fully exposed as it ran into the section to the north. Posthole 4018 was 0.49 m in diameter and 0.18 m deep with shallow sloping sides. It was filled with two layers – the primary fill was a yellow, silty clay (4017) and the secondary fill was an orangey, grey, silty clay that contained charcoal flecks (4016).

Outside of the area defined by the enclosure, in the southern half of the trench, a group of five cut features were identified. In the south-west corner of the trench was posthole 4061. This was circular in plan, 0.60 m in diameter and 0.14 m deep, with steeply sloping sides. It was filled with a friable, brownish-black, silty clay (4060) and five, burnt, packing stones up to 0.10 m in size (4062). Truncating the posthole was a pear-shaped pit, 3.06 m by 1.40 m and 0.40 m deep (4064) (Figure 31). The pit cut had a U-shaped profile with broad sloping slides leading to a flat base (4037). The lowest fill was a light-brown sandy silt containing charcoal flecks (4063) on top of which was a circular orangey-red heat-affected sandstone slab, 0.70 m in diameter and 0.06 m thick (4065). Surrounding the stone was a compact, pliable, dark red clay (4034). This was covered by a dark brown-black pliable clayey silt (4033, 4046) rich in charcoal, burnt stone and containing some carbonised plant remains. The final fill was a dark greyish-brown, silty clay (4031) also containing frequent charcoal flecks and burnt angular stones. From this fill a Roman copper alloy enamelled

disc brooch was recovered probably dating to the 2nd or 3rd century AD (Hattatt 2000). The charcoal rich fills suggest that this pit may have been a kiln, possibly for drying grain. Cutting the pit was posthole 4039. This was circular in plan, 0.50 m in diameter and 0.49 m in depth, with steep sides and a flat base. It was filled by a dark brown-black compacted clay containing frequent charcoal flecks (4038) and a number of stones, up to 0.2 m in size and including a probable whetstone (4051).

Two metres to the east of this pit and posthole cluster was a double posthole (4009, 4011). Posthole 4009 was circular in plan, 0.28 m in diameter and 0.12 m deep with steeply sloping sides. It was filled by a brownish-black compact clay containing frequent small stones (4008). Posthole 4011 was also circular in plan, 0.26 m in diameter and 0.11 m deep with steeply sloping sides. It was filled by a yellowish-brown compact clay (4010). It was not possible to ascertain which posthole cut the other, and it is possible that they are contemporary.

6.3 Trench 5

An area 15 m by 4 m was opened up by machine directly over Time Team's Trench 5, which had been placed over a section of the oval enclosure ditch (as explored in Trench 4) and what appeared from the geophysics to be a larger enclosure boundary to the east (Figure 32). The objective was to recover more dating material and environmental remains from the oval enclosure ditch and fully explore

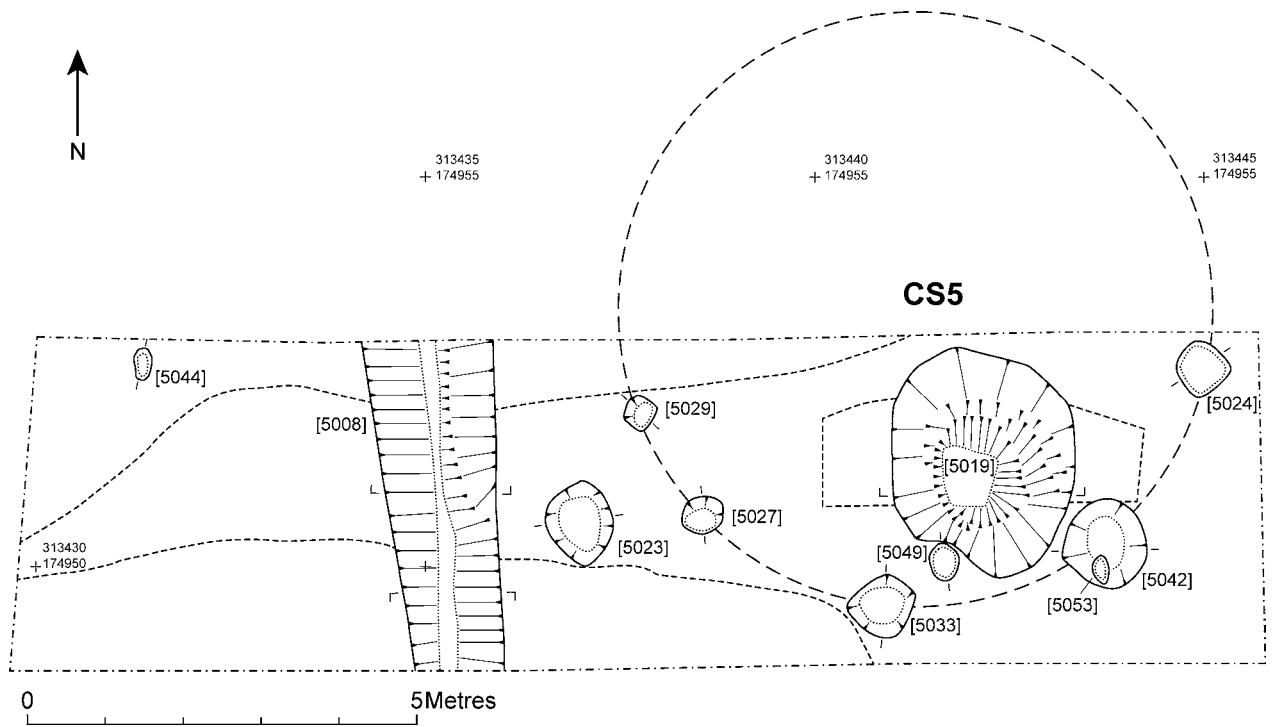


Fig. 32. Trench 5 post-excavation plan



Fig. 33. Photo of Trench 5 looking west showing features cut into the clay natural. Note the oval enclosure ditch in the background

the large enclosure boundary as this was not bottomed by Time Team.

Below the modern turf and topsoil (5001) was a loosely compacted orangey-brown, silty, clayey deposit up to 0.35 m in depth (5002). It contained highly fragmented pottery sherds, and corroded metal objects and represents a relict ploughsoil that extends across the majority of the hilltop. This deposit (5002) directly overlay the natural geology (5003), which demonstrated significant variation in colour with irregular patches of a yellowy-brown clay interspersed with a compact, pale yellowy-green clay. Some of these patches of yellowy-brown clay were investigated and found to have irregular shapes, diffuse edges and uneven bases suggesting that they are periglacial in origin.

Cut into the clay natural (5003) were a number of archaeological features including a section of the oval enclosure ditch, several postholes and scoops and a large circular pit (described below as the large enclosure boundary) (Figure 33).

6.3.1 The oval enclosure ditch

5008, 5009, 5016, 5017

A 4 m section of the oval enclosure ditch (5008) was exposed running north-south through the trench. A 1 m wide cutting across the ditch (509) had been excavated by Time Team in 2012. This year, having removed the backfill from the Time Team slot, a further 1 m wide cutting was excavated across the ditch leaving two 1 m wide baulks, which were subsequently excavated (Figure 34).

The ditch exhibited similar fills to that of the ditch excavated in Trench 4, although the profile was of different character and variable even along the short length of the ditch exposed in the trench. At its northern extent in the trench the ditch was U-shaped, 1.3 m wide and 0.48 m deep, with gently sloping sides leading to a flat base. At its southern extent, the ditch was V-shaped, 1.5 m wide and 0.5 m deep, with gently sloping sides. Again, three fills were identified (not shown in section). The basal fill was a mid grey-brown, silty clay (5009, 5017). Sealing this was a light greyish-brown, silty clay (5016). At the interface between the two contexts a number of large flat stones, up to 0.2 m in size, were identified. These appeared to have been intentionally laid flat within the ditch fill and suggest deliberate levelling of the ditch (Figure 35). Late Iron Age bead-rimmed pottery recovered from the ditch fills is consistent with the material recovered from the enclosure ditch in Trench 4 and suggests that the ditch was levelled at some point in the 1st century AD.

6.3.2 The large enclosure boundary

5019, 5020, 5021, 5026, 5036, 5037, 5038, 5039, 5040, 5041, 5054

The large enclosure boundary lay around 5 m to the east of the oval enclosure ditch. Although the geophysics showed the boundary to be segmented, Time Team interpreted it as a ditch and its fragmented character was considered to be due to differing fills (Wessex Archaeology 2013, 4). Time Team partially excavated the feature and identified six fills (505, 506, 507, 508, 512, 513), the most interesting of which was 508, which contained a dump of furnace or hearth debris, and a substantial assemblage of pottery interpreted as Romano-British. However, due to health and safety considerations they did not bottom the feature. Therefore the objective this year was to fully explore and characterise it, and to recover more dating material.

When the trench had been fully opened and cleaned, and the complete plan of the feature (5019) exposed, it was clear that it was not a continuous linear ditch running north-south through the trench, but rather a large oval pit, 2.4 m by 2.8 m and 1.28 m in depth, with steeply sloping sides and a circular, flat base (Figure 36). The basal fill was a firm, dark brown, silty clay (5041) which presumably represents natural silting and erosion. This was sealed by a loose, mid brown, silty clay (5026) that contained small sub-angular stones, pottery sherds, bone and frequent chunks of green-grey clay, possibly redeposited natural. Above this was a small deposit of compact, light greeny-brown, silty clay (5039). Above this, on both sides of the section through the pit, were thin deposits, up to 0.4 m thick, of mid reddish-brown, sandy clay that probably represents natural erosion and in-filling (5040). This deposit is likely equivalent to Time Team contexts 512 and 513. It was sealed by a dark brown, silty clay (5021), up to 0.3 m thick and containing frequent charcoal flecks, animal bone and large pottery sherds. This is likely to be deliberate deposition of domestic rubbish. Above this was a plastic dark brown-black, silty clay that contained frequent charcoal and coal inclusions and large sherds of pottery (5020). This likely represents a discrete dump of material equivalent to 508. Sealing this layer was a dark brown, silty clay containing frequent charcoal flecks, frequent sub-angular stones, animal bone and pottery sherds (5038) equivalent to 506. Above this was a mid-brown, sandy silt containing sub-rounded and sub-angular stones and pottery (5037) equivalent to 507. The final fill, equivalent to 505, was a light-brown, sandy silt containing frequent sub-angular stones (5036) and was probably intended to level the area where the pit had been open (Figures 37-38).

The geophysics clearly shows that this large enclosure boundary is segmented and should now be interpreted as

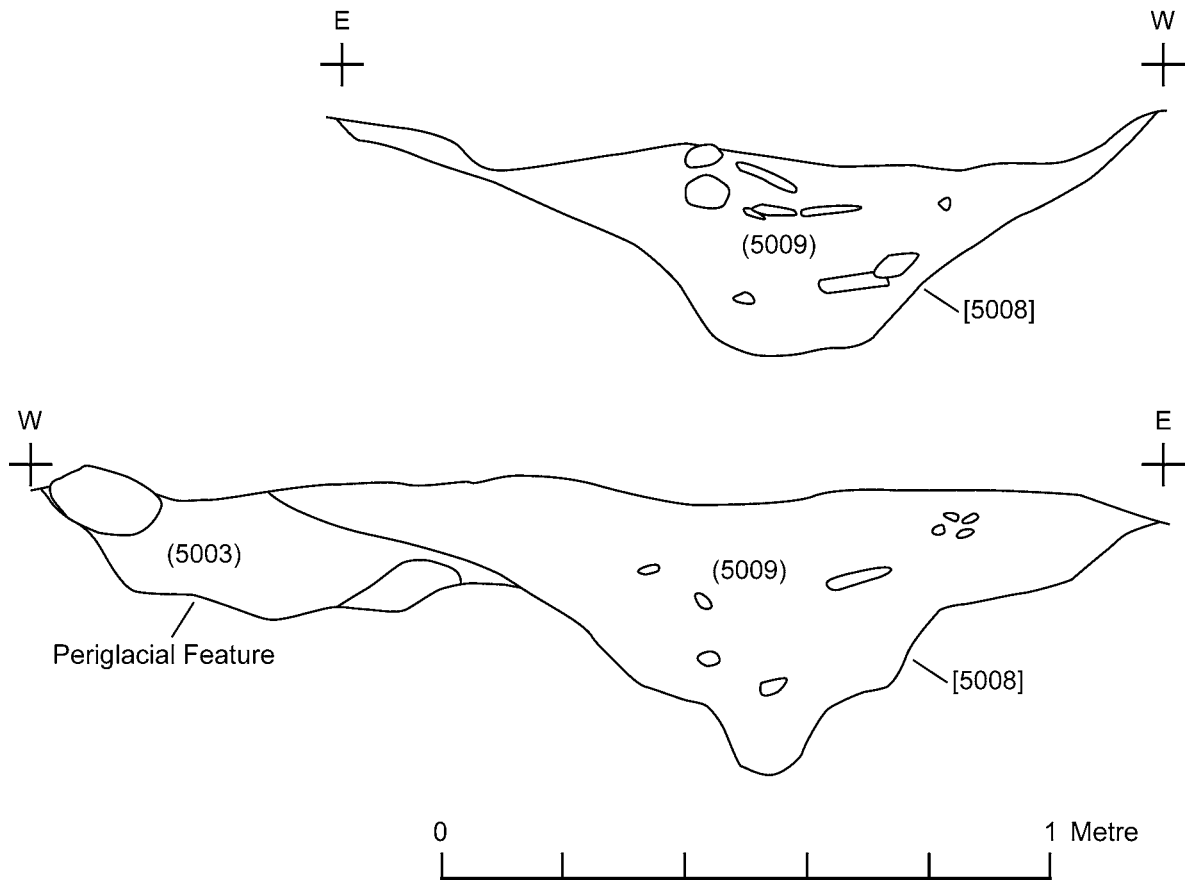


Fig. 34. Trench 5 ditch sections



Fig. 35. South facing section of enclosure ditch 5008 showing rubble fill

a linear line of pits. The near circular shape of pit 5019 in plan suggests that it was originally very deliberately and carefully excavated. The fill cycle of the pit appears to suggest an initial phase of natural erosion and silting indicating that after construction it was left open for some time. Subsequently, it was used as a dump for domestic rubbish before being finally levelled. The large assemblage of pottery recovered from the fills is dominated by Roman Greywares, Black Burnished Wares and Severn Valley Wares suggesting a date between the 2nd and 3rd century AD.

6.3.3 Cut features

5022, 5023, 5024, 5025, 5027, 5028, 5029, 5030, 5031, 5032, 5033, 5034, 5035, 5042, 5043, 5044, 5045, 5049, 5050, 5051, 5052, 5053

Contained within the trench were nine features representing a range of postholes and shallow scoops or pits (Figure 37). All of them cut the clay natural.

Located 3 m west of the oval enclosure ditch was posthole 5044. This was oval in plan, 0.40 m by 0.16 m and 0.19 m deep. It was steep-sided leading to a concave base and filled by a light red-brown, silty clay containing small stones (5045).

Just to the east of the oval enclosure ditch, in the centre of the trench, was a shallow scoop (5023). This was oval in plan, 0.28 m by 0.45 m and 0.07 m deep, with gently sloping sides. It was filled by a brownish-grey, silty clay containing some charcoal flecks and a small fragment of copper alloy sheet (5022).

Encircling pit 5019 were six postholes (5024, 5027, 5029, 5033, 5042, 5053). These were spaced around 1.5 m to 2.0 m apart in an arc, possibly representing

the southern half of a circular structure (CS5) 7.5 m in diameter. Posthole 5024 was circular in plan, 0.67 m in diameter and 0.22 m deep, with steeply sloping sides and a flat base. It was filled by a light brown, silty clay (5025) containing a number of angular stones, up to 0.15 m in size (5032), which were probably packing for a post. Posthole 5027 was oval in plan, 0.77 m by 0.70 m and 0.06 m in depth, and filled by a brownish-grey, silty clay containing small angular and rounded stones (5028). Posthole 5029 was oval in plan, 0.39 m by 0.34 m and 0.11 m in depth. It was filled by a dark greyish-brown, silty clay (5031) that contained several sub-angular stones, up to 0.13 m in size (5030), which probably represent packing for a post. Posthole 5033 was also oval in plan, 0.78 m by 0.90 m and 0.20 m in depth. It was filled by a mid brown, silty clay (5034) that contained several sub-angular post packing stones, up to 0.20 m in size (5035). Posthole 5042 was of similar dimensions – it was circular in plan, 0.88 m in diameter and 0.34 m in depth, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was filled by a dark orangey-brown, silty clay (5043), which contained many sub-angular stones, up to 0.15 m in size (5052) that presumably represent the packing for a post. Cutting the base of this feature was posthole 5053. This was oval in plan, 0.25 m by 0.20 m and 0.17 m in depth, with steeply sloping sides and a concave base. It was also filled by 5043 and 5052. It is possible that 5053 was the original cut for a post, which was widened (5042) to accommodate post packing.

Contained within the arc of CS5 and located immediately to the south of pit 5019 was a small posthole (5049). This was oval in plan, 0.46 m by 0.37 m and 0.21 m in depth, with steeply sloping sides leading to a concave base. It was filled by a loose, mid greyish-brown, silty clay (5051) which contained several sub-angular stones, up to 0.15 m in size (5050), which were likely post packing.



Fig. 36. North facing section of pit 5019

Excavation Results

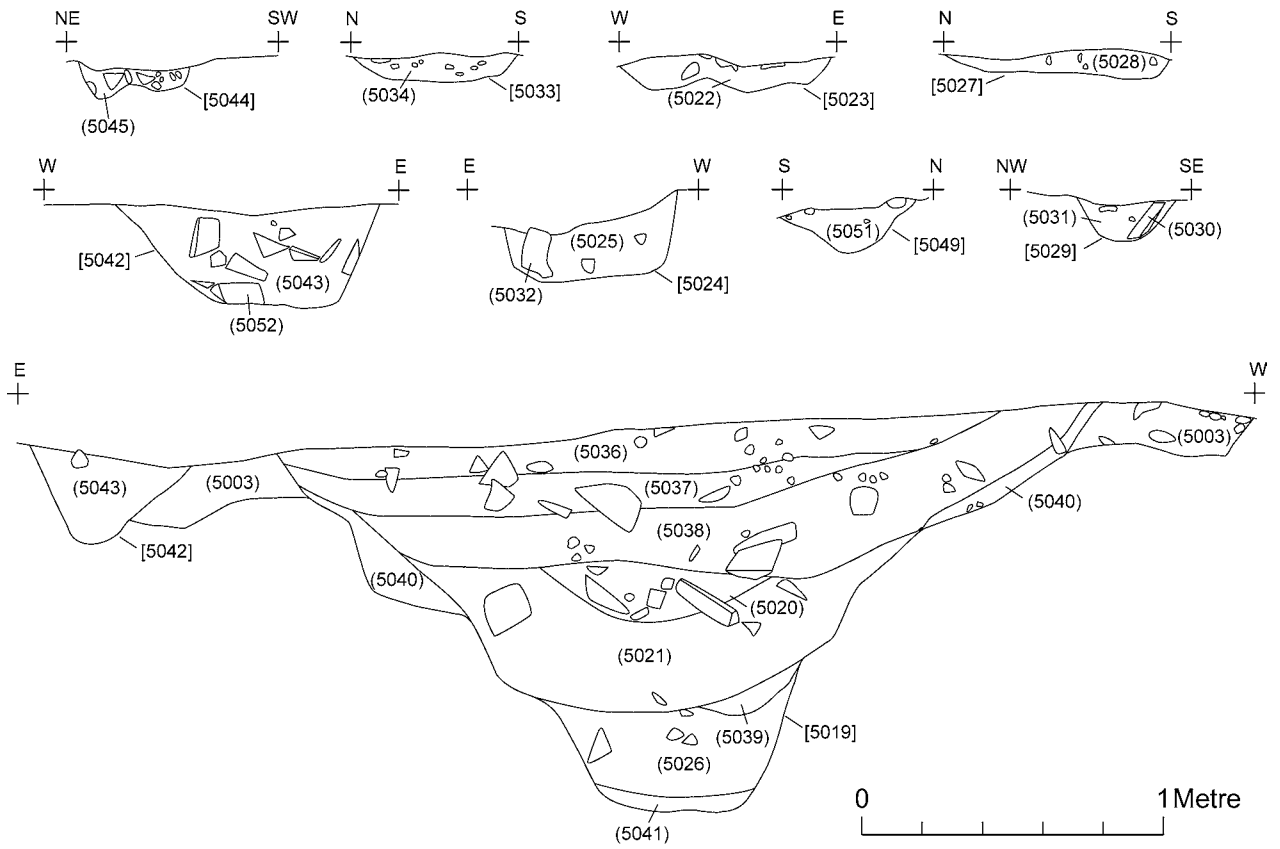


Fig. 37. Trench 5 pit and posthole sections

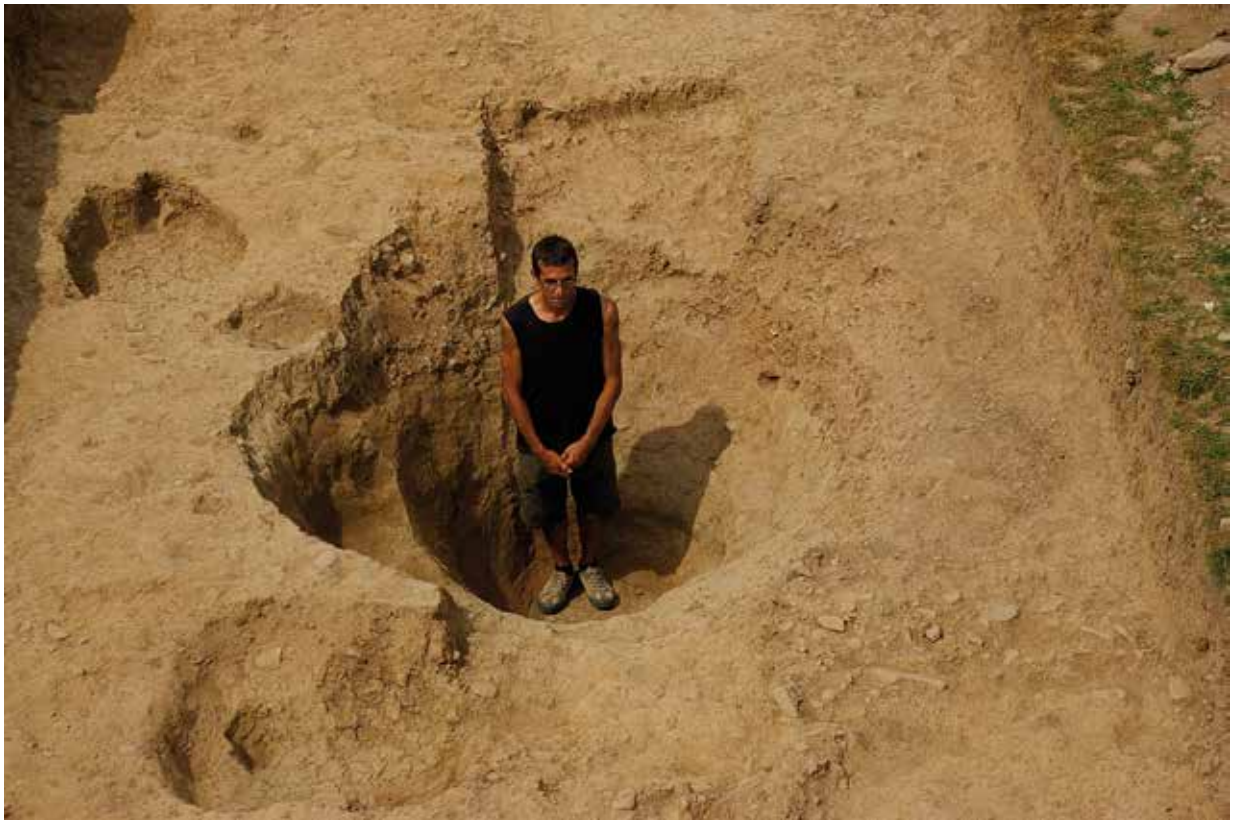


Fig. 38. Pit 5019 after excavation, looking west

7. Finds

The specialist finds and palaeo-environmental reports are currently in preparation, but brief summaries are provided here.

Finds were recovered from all three of the trenches excavated. Quantities were significantly larger than the assemblages recovered by Time Team, but given the larger areas opened this year that should be expected. Pottery in particular was recovered in an appreciable quantity. No human bone was identified, but animal bone did survive, although preservation varied dramatically across the trenches. The chronological focus of material is in the Iron Age and Romano-British periods, although there are also a few items of Medieval and Post-Medieval date.

Condition of the material is generally poor; ceramic material (pottery, ceramic building material, fired clay) has suffered high levels of surface and edge abrasion, and the ironwork, in particular, is heavily corroded. This has hampered initial identifications.

7.1 Pottery

An cursory initial assessment of the pottery assemblage was provided by Peter Webster, National Museum Wales. The overall yield of pottery from sealed archaeological contexts was large, made up of 1913 sherds (Table 1). Of these, 235 were prehistoric (mainly or wholly Iron Age), and 1678 were Roman, making Roman pottery by far the most prolific find. Indeed, Roman was the only period represented in all three areas investigated.

	Prehistoric	Roman
Trench 3	144	1089
Trench 4	91	214
Trench 5	0	375
TOTAL	235	1678

Table 1. Yield of pottery from sealed archaeological contexts

7.1.1 The Prehistoric Pottery

An assemblage of 235 sherds was retrieved from 46 archaeological contexts (see Appendix 1). Of these, the following fabric variations were noted:

1. Sherds with angular quartz temper, are from thick-walled vessels and look to be earlier in tradition than the predominantly thinner-walled sherds of Late Iron Age tradition, with small vesicles, grog and quartz grains as tempers.
2. Small to medium sized globular bowls, with everted and rounded rims and horizontal burnishing may best be paralleled with Late Iron Age to transitional 1st AD ceramic assemblages. The fabric with small angular vesicles would be consistent with a wider south Wales tradition of calcite and limestone tempered wares during the Later Iron Age, also present on early Roman military sites here, and continuing until around AD60/70.

7.1.2 The Roman Pottery

As already stated, Roman pottery was the most prolific ceramic find, making up 1678 of the 1913 sherds found from secure archaeological contexts, and were represented in all three areas investigated. Of these, the following fabric variations were noted:

1. Samian. Only 2 small fragments of samian were found.
2. Black-burnished Ware (BB1) is the most common cooking fabric imported into Wales in the Roman period. Most or all found at Caerau is derived from Dorset. Importation into South East Wales appears to have started with the conquest, but Black-burnished ware does not appear in quantity before the early second century. Here, diagnostic pieces span the second to the fourth centuries.
3. South Wales Reduced Ware. This grey sandy fabric is ubiquitous in South East Wales throughout the Roman period and it is unsurprising that this is the most common Roman fabric from Caerau. Kilns are likely to have been in rural locations and scattered, making this a local tradition of potting, rather than the product of a single centre. Jars seem to predominate. The restricted distribution area of the ware tends to make dating somewhat generalised but it may be significant that most diagnostic pieces at Caerau seem to be second or third century.

4. Severn Valley Ware. This occurs in Wales throughout the Roman period, but on the coastal plain there are more early examples than later.

5. Other fabrics have been given a more generalised description and most will be local in origin. Most common are oxidised fabrics and it is likely that many of these are products of the same kilns as the South Wales Reduced Wares.

The assemblage is notable, as much for its absences as for what is present. Finewares are almost totally missing. The two fragments of samian ware are small and much abraded, but are likely to be plain forms. Otherwise the collection is largely kitchen orientated. Even here, there are some notable absences – there are only 3 sherds of mortaria and no amphorae.

7.2 Objects of glass

The specialist report is currently being undertaken by Elizabeth Foulds, Durham University, but an initial assessment is provided here by the authors. A single, decorated, spherical glass object, 1.0 cm in diameter, with a perforation through the centre of it, was found from context 4025 (upper ditch fill) from Trench 4 (Figure 39). According to Guido (1978) this object appears to be a Class 11 Meare variant bead - these are characterised by colourless glass with opaque yellow design, and are most likely produced at Meare, Somerset. The Caerau bead is decorated with a single 'wave' design around the centre typical of 'Type G'. This is dateable to the 1st century BC to 1st century AD.

7.3 Metalwork

The metalwork includes objects of lead, copper alloy and iron. Conservation of the metalwork is currently being undertaken by Cardiff University, but an initial overview is provided here by the authors.

7.3.1 Objects of iron

The iron objects are all heavily corroded, but after x-raying a number of nails and other small objects can be recognised (Appendix 2). Other objects are unidentifiable. At least some of the iron objects came from contexts dated as Romano-British or prehistoric on pottery grounds.

7.3.2 Objects of lead

A single lead object was recovered from a secure sealed archaeological context (3090). This was a thin strip of lead approximately 5 cm in length. A number of other artefacts, including a possible 17th century musket ball, were recovered by metal detectorists from the spoil heaps.

7.3.3 Objects of copper alloy

Three objects of copper alloy were recovered from secure archaeological contexts from the three trenches. A thin piece of copper alloy sheet was recovered from Trench 5 (5022) and a small copper alloy brooch pin was recovered from Trench 3 (3016). Both contexts are likely to be Romano-British in date based on associated pottery.

The most notable copper alloy object was a small disc brooch, 3 cm in diameter, in-laid with green, red and grey enamel (Figure 40) from the upper fill of the pear-shaped pit in Trench 4 (4031). It is likely to be 2nd-3rd century AD in date.



Fig. 39. Caerau Iron Age glass bead. Left: side view; Right: plan view



Fig. 40. Copper alloy disc brooch. Top: front view;
Bottom: back view

7.3.4 Slag

Approximately 0.789 kg of material identified as slag was collected, almost all of which comes from Romano-British contexts and is likely to derive from iron smithing, although a small fragment from Trench 3 (3058) is a smelting slag.

7.4 Objects of stone

An initial assessment of the objects of stone is provided here by the authors as no specialist report is currently available. The most recognisable stone objects comprise 12 whetstones, 8 rounded river pebbles, probably slingstones, and 27 pieces of worked flint.

7.4.1 Whetstones

Twelve worked stones with distinct flat edges were recovered, likely to represent whetstones. The stones varied in size from 5 cm to 20 cm, but all appeared to be fine-grained calcareous sandstones.

7.4.2 Slingstones

Eight rounded river pebbles were recovered from across all three trenches. These were all around 5-7 cm in size and weighing 0.08 kg. They are likely to be slingstones.

7.4.3 Flint

In total 27 pieces of worked flint were recovered from across all three trenches. The majority were small flakes or scrapers. A single piece from trench 3 (3058) may be the tip of an arrowhead, likely to be early to mid Bronze Age.

8. Palaeo-Environmental Summary

8.1 Geoarchaeological Report

by *Mike Allen*

The excavations at Caerau Hillfort (CAER Heritage Project) were visited on 17 July to examine the soil beneath the rampart (3128), and provide other general geoarchaeological advice.

The site lies on typical argillic pelosols of the Worcester Association (Findlay *et al.* 1984) over Mercain Mudstone Group.

8.1.1 Specific Aims of geoarchaeological work

- to define the nature of the humic ‘trample’ layer (3121) in the rampart
- to examine and characterise the buried soil below the rampart
- to examine the reddish material at the tail of the rampart
- to examine the ‘orange’ material on the outer edge over the rampart
- to sample any of the above appropriately as, and if, required

8.1.2 Descriptions and samples

Profiles in Sondages A and C through the rampart in Trench 3 were described and sampled. In addition periglacial features were cursorily examined to confirm their periglacial, rather than anthropogenic, origin. Field descriptions follow pedological terminology outlined by Hodgson (1976).

8.1.3 Rampart and buried soils (Trench 3, Sondages A and C)

Two profiles were examined in Trench 3, Soudage A; describing the rampart, a possible soil or humic layer within the rampart (3121) and the buried soil. The buried soil under the rampart was sampled as two undisturbed sediments in 8 cm x 12 cm kubiena tins. The buried soil was both better preserved, and was exposed and available for sampling in Soudage A. An occupation layer beneath, or as part of, the buried soil was recorded and sampled (S1) in Soudage C). The three kubiena samples were examined in the AEA laboratory facilities and descriptions made under low power magnification to augment field descriptions. Subsamples were removed for pollen.

8.1.3.1 Trench 3, Soudage A

The sondage sectioned the rampart with a steep outer edge, the main rampart and deposits against the tail of the rampart; all of which sealed a buried soil. Profile 1 (Table 2) describes the main rampart and buried soil (Figures 41 and 42) while profile 2 (Table 3) describes the material in the tail of the rampart (the buried soil was not excavated at this point).

The possible trample layer (3021) was examined in situ and described in detail and examined over a stretch of c.5 m. Small parts were removed from the section for examination under a hand lens, and contacts examined. The deposits was clearly heterogeneous with Ah (turf/topsoil) material present and Rw (parent material/natural) emplaced adjacent to each other. The sharp contact with ‘crusts’ at the contact with the surface of the primary rampart indicates emplacement, rather than in situ soil development, and certainly no clear evidence of weathering of that interface was seen.

This is more reminiscent of topsoil material and the natural/parent material being spilled over the rampart either deliberately or inadvertently during construction. The admixture of material and compression at the contact may suggest trampling, but of soil material rather than a developing turf. This seems so clear that a sample was not taken. Also the section was very heavily baked at this horizon and would make recovering an undisturbed sample fraught with difficulties.

8.1.3.2 Trench 3, Soudage C

Another section through the rampart (Soudage C) did not reveal the ‘soil’ horizon between the primary and secondary rampart, but beneath the secondary rampart is an earlier charcoal rich and disturbed buried soil/occupation or midden deposit, from which one undisturbed sample ‘S1’ was taken (Figures 43 and 44) and described in Table 4.

8.1.3.3 Trench 3, periglacial features

A number of relatively shallow ‘periglacial’ features were cursorily examined:

Pit 3114 – This was a shallow sub-oval irregular feature containing a coarse silt and unsorted medium and fine sand

Depth (cm)	Unit	Sample	Description
0-11	A		Yellowish brown to light olive brown (10YR 5/6 to 2.5 Y 5/6) humic silt loam, medium to small weak blocky structure, stone-free, common fine fleshy roots, medium woody roots present, clear wavy boundary
11-61	Rampart 2 (3139)		Brown (7.5YR 5/4) massive silty (clay) loam with lenses of reddish brown (5YR 5/3-4) silt (depositional structures) and vertical olive yellow (2.5Y 6/6) discolouration on former cracking faces. Essentially stone-free, but very rare medium stones, abrupt to sharp boundary
61-74	?soil (3121)		(?3121) Dark yellowish brown ?humic silt (clay) loam with rare small and very small stone, and distinct small patches (20mm x 33mm) of dark reddish brown firm silty loam, abrupt to sharp boundary. In some places the rampart immediately beneath this layer was macro laminated (hand lens), with dried crust suggesting wash deposits and compression prior to, or as a consequence of deposition of the 3121. There was no evidence of weathering of the rampart surface and the contact in places was sharp. Dumped / trampled Ah material mixed with parent material (reddish brown patches)
74-79	Rampart 1 (3127)		(3127) Mainly greenish olive silt with some Ah and A (topsoil) material
79-92	?bA (3170, 3128)	S2	80cm (3128) Dark yellowish brown to dark brown (10YR 3/4 to 7.5YR 3/4) humic silt with weak incipient medium crumb structure, rare medium inclusions of burnt stone, common charcoal fragments to 3mm, clear wavy boundary 82cm 84cm 86cm 88cm 90cm
92-109	?bB	S3	104cm (3128) Brown (10YR 4/3 to 7.5YR 4/3) to dark brown (10YR 3/3) massive silt loam, stone-free, 106cm 108cm
109+	Rw		110cm Massive firm stone-free greyish green and light olive brown (2.5Y 5/4) silt 112cm

S2 = 78-90cm; S3 = 102-114cm

Table 2. Profile 1 - main rampart over buried soil

Depth (cm)	Unit	Pollen sample	Description
0-21	(3008)		Yellowish brown massive dense stone-free silt drying to 'pink;', or reddish yellow (5YR 6/6 to 7.5YR 6/6), rare small charcoal pieces to 1-2mm, clear to abrupt wavy boundary
21-33	?soil (3007)		Dark yellowish brown ?humic silt (clay) loam with rare small and very small stone, and distinct small patches (15mm x 38mm) of dark reddish brown firm silty loam, abrupt boundary Dumped mixed trampled soil
33+	Primary Rampart (3120)		Greenish olive massive, stone free silt to silt loam, with occasional inclusion of dark reddish brown silt loam (?Ah material)

Table 3. Profile 2 - tail of rampart with overlying deposits



Fig. 41. Trench 3, Sondage A; Left: rampart and top of buried soil; Right: detail of the buried soil



Fig 42. Trench 3, Sondage A: Detail of the brown earth buried soil (left) and samples 2 and 3 (right)



Fig. 43. Trench 3, Sondage C: Midden / occupation deposit under soil and rampart before and during sampling (for detail see below, Figure 28)

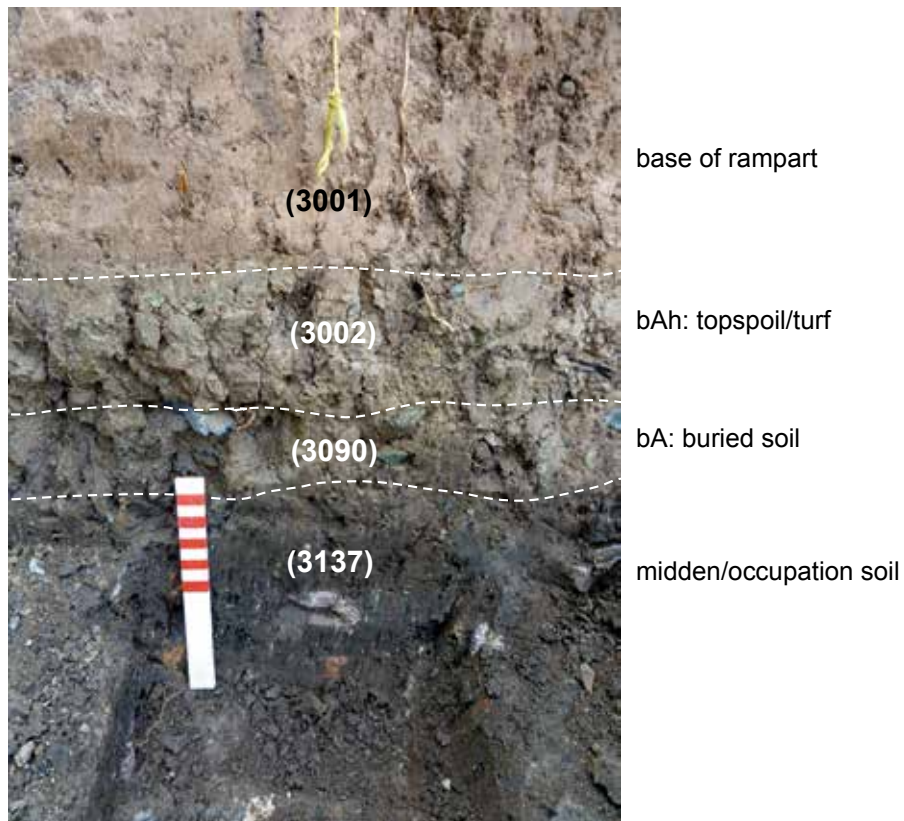


Fig. 44. Detail of the soil and midden under the rampart in Trench 3, Sondage C

Depth (cm)	Unit	Pollen sample	Description
0-9	(3002)		Dark yellowish brown silty loam with moderate small and medium crumbs, many fine fibrous roots, clear wavy boundary
9-34	Rampart (3090)		Brown (7.5YR) silt to fine sandy silt, massive (?aeolian)
34-44			Basal part - soil with medium crumb structure
44-52	bAh1		Dark greyish brown (10YR 4/2) stone-free silt loam, clear crumb structure, Ah
52-70	bA2 (3137)	S1	Very dark brown (10YR 3/2) silty clay loam, few medium stones, many charcoal pieces, pottery midden-like material
			50cm
			52cm
			54cm
			56cm
			58cm
			60cm
70+			unexcavated

Table 4. Profile 3 – secondary rampart

Trench/cut	Kubiena sample	Deposit	Pollen sample
Profile 3 Trench 3, cut 3	S1	bAh1	50cm
		bA2	52cm 54cm 56cm 58cm 60cm
			6 samples
Profile 1 Trench 3, cut 1	S2	?bA	80cm 82cm 84cm 86cm 88cm 90cm
	S3	?bB	104cm 106cm 108cm 110cm 112cm
			12 samples

Table 5. List of pollen samples removed from the two profiles

Spread within CS1 (no context number) – This was a spread of common unsorted subrounded medium stones in a coarse and fine sand matrix (Table 5, and see descriptions above).

Both features were considered to be a result of periglacial action weathering, solution or cryoturbation with infills distinctly different from those in archaeological features or tree-throw hollows / tree sub-soil hollows.

8.1.4 Palaeo-environmental (pollen) subsampling

The three undisturbed samples were examined in the AEA laboratory facilities. The sample surfaces were cleaned, described, and pollen samples removed prior to storage and possible soil thin section manufacture. Samples were removed at 10 mm band-width and at 20 cm intervals

8.1.5 Geoarchaeological Interpretation

The site visit allows some basic field interpretations to be made regarding the history of the development of the ramparts and pre rampart activity in particular. These interpretations are presented below in chronological order.

8.1.5.1 Periglacial features

There are a series of shallow periglacial features scattered across the site that both overlie and underlie the archaeology.

8.1.5.2 Possible Midden/Occupation deposit

Beneath the soil in Sondage C there is a distinct occupation of midden layer (3137) containing charcoal, pottery and bone. This is reminiscent of occupation debris/midden. It is sealed by soil material suggesting either dumping of A horizon material ('topsoil') or the development of a soil over this deposit prior to the emplacement of the rampart.

8.1.5.3 Buried Soil beneath the Rampart (Sondage C)

The buried soil over the rampart has Ah (turf) horizon and soil (A horizon) (see Figure 44) suggesting that this is a developed soil over the occupation deposit. As such this might suggest a period of stasis between the pre-rampart occupation and rampart construction. A period we might measure in decadal/centurial rather than annual/decadal scale.

8.1.5.4 Buried Soil beneath the Rampart (3128) (Sondage A)

The buried soil is a well developed brown earth suggesting long term soil development prior to the rampart. Field observation could not confirm the presence or absence of a turf (Ah) horizon, so no suggestions of deturfing prior to construction, or destruction of the turf by trample during the construction can be made. However the samples (S2 and S3) sample this profile and enable these questions to be addressed.

8.1.5.5 Humic horizon within the rampart (3121) (Sondage A)

A clear humic horizon occurs between the primary and secondary rampart in Sondage A, indicating two phases of construction. The significance of this layer was whether this represented an *in situ* turf/soil horizon developing on the rampart, or whether it was a trample horizon. It was examined in the field over a length of approximately 5 m.

This horizon was not a simple turf-line but a complex of admixed different soil and parent material ('natural') elements. It lay on, rather than was developed in the surface of the primary rampart. This is not an *in situ* soil or turf, but a mixed and probably trampled deposit comprising topsoil material possibly cut as a consequence of the start of construction of the enlarged rampart, and mixed and dropped in the process of its initial emplacements prior to the excavation and deposition of large massive deposits of parent material (natural).

8.1.5.6 Material accumulating against the rampart

Accumulating against the back of the rampart were silty deposits which were slightly stonier in Sondage A (3005, 3007). These are considered to be aeolian and colluvial in origin having blown and washed against the back of the rampart bank. The well-sorted silty nature may indicate aeolian (wind-blow) as a contributing factor, however all of the deposits and the parent material are predominantly silty. The few stones and nature of the deposits may also suggest some small-scale colluvial contribution as a

result of activity, occupation, trampling, pit-digging, and building construction etc.

8.1.6 Summary and site history

The pre-rampart activity is indicated by the 'occupation' or midden deposits beneath the primary rampart suggesting occupation prior to rampart construction. The soil over this deposit indicates a moderate lapse of time between the occupation deposit and the overlying phase of secondary rampart material.

This occupation/midden activity seems to be localised or sporadic as it was recorded in Sondage C, but not noted in Sondage B where an undisturbed typical brown earth soil was preserved beneath the primary rampart.

Occupation activity in the interior and adjacent to the ramparts destabilised the surface by trampling and creation of bare soil, and digging leading to shallow but extensive windblown deposits and colluvial deposits accumulating against the rampart.

8.1.7 Potential and Significance

8.1.7.1 Geoarchaeology and Soils

The trample layer (3121) was not sampled as the field observations and descriptions provide adequate interpretation.

The two buried soil profiles samples as undisturbed sediments in kubiena tins (S1-3) provide the opportunity of examining the pre-rampart activities and environment, as well as examining the construction.

There is the potential to examine points such as:

Sondage C, S1:

- what is the nature of the pre-rampart midden/occupation?
- Does this include just human activity or animal waste, trampling and stabling (see Potterne 2000; Lawson 2000, Macphail 2000; Allen 2000)

Sondage A, S2 & S3:

- what is the pre-rampart history and vegetation?
- is there evidence of pre-rampart soil disturbance, deforestation or cultivation?
- is there evidence of trampling, stock corralling or other activities prior to rampart construction?
- Was the turf removed before hillfort construction, or is its loss a result of pre-construction occupation and activity?

8.1.7.2 Pollen and Vegetation History

To augment the soil information there is the real possibility that soil pollen survives in the sampled deposit. If present this can provide a vegetation history and land-use history prior to the construction of the hillfort ramparts and

address questions such as:

- Is there evidence of the former woodland, and what was its nature?
- Is there evidence of woodland management?
- Was the woodland cleared for, or well before, the ramparts were constructed?
- Is the environment associated with occupation/midden deposit different to that immediately prior to the rampart construction?
- Is there evidence of land-use and cereal cultivation before the hillfort?

8.2 The Animal Bones

by Jennifer Jones

Animal bones recovered from the 2013 excavations at Caerau hillfort were analysed at the Cardiff University Osteoarchaeology Laboratory in February 2014. The assemblage has been phased according to archaeological context, and derives predominantly from Iron Age and Roman phases of occupation at the site, although more precise dating would be beneficial in establishing the chronology of the material. Bone specimens were available from a total of 47 different contexts.

8.2.1 Methodology

The recording strategy of Cardiff Osteoarchaeology Research Group (CORG) was employed during the analysis. To maximise the potential of the assemblage all fragments were analysed, and attributed to species, element, and completeness of the bone was determined. Measurable bones, isolated teeth, ageable jaws and almost all identifiable elements are classed as recordable, and are included in the NISP.

Ribs and cervical, thoracic and lumbar vertebrae were not identified to exact taxon but rather to the level of unidentified medium mammal (pig, sheep/goat, roe deer or canid) or unidentified large mammals (cattle, horse or red deer). These are all counted as fragments, rather than as identifiable specimens (NISP). Similarly tooth fragments, which represented less than 50% of the total tooth, were counted as fragments to minimise over inflation of NISP counts resulting from disintegration of fragile specimens post-depositionally.

Toothwear, where applicable was assessed using Grant (1982) for cattle, and Payne (1973) for sheep/goat. Bone fusion where applicable was recorded, and age ranges were attributed following Silver (1969). Measurements, where appropriate were taken following Von den Driesch (1976). The distinction between red deer (*Cervus elaphus*) and fallow deer (*Dama dama*) was determined using the criteria of Lister (1996). The 'zones' of bones were calculated in accordance with Serjeantson (1996) to determine the proportion of bones present, and the

minimum number of elements and animals available.

8.2.2 Results

A total of 970 bone fragments were available for analysis, of these a NISP (Number of Identifiable specimens) of only 115 bones were identifiable to species and element (12%). This is indicative of very poor preservation at the site, with many specimens representing small bone fragments with no distinguishing features. At the nearby hillfort at Llanmelin preservation was slightly better, with roughly 28% of the total fragments being identifiable to species. Soil acidity in Wales is not conducive to good bone preservation, which means that when combined with post-depositional land use practises that cause further erosion, few bone specimens survive for further analysis. Of the fragments identifiable to species at Caerau, loose teeth represented 31% of skeletal elements recorded. This, again, is indicative of relatively poor preservation as these elements are most resistant to destruction in the archaeological record.

8.2.2.1 Species composition

Cattle and sheep were present within the assemblage in similar proportions, indicating that these were both important species at Caerau, accounting for 37% and 28% of the total NISP respectively (see Table 6 and Figure 45). Cattle are a valuable source of protein providing both meat and milk for consumption, and despite the similar NISP counts for sheep and cattle, the relative contribution of cattle would have been greater than sheep due to the size difference of these individuals. Cattle would therefore have represented the main dietary protein source. Pig is the next most common species, comprising 10% of the total faunal assemblage. Horse and red deer were present within the assemblage, both each accounting for around 3% of the total assemblage size.

8.2.2.2 Species representation by phase

As demonstrated in Figure 46 and Table 7 the species representation within the Iron Age and Roman phases at the site are very similar, with cattle sheep and pig dominating the domestic faunal spectrum, with red deer also being identified in both phases. Slightly more sheep/goat specimens were identified in the Roman phase, and no pig specimens were observed, however the small sample sizes for both of these assemblages prevent clear patterns in the data from being identified. The main zooarchaeological difference between these two phases is the presence of horse within the assemblage during the Roman phases. There are also slightly fewer cattle bones in relation to sheep bones at the site, indicative of slightly different animal husbandry practises observed between these two phases, although the low NISP count makes these observations very tentative.

8.2.2.3 Body Part Representation

As shown in Table 8 the body parts represented are weighted towards the teeth, which are more resistant,

Species	NISP	% of total NISP
Cattle	42	36.5
Sheep/Goat	32	27.8
Pig	12	10.4
Horse	3	2.6
Red Deer	3	2.6
Cow/Horse Sized	12	10.4
Sheep/Pig Sized	11	9.6

Table 6. The number and proportion of recordable specimens identified to species

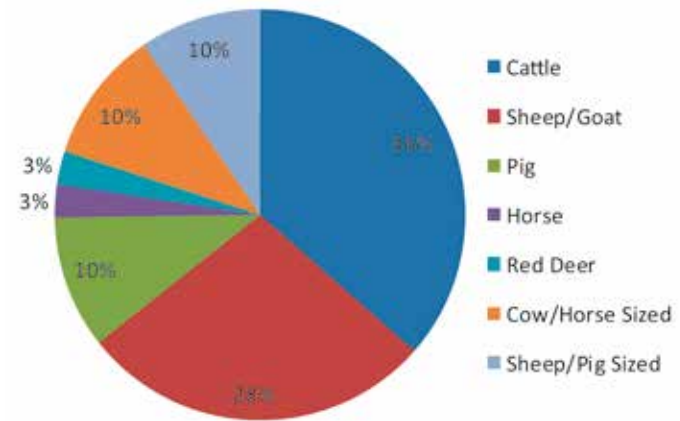


Fig. 45. The proportion of recordable specimens identified to different species

Species	Iron Age		Roman		Roman/ Post Roman		Relict ploughsoil	
	NISP	Fragments	NISP	Fragments	NISP	Fragments	NISP	Fragments
Cattle	24	9	15	50	3	31	1	1
Sheep/Goat	12	3	17	8	2			
Pig	12	9						
Horse			3					
Red Deer	1		2					
Large Mammal	7	17	4	17	1	5		1
Medium Mammal	4	11	7	28		3		
Unidentifiable		392		184		76		10

Table 7. NISP and fragment counts of specimens from each phase at Caerau

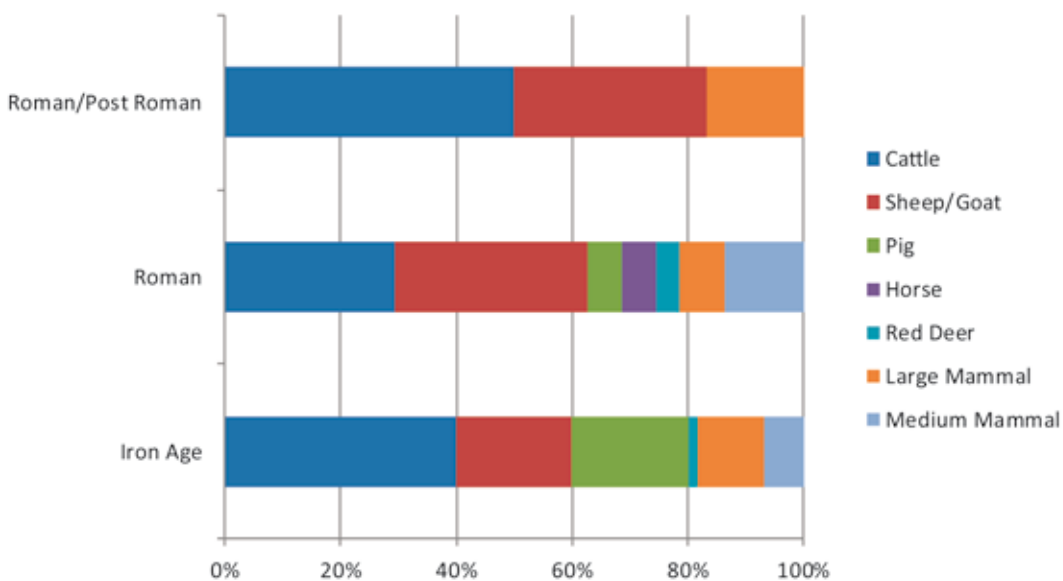


Fig. 46. Species NISP representation by Phase at Caerau

and are not as prone to degradation as other skeletal elements. A combination of high meat bearing bones (e.g. humerus, ulna, radius, tibia) and distal limb bones (e.g. metapodials, phalanges, cranial elements) were identified within both the Iron Age and Roman phases at the site. This is indicative of the complete carcasses of animals being utilised at the site, and could suggest that the inhabitants of Caerau were locally rearing animals during both occupation phases, resulting in both high meat bearing cuts of meat, and skeletal extremities being represented within the faunal assemblage. If cuts of meat were being traded to the site we would expect to see a higher proportion of high meat bearing bones. Similarly if the inhabitants were rearing animals to trade outside of the site the pattern of exploitation would be weighted towards the waste elements of the extremities such as the phalanges, wrist and ankle bones and cranial elements.

8.2.2.4 Ageing information

Due to the poor preservation at the site, there were few ageable specimens, therefore it is not possible to construct full mortality profiles for any of the species. Toothwear evidence was available from two cattle and one sheep specimen, all of these specimens were from the Iron Age phases of the site. Of the cattle specimens analysed one individual was an adult, and one individual was aged between 8-18 months. The ageable sheep mandible was approximately 3-4 years of age.

Fusion information was only possible to be utilised for three specimens, one cattle, one horse and one sheep/goat, all of which were from the Roman phases of the site. The cattle specimen must have been at least 3.5 years old at death. The horse must have been at least 15-18 months old at death, and the sheep/goat must have been around 3 years of age.

The presence of the mature sheep could be indicative of wool production, although with such a limited dataset this is not possible to tell. The presence of an older and a younger cow also hints at secondary product production, indicative of potential milking, although again with the small dataset available at Caerau, this is not possible to demonstrate fully.

8.2.2.5 Burning

Around 91% of the bones were not at all burnt. A total of 8% of the fragments were calcined, indicative of higher temperatures of burning, and around 1% were charred black, indicative of lower temperatures of burning (Figure 47).

Of the burnt fragments observed a total of 2 charred fragments were observed within the Iron Age contexts, with a further 23 fragments exhibiting evidence of being calcined. Within the material from the Roman phases 2 fragments were charred, and a further 45 fragments were calcined. This demonstrates that higher temperature

burning was practised in both phases of the site. Of the Roman phase calcined fragments, nine were from context 3090. These contained a range of skeletal elements, including long bones, vertebrae, skull, and metapodials. It is possible that several of these fragments belonged to the same bone, however the higher instances of high heat burning in this context indicates that high temperature fires were present during the time of deposition.

8.2.2.6 Butchery

Evidence of butchery was visible on one rib and one long bone fragments of sheep/pig sized mammals within the Iron Age phases of the site. These two specimens had small cut marks consistent with filleting of meat from the bone, and these marks were all consistent with the use of metal tools to butcher animals. One rib from the Roman period phases of the site had a large U-shaped chop mark, consistent with portioning meat from a carcass.

8.2.3 Discussion

Very few substantial prehistoric faunal assemblages have been unearthed in Wales. The relatively small assemblage at the nearby Llanmelin hillfort (Jones 2013) provides a good comparative example to contextualise the trends observed at Caerau. Due to the low frequency of later prehistoric sites with faunal assemblages in Wales, selected later prehistoric assemblages from southern Britain are drawn upon for comparison (Figure 48).

Cattle are the most prominent species identified within the Iron Age zooarchaeological assemblage at Caerau, with lesser frequencies of sheep and pig specimens identified. One fragment of red deer was also observed within the deposit. Typically in Iron Age assemblages in Britain sheep/goat are the most commonly represented species, followed by cattle and pig (Hambleton 1999). The higher proportion of cattle (50%) bones in relation to sheep (25%) and pig (25%) bones identified at Caerau is unusual in comparison to other Iron Age hillfort assemblages in Southern Britain, although is consistent with the findings at nearby Llanmelin, where cattle accounted for 51% of identifiable bones in relation to sheep (34%) and pig (10%). After Llanmelin, the hillfort site of Uley Bury in Gloucestershire has the most similar domestic species composition to Caerau, with cattle accounting for 47% of the domestic species exploited, sheep representing 35% of the assemblage and pig 18% (Levitan 1983). Greater proportions of cattle are observed at Cadbury Castle in Somerset, with cattle accounting for 74% of the domestic species, 7% sheep/goat and 23% pig (Randell 2010). In general the Southern British zooarchaeological evidence from hillforts is dominated by sheep, for instance the 72% of the domestic species present in the assemblage at Ham Hill (Randell 2010), 65% at Danebury (Grant 1984), and 67% at Segesbury (Mulville and Powell 2005). The South Wales assemblages therefore stand out as unusual in the composition of domestic species. The larger proportion of cattle at Caerau could suggest a degree of

	Iron Age			Roman	
	Cattle	Sheep/Goat	Pig	Cattle	Sheep/Goat
Skull	2				1
Maxilla			2		
Mandible	8	3		2	2
Loose Teeth	8	3	10	6	4
Sacrum					1
Scapula	3			1	
Humerus		1			
Radius					3
Tibia	1	2		1	3
Ulna	1				
Pelvis	2			2	
Femur		1		1	2
Calcaneus				1	
Metacarpal				1	
Metatarsal				1	1
Metapodial	1				
1st Phalanx	1				

Table 8. Body part representation of the major food species in the Iron Age and Roman phases at Caerau

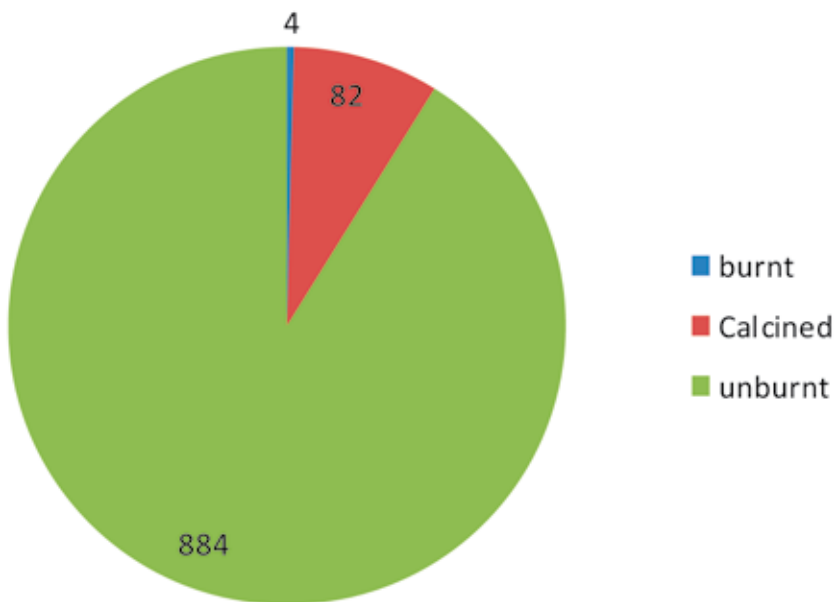


Fig. 47. Burning within the bone assemblage at Caerau. Note: numbers represent the number of bones exhibiting each state of burning

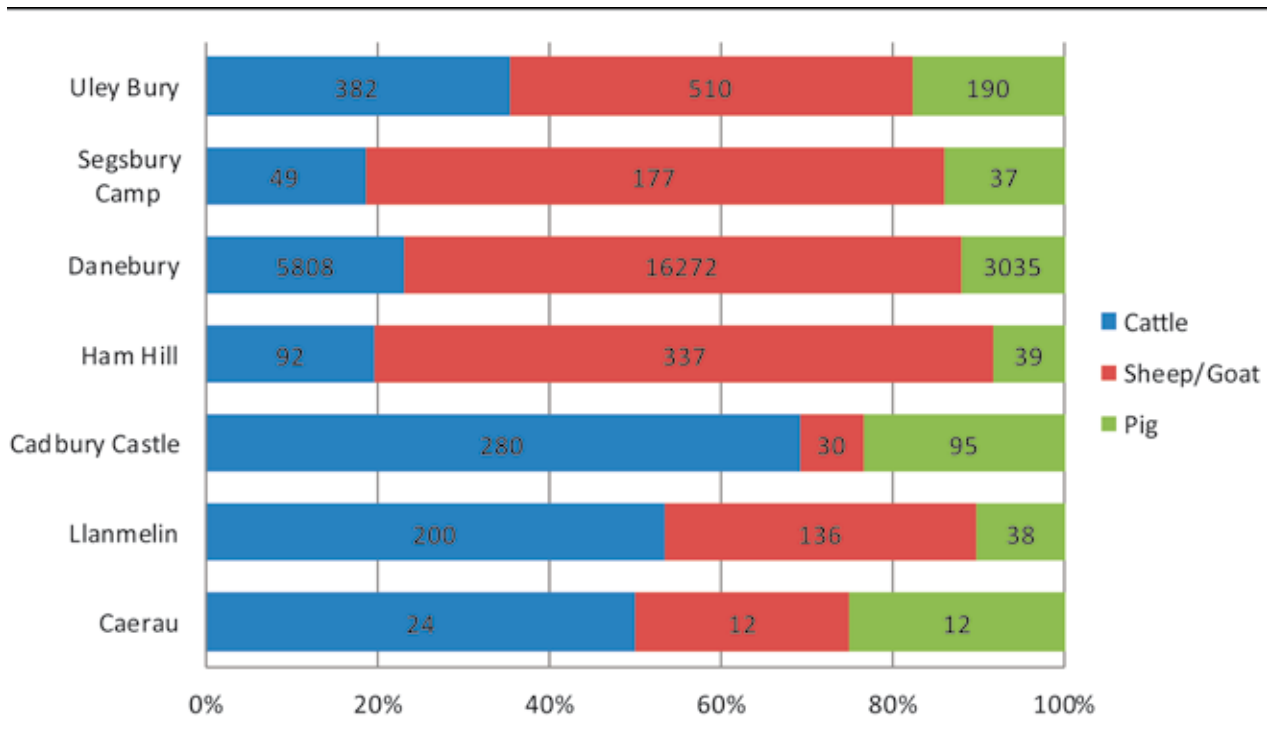


Fig. 48. Representation of the three main domestic taxa at a range of British Iron Age Hillforts. Note: figures on the coloured bars indicate the number of identified specimens

specialisation at the site, such as dairying, which is hinted at by the ageing evidence, however with such a small assemblage available these conclusions are exceptionally tentative, and the generally poor preservation of the material may be biased towards more robust cattle bones being preserved within the assemblage.

Pigs represent the least common domestic species utilised in the Southern British hillfort sites, the exception to this is Cadbury Castle, where pig accounts for the second most dominant species within the faunal assemblage. This increased importance of pigs within the zooarchaeological assemblage is observed at Caerau, where they are equal in number to sheep/goat. Lower frequencies of pigs were observed at Llanmelin and could indicate husbandry of these animals on a small scale as a supplementary food source at the site. Pig rooting can be destructive to crops, and require careful management, which can limit the number of individuals that can be maintained at a settlement. It is possible that different pig management strategies were being practised between Caerau and Llanmelin, although given the small assemblage size at Caerau this is a very tentative observation.

Wild species were limited within the Caerau assemblage, with only 3 red deer fragments being identified. The low instances of wild species are consistent with patterns observed across Britain during the Iron Age sites across Britain (Hambleton 1999). One possible theory is that there was a prohibition against the exploitation of wild animals in the Iron Age (Hill 1995). The three pieces of

antler identified indicate that at least cranial portions of deer were being brought onto site. This could be either in the form of traded antler pieces used for working, or could be from individuals hunted within the local environment. The presence of red deer within the contemporary deposits at Llanmelin indicates that red deer must have been present in the region during the Iron Age and would have been available for hunting. It is therefore plausible that red deer were being hunted by the inhabitants of Caerau.

The site of Caerau has similar patterns in species composition to nearby Llanmelin, and cattle would have represented the dominant food source at both of these sites, which is distinctly different to many Iron Age hillforts across Southern Britain. The quantities of pig recorded are very similar to those observed across Britain, indicating that these were a consistent, but relatively minor resource. The presence of horse and red deer in low frequencies is also typical of Iron Age Britain, where these resources were utilised consistently, but only account for a low proportion of the total zooarchaeological assemblage.

The Roman assemblage was also limited in size, and conclusions are drawn tentatively. Increased proportions of sheep/goat bones were present in comparison to the Iron Age indicates that there may have been a shift in the focus of animal husbandry between these periods from cattle production, to sheep production, although given the small NISP values for both of these assemblages this

observation is made very tentatively.

The presence of horse during the Roman phases of the assemblage is interesting. Horses were a valuable method of transportation in the Iron Age, as exhibited by their presence in chariot burials such as those found at Wetwang slack (Dent 1985), and their importance in transportation remained into the Roman period, being used in both military and domestic settings. The horses were mature, based on the bone fusion evidence, and could have represented either working animals or potentially food, although no cut marks were observed on the bones that would have helped to clarify this further. The presence of red deer within the assemblage is also indicative of the exploitation of wild species, although all skeletal elements observed were antler fragments, and may reflect trade of antler rather than hunting of these species.

The cut mark observed on the fragment of bone from the Roman phase was distinctly different to those observed within the Iron Age phases, representing a wide, U-shaped cross section, rather than the small thin fileting marks of the earlier phases. This potentially indicates different tools being used for butchery, or could indicate a difference in the butchery practises and meat portioning techniques being undertaken.

Despite the poor bone preservation at Caerau, the assemblage has provided a valuable insight into the dietary and economic behaviour practised at hillforts in South Wales, and further work at the site could potentially increase the assemblage to allow a more detailed understanding of the zooarchaeology in the region, enhancing these insights into animal management, husbandry practises, and wider diet and economy in the Iron Age and Roman South Wales.

9. Summary

The structural remains and artefactual assemblages indicate that Caerau hill fort has an exceptional sequence of activities that span the Neolithic through to the Medieval period, although occupation is likely to be episodic rather than continuous. Despite the intensive ploughing of the interior of the hillfort a range of features were identified that demonstrate intensive occupation of Iron Age date; an intensity of occupation that has previously not been demonstrated at any other hillfort in south east Wales. The stratified deposits around the periphery of the hillfort demonstrate excellent preservation and indicate a historical sequence of boundary construction which is of exceptional significance. A substantial pottery assemblage has been recovered and the rampart deposits contain well preserved animal bone, which is unusual in Wales. Extensive sampling has resulted in the recovery of an important collection of carbonised plant remains and together with the animal bone this will significantly add to our understanding of Iron Age and Romano-British agricultural regimes and provide samples for radiocarbon dating.

Neolithic and Bronze Age

Flint scrapers recovered mainly from the ploughsoil suggest activity, but no structures dating to this period have yet been identified.

Early and Middle Iron Age

The three rampart sondages revealed a complex sequence of occupation and construction that has the potential to provide for the first time in south Wales an accurate chronology for the construction of a hillfort. The primary rampart was built on an occupation soil (3128) containing animal bones and pottery and is sealed by a soil layer (3121) again containing animal bones. It should therefore be possible to obtain radiocarbon samples from these layers that bracket the construction of the rampart and provide an accurate date for the creation of the hillfort.

The carinated bowl recovered by Time Team from a pit close to CS1 suggests occupation sometime between 700 and 500 BC (Early Iron Age) and might indicate the date of the first hillfort. Pottery recovered from the gully fills and postholes of CS1-4 suggests most of the occupation dates to the Middle Iron Age.

Late Iron Age

There appears to be an absence of pottery from the first century BC (Webster pers comm) which suggests

intensive occupation may have ceased sometime before the construction of the small enclosure.

Iron Age/Roman transition

The recovery of a significant quantity of pottery from the ditch of the oval enclosure indicates it was constructed and occupied in the 1st century AD around the time of the Roman invasion. Limited evidence for weathering and erosion deposits in the base of the ditch fills suggests that the enclosure ditch was not open for very long before being deliberately levelled.

Roman

A large assemblage of pottery suggests a Romano-British settlement, possibly defined by a boundary of large pits, within the hillfort from the 2nd to 3rd century AD. This occupation is probably contemporary with the occupation of the Roman villa in Trelai Park (Wheeler 1921; 1922), although the material assemblages from the two sites are different (Webster pers comm). The pottery assemblage recovered from the hillfort is dominated by coarse ware bowls and jars while there were no fine tablewares or amphorae. Fine-ware pottery and amphorae were found in abundance at the villa (Wheeler 1922). This difference in material culture at both sites suggests that at Caerau at this time we either have a relatively impoverished settlement or one that is actively rejecting some parts of Roman culture.

It is likely that the levelling of the primary (Iron Age) inner hillfort rampart was undertaken at this time and the metalled roadway behind the rampart may also date to this period. Romano-British re-occupation of hillforts has been tentatively identified at other sites in south Glamorgan, such as at The Bulwarks, Porthkerry (Davies 1973) and Caer Dynnaf (Davies 1967).

Roman/Post-Roman (Early Medieval?)

The secondary hillfort rampart clearly overlies layers containing Roman Greyware pottery which indicate a major reconstruction of the hillfort boundary in the late Roman or post-Roman period. It is interesting to consider whether the whole inner circuit of the hillfort was re-defended in this period. If it was then it suggests that Caerau may have been a large and important centre in the immediate post-Roman period. This would be a major discovery, which would challenge our understanding of post Roman occupation of south Wales.

Medieval and post-Medieval

In the areas examined, no structures have been identified which can be shown to be Medieval or post-Medieval, but metalwork finds from the ploughsoil include a possible Medieval iron bodkin arrowhead and a lead musket-ball, presumably 16th or 17th century.

10. Community Impact

From the outset the project's key objectives have been to put local people at the heart of cutting-edge archaeological research, to develop educational opportunities and to challenge stigmas and unfounded stereotypes ascribed to this part of Cardiff, which suffers from significant socio-economic deprivation. This year's work was designed to involve community participants in all aspects of the archaeological investigative process including a major research excavation at Caerau Hillfort. The project involves a wide range of engagement activities, community members and groups and deliverers with a focus on fostering better life opportunities for local residents in Caerau and Ely.

The evaluation of the community involvement needs to be set against the principal objectives of the project which are to:

- foster a positive 'sense of place' for Caerau and Ely
- create educational opportunities
- promote skills development
- challenge stigmatised perceptions of the Caerau and Ely district
- raise local, regional and national interest in archaeology
- break down barriers to academia



Fig. 49. Engaging the public at the Ely Festival

The approach to evaluation was embedded within the project design and upheld the principles of co-designed evaluation: i.e. it involved local residents and partner organisations in all aspects of the evaluation process (e.g. design, implementation). For example, evaluation questions were designed in collaboration with local residents and partner organisations and local residents acted as interviewer, cameraman and film producer.

The evaluation, however, was particularly challenging owing to the multiple events, aims, target audiences and deliverers of the project. This specificity means that a diverse range of qualitative and quantitative evaluation methods and thus a complex evaluation plan were required. Tools used to evaluate included: photos/videos, snapshot interviews, video diaries for volunteers, graffiti walls, and evaluation forms.

10.1 Results of evaluation

In total **1,073** people visited the excavations while they were in progress and **120** more were directly involved in the archaeological work, many coming back every day. The total number of volunteer person hours involvement in the excavation was approximately **1,500** (this does not include the person hours given in the many other activities run by the CAER Heritage Project Team throughout the year). The visitors and volunteers represented a diverse cross-section of the local community with all ages and genders represented from primary and secondary school children, sixth formers, young people excluded from education, long-term unemployed people, people with health and mental issues, retired people, and working parents.

10.1.1 Evaluation Form

Visitors to the excavations were asked to complete an evaluation form which asked them four questions about whether their visit had changed their attitudes (Figure 50).

The incredibly positive response to the questions by visitors is evident. In particular, 97% of responses said that the excavations had increased their interest in archaeology while 84% considered that they had changed how they think of Caerau as a place.

10.1.2 Live Local Learn Local course evaluation

Three Adult Learners' courses have been run by Dr Oliver Davis in conjunction with the work undertaken this year:

1. Learn to be an Archaeologist 1: – a training dig for local residents at the recently deconstructed Celtic Village at St Fagans
2. Learn to be an Archaeologist 2: Digging Caerau – opportunity to get an accreditation in archaeological practice during a real excavation
3. Learn to be an Archaeologist 3: Conserving Caerau's Finds – opportunity to get hands-on in the post excavation processing and analysis of the finds from the excavations

In total there were 42 enrolments on the courses with 11 individuals enrolling on more than one. One of the students went on to enrol on a module on Cardiff University's Exploring the Past progression route onto a degree.

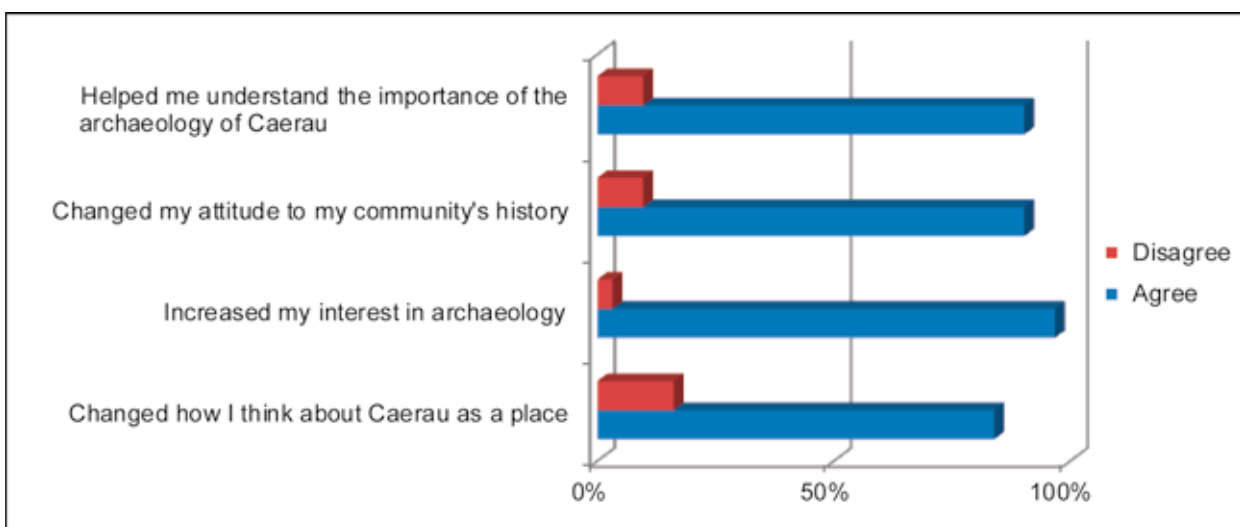


Fig. 50. Visitors' evaluation question answers (n=31)

Evaluation of the courses were achieved through a questionnaire which the students filled out. Presented below is what the students liked best about the Digging Caerau course:

Q. The best thing about the course was...

“Experiencing an archaeological dig, getting hands on and fully involved”

“The knowledge and willingness to share from the staff and other volunteers”

“The forming of a small community on the hillfort once again”

A fundamental part of the third course ‘Conserving Caerau’s Finds’ was the co-production of archaeological research. Eight adult learners completed the course whose assessment was a poster presentation of research undertaken by the learners of one or more of the finds from the excavations.

10.1.3 Adult learners from Cardiff University’s ‘Exploring the Past’ pathway

Four adult learners studying on the Exploring the Past Foundation Pathway (an open access route onto history and archaeology degrees at Cardiff University) undertook

1 week assessed field placements at the excavation. Many of these individuals face significant barriers to returning to learning including disabilities. All of these learners were assessed on their practical skills and submitted written report assessments on their experiences – all of the learners passed. One also wrote a detailed blog for the dig blog posted on the project’s web site (<http://caerheritageproject.com/2013/07/05/my-first-experiences-of-digging-at-caerau-hillfort/>).

10.1.4 Online survey

After the excavation participants and project partners were invited to undertake an online survey which included nine questions asking about the impact of the project. Eighteen people responded, but of those, 100% said that their hopes had been realised by the excavations.

The respondents said the principal benefits of the excavation were:

- raising awareness of area
- developing a strong community feeling
- developing skills
- meeting new people
- raising aspirations to go to university



Fig. 51. Local residents helping with the washing of pottery and other finds

10.1.5 Postcards to the Iron Age

Visitors and dig participants were asked to send postcards to their Iron Age ancestors as a fun creative exercise to make people think about what was important to Iron Age people and about temporal changes in lived experience. This activity was an overwhelming success with more than 150 postcards completed over the range of the dig and outreach events. Many postcards were asking questions about Iron Age life that was directly inspired by the excavations, e.g. ‘what was it like to live in your roundhouses?’



Fig. 52. Children working with professional archaeologists to identify artefacts

10.1.6 Teacher feedback

Three local secondary schools, **Glyn Derw**, **Mary Immaculate** and **Fitzalan**, were directly involved with the excavations with several classes from each school involved. More than 80 pupils, varying in age-group from year 7 to year 13 visited the site and worked in small groups with professional staff as supervisors. They were actively involved with various different on-site activities from excavation, sieving and finds processing, to more creative activities such as making Iron Age pots. Teacher feedback was captured through an online questionnaire. The most pertinent question was ‘what did the pupils get out of their involvement?’ which provided the opportunity to gauge pupil engagement against the project objectives – the responses are presented below:

“Great day – students engaged and enjoyed the experience. They really valued working alongside the University team”

“Lower ability students were enthused, inspired and wanted to do more”

“Afterwards, a child from non-academic background talked about their aspiration to go to university”

“The experience developed a strong connection to local heritage”

“There were clear improved outcomes for more able pupils”

“The excavations really engaged underachieving boys”

“It was an excellent enrichment activity for talented art students”

10.1.7 Undergraduate student feedback

Fifteen undergraduate students were placed on the excavation as part of their compulsory fieldwork module. Undergraduate feedback was captured through the online questionnaire – some of the questions and responses are presented below:

Q. What did you hope to get out of your participation?
The majority hoped to not only learn archaeological skills, but to gain experience in community engagement

Q. Were your hopes realised?
100% answered yes

Q. How do you feel you benefitted?
The majority agreed that they had learnt new skills and experiences that will help towards getting a job

10.1.8 Oral testimony of community participants

Oral testimony was captured in a number of ways – some through conversations during the dig or at breaktimes. Other people were willing to be filmed or have their voice recorded. A snapshot of some of the comments that reflect wider views are presented here:

“I was scared at first about working with University students, but actually I realised that they were really nice and welcoming and I felt I had something to contribute”
Matt, local resident

“I’ve been suffering from depression for a while now and finding it difficult to get out of the house, but being up here and involved with other people has really helped...I wish the dig was going on longer”
Name withheld, local resident

“It’s been really nice to learn new skills, but also to get to know other people and make new friends”
Jeff, local resident and LLLL Student

“The project’s really important because it gives people a sense of belonging and the past”
Penni, local resident

“The project’s helped to bring people in the community together”

Jade, local resident

“The excavation has been inspiring. I’m severely sight impaired but I’ve felt an active and valued member of the excavation team”

Name withheld, Exploring the Past Student

“It’s a wonderful place, I’ve thoroughly enjoyed myself and I find being involved very therapeutic”

Sheila, local resident

“One of the most important aspects has been making new friends – I didn’t necessarily come to do that, but actually it’s been a big and really important part of the dig for me”

Tom, local resident

“I’ve been inspired to go and learn more about archaeology and history and go on more digs”

Mo, local resident and LLLL Student

“Working with volunteers is one of the best things about the dig. Listening to their stories and seeing their enthusiasm...I’ve grown really close to some of them”

Aron, Undergraduate Student

“Lots of people in the area are struggling to get work, losing that get-up-and-go, but to be able to come up here and be involved in something – be part of something and part of something with other people – is really important. It helps build skills, and build confidence back up, and after all, none of this could have been achieved without local people”

Dave, Community Support Worker, ACE

10.2 Digging Caerau Outreach events

10.2.1 Iron Age Barbeque

On 6th July the CAER Heritage team organised an Iron Age barbeque with a free hog roast and a range of activities including tours at the excavation site. More than 200 local residents and children attended this event and undertook a range of activities including finds processing, handling Iron Age replicas, a flint knapping demonstration, making Iron-Age pots, designing tribal logos and writing postcards to the Iron Age. Oral testimonies of memories of the site and area were also captured. Feedback from the event was overwhelmingly positive.

10.2.2 Glyn Derw High School Garden Party

A small team of CAER Heritage project staff attended Glyn Derw High School’s lively summer garden party on 4th July. Visitors to the roadshow could learn about Caerau’s archaeology, handle artefacts and make Iron Age pots. The team engaged with over 50 local pupils and residents and 26 Iron Age pots were manufactured!



Fig. 53. Local man enrolled on the Live Local Learn Local Archaeology course

10.2.3 Digging Caerau Roadshow at the Ely Festival

A team of CAER Project staff and local community participants took a Digging Caerau roadshow to the vibrant Ely Festival on 13th July which is attended by hundreds of local residents and professionals. Around 120 people visited the CAER roadshow and undertook a range of interactive activities including making Iron Age Pots, postcards to the Iron Age and contributing ideas to the creation of a new heritage trail centred on the hillfort. The roadshow was also attended by Mark Drakeford, Welsh Minister for Health and Social Services and AM for Cardiff West who commented about Digging Caerau:

“It benefits the community in all sorts of ways. It tells the rest of Cardiff and the rest of Wales that this was once one of the most important parts of the whole country. It puts Caerau on the map in a new sort of way, but it also opens up all sorts of opportunities and possibilities for people who want to be part of that history. To be working on it, to be gaining qualifications while they are doing it, to learn things that they will use in the future. And the future lies in this community being a part of the future of that site.”

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Appendix 1 - Context Lists

Trench 3

Trench	Context No	Type	Description
3	3001	Deposit	Topsoil
3	3002	Deposit	Relict ploughsoil
3	3003	Deposit	Natural
3	3004	Deposit	Upper silty deposit Sondage A (same as 3006 (B), 3026 (C), 3058 (D))
3	3005	Deposit	Reddish-brown silty clay Sondage A
3	3006	Deposit	Upper silty deposit Sondage B (same as 3005 (A), 3026 (C), 3058 (D))
3	3007	Deposit	Red-brown deposit behind rampart (Sondage A)
3	3008	Deposit	Grey-brown deposit over cobbles Sondage A (same as 3016 (B))
3	3009	Deposit	Metalled cobbled surface Sondage A (same as 3119 (B), 3130 (D))
3	3010	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3011	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3012	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3013	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3014	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 2 gully (same as 3057, 3063, 3106, 3147, 3150)
3	3015	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3016	Deposit	Grey-brown deposit over cobbles Sondage B (same as 3008 (A))
3	3017	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3055, 3061, 3131, 3138)
3	3018	Deposit	Fill of 3017 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
3	3019	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3017, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3055, 3061, 3131, 3138)
3	3020	Deposit	Fill of 3019 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
3	3021	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3055, 3061, 3131, 3138)
3	3022	Deposit	Fill of 3021 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
3	3023	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3024	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3025	Deposit	Brown compacted clay Sondage C overlying 3090
3	3026	Deposit	Upper silty deposit Sondage C (same as 3006 (B), 3005 (A), 3058 (D))
3	3027	Deposit	Yellowey clayey layer Sondage C, overlies 3157
3	3028		CANCELLED
3	3029	Deposit	Fill of 3015
3	3030	Deposit	Brownny clay
3	3031	Deposit	Fill of 3032
3	3032	Cut	Cut of posthole

3	3033	Deposit	Fill of 3010
3	3034	Masonry	Post-packing of 3010
3	3035	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3017, 3042, 3055, 3061, 3131, 3138)
3	3036	Deposit	Fill of 3035 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3043, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
3	3037	Deposit	Fill of 3013
3	3038	Deposit	Reddish Brown silt, Sondage B
3	3039	Deposit	Final fill of 3040
3	3040	Cut	Cut of pit
3	3041	Deposit	Fill of cobbles in 3040 under 3039
3	3042	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3035, 3017, 3055, 3061, 3131, 3138)
3	3043	Deposit	Fill of 3042 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
3	3044	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3045	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3011
3	3046	Deposit	Primary fill of 3011
3	3047		CANCELLED
3	3048	Deposit	Grey-brown deposit, Sondage B
3	3049	Deposit	Possible occupation layer within Roundhouse 1
3	3050	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3012
3	3051	Masonry	Post-packing of 3012
3	3052	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3055
3	3053		CANCELLED
3	3054	Deposit	Fill of 3055 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
3	3055	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3017, 3061, 3131, 3138)
3	3056	Deposit	Fill of 3057 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3064, 3067, 3069, 3148, 3151)
3	3057	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 2 gully (same as 3014, 3063, 3106, 3147, 3150)
3	3058	Deposit	Upper silty deposit Sondage D (same as 3006 (B), 3026 (C), 3005 (A))
3	3059	Deposit	Fill of 3060
3	3060	Cut	Cut of pit
3	3061	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3017, 3055, 3131, 3138)
3	3062	Deposit	Fill of 3061 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3083, 3054, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
3	3063	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 2 gully (same as 3014, 3057, 3106, 3147, 3150)
3	3064	Deposit	Fill of 3063 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3067, 3069, 3148, 3151)
3	3065	Deposit	Primary fill of 3012
3	3066	Deposit	Fill of 3024
3	3067	Deposit	Fill of 3014 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3064, 3069, 3148, 3151)
3	3068	Deposit	Light yellow silty clay overlying ring gully cuts 3138, 3147
3	3069	Deposit	Fill of 3106 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3064, 3067, 3148, 3151)

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3	3070	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 2 gully (same as 3014, 3057, 3106, 3147, 3150, 3063)
3	3071	Deposit	Fill of 3070 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3064, 3069, 3148, 3151)
3	3072	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3073	Cut	Cut of posthole of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3084, 3088, 3110, 3132, 3141)
3	3074	Deposit	Top fill of posthole 3073 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3082, 3085, 3086, 3087, 3111, 3133, 3142)
3	3075	Deposit	SAME AS 3025 (Double numbered)
3	3076		CANCELLED
3	3077		CANCELLED
3	3078	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3072
3	3079	Deposit	Primary fill of 3072
3	3080	Deposit	Fill of 3023
3	3081	Deposit	Primary fill of 3040
3	3082	Deposit	Primary fill of posthole 3073 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3074, 3085, 3086, 3087, 3111, 3133, 3142)
3	3083	Deposit	Fill of 3055 and 3057 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
3	3084	Cut	Cut of posthole of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3073, 3088, 3110, 3132, 3141)
3	3085	Deposit	Fill of 3084
3	3086	Deposit	Top fill of posthole 3088 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3074, 3085, 3082, 3087, 3111, 3133, 3142)
3	3087	Deposit	Primary fill of posthole 3088 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3074, 3085, 3082, 3086, 3111, 3133, 3142)
3	3088	Cut	Cut of posthole of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3073, 3084, 3110, 3132, 3141)
3	3089	Deposit	Fill of 3131 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3062, 3146, 3083, 3155, 3145)
3	3090	Deposit	Green-grey rampart in Sondage C (equivalent to 3139 (A) and 3140 (B))
3	3091	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3092	Deposit	Primary fill of 3091
3	3093	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3094	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3093
3	3095	Deposit	Primary fill of 3093
3	3096	Cut	Cut of pit (Sondage A)
3	3097	Deposit	Fill of 3096
3	3098	Cut	SAME AS 3158 (Double numbered)
3	3099	Deposit	SAME AS 3157 (Double numbered)
3	3100	Deposit	Fill of 3101
3	3101	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3102	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3103	Deposit	Fill of 3102
3	3104	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3091
3	3105	Deposit	Mid-orange clay in Sondage B
3	3106	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 2 gully (same as 3014, 3057, 3063, 3147, 3150)
3	3107	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3109

3	3108	Deposit	Primary fill of 3109
3	3109	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3110	Cut	Cut of posthole of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3073, 3084, 3088, 3132, 3141)
3	3111	Deposit	Fill of posthole 3110 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3074, 3085, 3082, 3086, 3087, 3133, 3142)
3	3112	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3114
3	3113	Deposit	Tertiary fill of 3114
3	3114	Cut	Cut of sub-rectangular pit
3	3115	Cut	Cut of N-S feature adjacent to gully
3	3116	Deposit	Fill of 3115
3	3117	Cut	Cut of ring gully (Roundhouse 2)
3	3118	Deposit	Fill of 3117
3	3119	Deposit	Metalled cobbled surface Sondage B (same as 3009 (A), 3130 (D))
3	3120	Deposit	Overlies natural at N end of Sondage A
3	3121	Deposit	Trample layer within rampart, Sondage A
3	3122	Cut	Cut of posthole
3	3123	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3122
3	3124	Deposit	Dark brown layer
3	3125	Deposit	Primary fill of posthole 3044
3	3126	Deposit	Secondary fill of posthole 3044
3	3127	Deposit	Green-grey clay underlying trample 3121
3	3128	Deposit	Buried soil surface underneath rampart, Sondage A
3	3129	Deposit	Primary fill of 3122
3	3130	Deposit	Metalled surface in Sondage D (Same as 3009 (A), 3119 (B))
3	3131	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3055, 3061, 3017, 3138)
3	3132	Cut	Cut of posthole of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3073, 3084, 3088, 3110, 3141)
3	3133	Deposit	Fill of posthole 3132 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3074, 3085, 3082, 3086, 3087, 3110, 3142)
3	3134	Deposit	Greenish-grey layer, Sondage B
3	3135	Cut	Cut of pit
3	3136	Deposit	Fill of 3135
3	3137	Deposit	Possible midden deposit, Sondage C
3	3138	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3055, 3061, 3131, 3017)
3	3139	Deposit	Green-grey rampart in Sondage A (equivalent to 3090 (D) and 3140 (B))
3	3140	Deposit	Green-grey rampart in Sondage B (equivalent to 3090 (D) and 3139 (A))
3	3141	Cut	Cut of posthole of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3073, 3084, 3088, 3110, 3132)
3	3142	Deposit	Fill of posthole 3141 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3074, 3085, 3082, 3086, 3087, 3110, 3133)
3	3143	Deposit	Fill of 3138
3	3144	Deposit	Fill of 3138
3	3145	Deposit	Fill of 3138 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3062, 3146, 3083, 3089, 3155)
3	3146	Deposit	Fill of 3131

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3	3147	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 2 gully (same as 3014, 3057, 3063, 3106, 3150)
3	3148	Deposit	Fill of 3147 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3064, 3067, 3069, 3151)
3	3149	Deposit	Dark brown deposit covering 3152
3	3150	Cut	Cut of Roundhouse 2 gully (same as 3014, 3057, 3063, 3106, 3147)
3	3151	Deposit	Fill of 3150 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3064, 3067, 3069, 3148)
3	3152	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3153
3	3153	Cut	Cut of possible posthole
3	3154	Deposit	Primary fill of 3153
3	3155	Deposit	Fill of 3131 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3062, 3146, 3083, 3089, 3145)
3	3156	Deposit	Spread of Romano-British ploughsoil across trench
3	3157	Deposit	Fill of 3158
3	3158	Cut	Cut of 'gully' feature in Sondage C
3	3159	Deposit	Buried subsoil in Sondage A underlies 3128
3	3160	Deposit	Secondary fill of 3114
3	3161	Deposit	Primary fill of 3114
3	3162	Deposit	Mid orange redeposited natural in Sondage B
3	3163	Deposit	Dark greeny brown layer, Sondage B
3	3164	Deposit	Buried soil underneath rampart Sondage B
3	3165	Cut	Cut of posthole/pit
3	3166	Deposit	Fill of 3165 (not excavated)
3	3167	Deposit	Fill of 3168
3	3168	Cut	Cut of posthole beneath rampart in Sondage A
3	3169	Deposit	Red deposit against outer slope of rampart (Sondage A?)
3	3170	Deposit	Mixed soil and stone deposit under rampart (Sondage A?)

Trench 4

Trench	Context No	Type	Description
4	4001	Deposit	Topsoil
4	4002	Deposit	Relict ploughsoil
4	4003	Deposit	Natural
4	4004	Deposit	Fill of 4005
4	4005	Cut	Cut of small posthole
4	4006	Deposit	Fill of 4007
4	4007	Cut	Cut of possible posthole/disturbance
4	4008	Deposit	Fill of 4009
4	4009	Cut	Cut of double posthole
4	4010	Deposit	Fill of 4011
4	4011	Cut	Cut of double posthole
4	4012	Deposit	Fill of 4013
4	4013	Cut	Cut of posthole
4	4014	Deposit	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4025, 4036, 4043)
4	4015	Cut	Cut of enclosure ditch (same as 4024, 4045, 4027, 4050)
4	4016	Deposit	Upper fill of 4018

4	4017	Deposit	Lower fill of 4018
4	4018	Cut	Cut of posthole in N
4	4019	Deposit	Fill of 4020
4	4020	Cut	Cut of posthole
4	4021	Deposit	TT backfill of enclosure ditch
4	4022	Cut	TT cut of enclosure ditch
4	4023	Deposit	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4014, 4025, 4036, 4043)
4	4024	Cut	Cut of enclosure ditch (same as 4015, 4045, 4027, 4050)
4	4025	Deposit	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4014, 4036, 4043)
4	4026	Masonry	Stoney fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4032, 4035, 4042, 4048)
4	4027	Cut	Cut of enclosure ditch (same as 4024, 4045, 4015, 4050)
4	4028	Deposit	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4029, 4030, 4044, 4049)
4	4029	Deposit	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4028, 4030, 4044, 4049)
4	4030	Deposit	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4029, 4028, 4044, 4049)
4	4031	Deposit	Fill of possible pit 4037
4	4032	Masonry	Stoney fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4026, 4035, 4042, 4048)
4	4033	Deposit	Charcoal dump in 4037
4	4034	Deposit	Red clay fill of 4037
4	4035	Masonry	Stoney fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4032, 4026, 4042, 4048)
4	4036	Deposit	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4025, 4014, 4043)
4	4037	Cut	Cut of pit
4	4038	Deposit	Fill of 4039
4	4039	Cut	Cut of posthole
4	4040	Deposit	Fill of posthole 4041
4	4041	Cut	Cut of posthole
4	4042	Masonry	Stoney fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4032, 4035, 4026, 4048)
4	4043	Deposit	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4025, 4036, 4014)
4	4044	Deposit	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4029, 4030, 4028, 4049)
4	4045	Cut	Cut of enclosure ditch (same as 4024, 4015, 4027, 4050)
4	4046	Deposit	Fill of pit 4047
4	4047	Cut	Cut of pit (cut by 4037)
4	4048	Masonry	Stoney fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4032, 4035, 4042, 4026)
4	4049	Deposit	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4029, 4030, 4044, 4028)
4	4050	Cut	Cut of enclosure ditch (same as 4024, 4045, 4027, 4015)
4	4051	Masonry	Packing stones in 4039
4	4052	Group	Context group for enclosure ditch cut (4015, 4024, 4027, 4045, 4050)
4	4053	Deposit	Fill of posthole 4054
4	4054	Cut	Cut of posthole
4	4055	Deposit	Fill of posthole 4056
4	4056	Cut	Cut of posthole
4	4057	Deposit	Clay fill of 4037
4	4058	Cut	Cut of posthole
4	4059	Deposit	Fill of posthole 4058
4	4060	Deposit	Fill of posthole 4061
4	4061	Cut	Cut of posthole
4	4062	Masonry	Post-packing of posthole 4061

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4	4063	Deposit	Primary fill of pit 4037
4	4064	Group	Context group for pear-shaped pit cut (4037, 4047)
4	4065	Masonry	Heat-affected stone in 4037

Trench 5

Trench	Context No	Type	Description
5	5001	Deposit	Topsoil
5	5002	Deposit	Relict polughsoil
5	5003	Deposit	Natural
5	5004	Deposit	Backfill of TT cut (large ditch 5012)
5	5005	Deposit	Backfill of TT cut (small ditch 5013)
5	5006	Cut	Cut of geological feature
5	5007	Deposit	Fill of 5006
5	5008	Cut	Cut of small ditch running N-S
5	5009	Deposit	Fill of ditch 5008
5	5010	Deposit	Fill of 5011
5	5011	Cut	Cut of natural feature in SW corner
5	5012	Cut	Cut of TT slot in large ditch
5	5013	Cut	Cut of TT slot in small ditch
5	5014	Cut	Cut of probable geological feature
5	5015	Deposit	Fill of 5014
5	5016	Deposit	Upper fill of ditch 5008
5	5017	Deposit	Fill of ditch 5008
5	5018	Deposit	Burnt deposit in TT backfill 5004
5	5019	Cut	Cut of large pit
5	5020	Deposit	Burnt deposit in 5019
5	5021	Deposit	Fill of 5019
5	5022	Deposit	Fill of 5023
5	5023	Cut	Cut of small pit/posthole
5	5024	Cut	Cut of small pit/posthole
5	5025	Deposit	Fill of 5024
5	5026	Deposit	Fill of 5019
5	5027	Cut	Cut of posthole
5	5028	Deposit	Fill of 5027
5	5029	Cut	Cut of posthole
5	5030	Masonry	Post-packing of 5029
5	5031	Deposit	Fill of 5029
5	5032	Masonry	Post-packing of 5024
5	5033	Cut	Cut of posthole
5	5034	Deposit	Fill of 5033
5	5035	Masonry	Post-packing of 5033
5	5036	Deposit	Fill of 5019
5	5037	Deposit	Fill of 5019
5	5038	Deposit	Fill of 5019
5	5039	Deposit	Fill of 5019

5	5040	Deposit	Fill of 5019
5	5041	Deposit	Fill of 5019
5	5042	Cut	Cut of possible posthole/pit
5	5043	Deposit	Fill of 5042
5	5044	Cut	Cut of natural feature
5	5045	Deposit	Fill of 5044
5	5046		CANCELLED
5	5047		CANCELLED
5	5048		CANCELLED
5	5049	Cut	Cut of posthole
5	5050	Masonry	Post-packing of 5049
5	5051	Deposit	Fill of 5049
5	5052	Masonry	Stone packing in 5042
5	5053	Cut	Cut of posthole in bottom of 5042
5	5054	Deposit	Cut of posthole/pit
5	5055	Cut	Cut of geological feature
5	5056	Deposit	Fill of 5055

Appendix 2 - Small Find List

Small Find No.	Trench	Context No.	Find Category	Description	Sieve Find?	Easting	Northing	Height
1	4	4014	Fe Object	Iron nail	Y			
2	4	4023	Pot	Rim sherd		313412.722	174920.259	77.585
3	4	4023	Pot	Decorated body sherd		313412.879	174919.685	77.632
4	4	4023	Pot	Rim sherd		313413.279	174919.371	77.669
5	4	4023	Pot	Rim sherd		313412.843	174919.591	77.675
6	4	4025	Pot	Pot spread		313414.414	174919.648	77.646
7	4	4024	Pot	Rim sherd		313413.058	174919.675	77.454
8	5	5018	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.421	174950.672	75.723
9	4	4028	Pot	Rim sherd		313416.556	174919.884	77.347
10	4	4028	Pot	Rim sherd		313416.246	174919.828	77.309
11	5	5018	Pot	Pot base		313442.565	174950.673	75.769
12	5	5018	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.305	174951.674	75.678
13	4	4025	Glass bead	Decorated glass bead	Y			
14	5	5009	Pot	Rim sherd		313434.788	174948.776	76.495
15	4	4025	Pot	Decorated body sherd	Y			
16	4	4030	Pot	Rim sherd		313415.125	174920.123	77.420
17	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.134	174950.826	75.577
18	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313441.942	174950.999	75.549
19	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313441.756	174951.136	75.591
20	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313441.700	174950.937	75.604
21	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313441.795	174950.918	75.613
22	3	3005	Fe Object	Unknown		313363.931	174911.632	78.507
23	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313441.780	174951.660	75.554
24	5	5020	Pot	Pot base		313442.311	174950.782	75.486
25	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.158	174951.649	75.611
26	4	4031	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
27	5	5021	Pot	Decorated rim sherd		313441.593	174950.989	75.316
28	5	5022	Pot	Rim sherd		313437.094	174950.638	76.451
29	4	4029	Pot	Rim sherd		313412.583	174920.490	77.581
30	4	4031	Cu Object	Copper alloy, enamelled, disc brooch		313416.557	174916.454	77.555
31	3	3006	Fe Object	Unknown		313358.041	174916.777	78.609
32	3	3006	Fe Object	Unknown		313357.081	174916.570	78.609
33	3	3016	Cu Object	Brooch pin		313356.584	174915.841	78.661
34	3	3016	Flint	Worked flint		313357.405	174916.084	78.544
35	5	5026	Pot	Pot base	Y			

36	5	5022	Cu Object	Piece of copper sheeting		313437.040	174950.752	76.422
37	5	5022	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
38	4	4025	Pot	Decorated body sherd	Y			
39	5	5038	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
40	5	5038	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
41	3	3016	Fe Object	Iron nail		313356.362	174915.236	78.583
42	4	4046	Pot	Rim sherd		313416.765	174915.384	77.417
43	4	4038	Stone	Worked stone		313416.796	174915.334	77.344
44	4	4002	Pot	Rim sherd		313415.890	174920.270	77.632
45	4	4036	Pot	Rim sherd		313413.895	174919.723	77.413
46	5	5038	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
47	4	4038	Pot	Rim sherd		313416.612	174915.889	77.292
48	4	4038	Pot	Unknown		313416.567	174915.341	77.363
49	3	3049	Fe Object	Iron nail		313357.100	174923.900	78.742
50	5	5009	Stone	Slingstone	Y			
51	4	4043	Pot	Pot base		313415.751	174919.897	77.377
52	3	3049	Fe Object	Iron nail		313357.591	174924.378	78.745
53	4	4049	Pot	Pot base	Y			
54	4	4002	Fe Object	Iron nail		313415.552	174916.515	77.586
55	3	3058	Fe Object	Unknown		313352.333	174919.826	78.749
56	3	3058	Fe Object	Unknown		313352.318	174919.771	78.7361
57	3	3058	Fe Object	Unknown		313352.597	174919.864	78.728
58	3	3058	Flint	Fragment of flint arrowhead		313351.384	174919.749	78.793
59	3	3068	Fe Object	Iron nail		313353.310	174924.531	78.600
60	3	3068	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
61	4	4031	Fe Object	Iron nail		313416.342	174916.706	77.434
62	4	4031	Fe Object	Iron nail		313415.491	174916.203	77.461
63	4	4046	Stone	Worked stone		313416.330	174915.520	77.391
64	3	3058	Fe Object	Iron nail		313352.865	174919.192	78.686
65	4	4046	Fe Object	Iron nail		313416.362	174915.303	77.418
66	4	4046	Stone	Wetstone		313416.602	174914.872	77.325
67	4	4031	Fe Object	Iron nail		313415.727	174916.133	77.384
68	4	4002	Pot	Rim sherd		313416.310	174916.140	77.522
69	3	3068	Fe Object	Iron nail		313354.111	174923.678	78.697
70	3	3068	Pot	Rim sherd		313353.517	174923.326	78.686
71	3	3058	Fe Object	Iron nail		313352.233	174921.380	78.670
72	4	4033	Fe Object	Iron nail		313415.982	174915.531	77.350
73	3	3083	Pot	Rim sherd		313356.874	174928.466	78.566
74	3	3068	Pot	Rim sherd		313353.346	174924.010	78.696
75	5	5038	Fe Object	Iron nail		313441.987	174950.231	75.931
76	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.447	174950.377	75.686
77	5	5020	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.412	174950.429	75.613
78	5	5021	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.172	174950.489	75.434
79	5	5036	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.109	174950.093	76.112
80	5	5036	Pot	Rim sherd		313442.690	174950.055	76.145

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81	4	4044	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
82	5	5037	Pot	Pot base		313442.961	174950.297	75.909
83	5	5036	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
84	5	5037	Pot	Rim sherd	Y			
85	3	3090	Pb Object	Lead strip		313343.189	174920.898	78.751
86	3	3090	Flint	Worked flint	Y			
87	3	3000	Fe Object	Iron nail	Y			
88	3	3124	Fe Object	Iron nail		313370.675	174911.563	78.470
89	3	3124	Pot	Rim sherd		313370.921	174911.148	78.458
90	3	3124	Fe Object	Unknown		313371.629	174910.733	78.506
91	3	3134	Pot	Body sherd		313355.369	174913.320	78.338

Appendix 3 - Sample List

Sample No.	Trench	Context No.	Description
301	3	3018	Fill of 3017 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
302	3	3020	Fill of 3019 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
303	3	3022	Fill of 3021 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
304	3	3033	Fill of 3010
305	3	3034	Post-packing of 3010
306	3	3036	Fill of 3035 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3043, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
307	3	3039	Final fill of 3040
308	3	3037	Fill of 3013
309	3	3031	Fill of 3032
310	3	3043	Fill of 3042 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3054, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
311	3	3065	Primary fill of 3012
312	3	3009	Metalled cobbled surface Sondage A (same as 3119 (B), 3130 (D))
313	3	3054	Fill of 3055 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3083, 3062, 3146, 3089, 3155, 3145)
314	3	3059	Fill of 3060
315	3	3066	Fill of 3024
316	3	3056	Fill of 3057 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3064, 3067, 3069, 3148, 3151)
317	3	3064	Fill of 3063 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3067, 3069, 3148, 3151)
318	3	3067	Fill of 3014 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3064, 3069, 3148, 3151)
319	3	3069	Fill of 3106 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3064, 3067, 3148, 3151)
320	3	3071	Fill of 3070 (equivalent to Roundhouse 2 gully fills 3056, 3064, 3069, 3148, 3151)
321	3	3074	Top fill of posthole 3073 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3082, 3085, 3086, 3087, 3111, 3133, 3142)
322	3	3078	Secondary fill of 3072
323	3	3080	Fill of 3023
324	3	3081	Primary fill of 3040
325	3	3061	Cut of Roundhouse 1 gully (same as 3019, 3021, 3035, 3042, 3017, 3055, 3131, 3138)
326	3	3068	Light yellow silty clay overlying ring gully cuts 3138, 3147

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327	3	3066	Fill of 3024
328	3	3092	Primary fill of 3091
329	3	3094	Secondary fill of 3093
330	3	3099	SAME AS 3157 (Double numbered)
331	3	3100	Fill of 3101
332	3	3102	Cut of posthole
333	3	3091	Cut of posthole
334	3	3045	Secondary fill of 3011
335	3	3089	Fill of 3131 (equivalent to Roundhouse 1 gully fills 3018, 3020, 3022, 3036, 3043, 3054, 3062, 3146, 3083, 3155, 3145)
336	3	3111	Fill of posthole 3110 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3074, 3085, 3082, 3086, 3087, 3133, 3142)
337	3	3113	Tertiary fill of 3114
338	3	3092	Primary fill of 3091
339	3	3117	Cut of ring gully (Roundhouse 2)
340	3	3120	Overlies natural at N end of Sondage A
341	3	3121	Trample layer within rampart, Sondage A
342	3	3121	Trample layer within rampart, Sondage A
343	3	3133	Fill of posthole 3132 of Roundhouse 3 (equivalent to 3074, 3085, 3082, 3086, 3087, 3110, 3142)
344	3	3116	Fill of 3115
345	3	3134	Greenish-grey layer, Sondage B
346	3	3136	Fill of 3135
347	3	N/A	Not taken
348	3	3128	Buried soil surface underneath rampart, Sondage A
349	3	3137	Possible midden deposit, Sondage C
350	3	3103	Fill of 3102
401	4	4012	Fill of 4013
402	4	4014	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4025, 4036, 4043)
403	4	4006	Fill of 4007
404	4	4008	Fill of 4009
405	4	4019	Fill of 4020
406	4	4016	Upper fill of 4018
407	4	4025	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4014, 4036, 4043)
408	4	4023	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4014, 4025, 4036, 4043)
409	4	4030	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4029, 4028, 4044, 4049)
410	4	4031	Fill of possible pit 4037
411	4	4033	Charcoal dump in 4037
412	4	4029	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4028, 4030, 4044, 4049)
413	4	4036	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4025, 4014, 4043)
414	4	4010	Fill of 4011
415	4	4036	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4025, 4014, 4043)
416	4	4043	Top fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4023, 4025, 4036, 4014)
417	4	4038	Fill of 4039
418	4	4044	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4029, 4030, 4028, 4049)

419	4	4049	Primary fill of enclosure ditch (same as 4029, 4030, 4044, 4028)
420	4	4038	Fill of 4039
421	4	4046	Spot sample of charcoal lump
422	4	4046	Fill of pit 4047
423	4	4057	Clay fill of 4037
424	4	4059	Fill of posthole 4058
425	4	4063	Primary fill of pit 4037
501	5	5015	Fill of 5014
502	5	5016	Upper fill of ditch 5008
503	5	5017	Fill of ditch 5008
504	5	5018	Burnt deposit in TT backfill 5004
505	5	5020	Burnt deposit in 5019
506	5	5022	Fill of 5023
507	5	5025	Fill of 5024
508	5	5022	Fill of 5023
509	5	5026	Fill of 5019
510	5	5028	Fill of 5027
511	5	5031	Fill of 5029
512	5	5009	Fill of ditch 5008
513	5	5036	Fill of 5019
514	5	5037	Fill of 5019
515	5	5038	Fill of 5019
516	5	5020	Burnt deposit in 5019
517	5	5040	Fill of 5019
518	5	5043	Fill of 5042
519	5	5043	Fill of 5042

The excavations at Caerau Hillfort in the summer of 2013 concentrated within the interior of the hillfort directly overlying three of the evaluation trenches excavated by Time Team in April 2012. This report summarises the results of the excavations and includes the stratigraphic sequences recorded in each of the three trenches, the detailed animal bone and geoarchaeological analyses, and a summary of the community engagement activities. The structural remains and artefactual assemblages indicate that Caerau hillfort has an exceptional sequence of activities that span the Neolithic through to the Medieval period. A range of features were identified that demonstrate intensive occupation of Iron Age date; an intensity of occupation that has previously not been demonstrated at any other hillfort in south east Wales. The stratified deposits around the periphery of the hillfort demonstrate excellent preservation and indicate a historical sequence of boundary construction which is of exceptional significance. A substantial pottery assemblage has been recovered and the rampart deposits contain well preserved animal bone which is unusual in Wales. Extensive sampling has resulted in the recovery of an important collection of carbonised plant remains and together with the animal bone will significantly add to our understanding of Iron Age and Romano-British agricultural regimes and provide samples for radiocarbon dating.

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