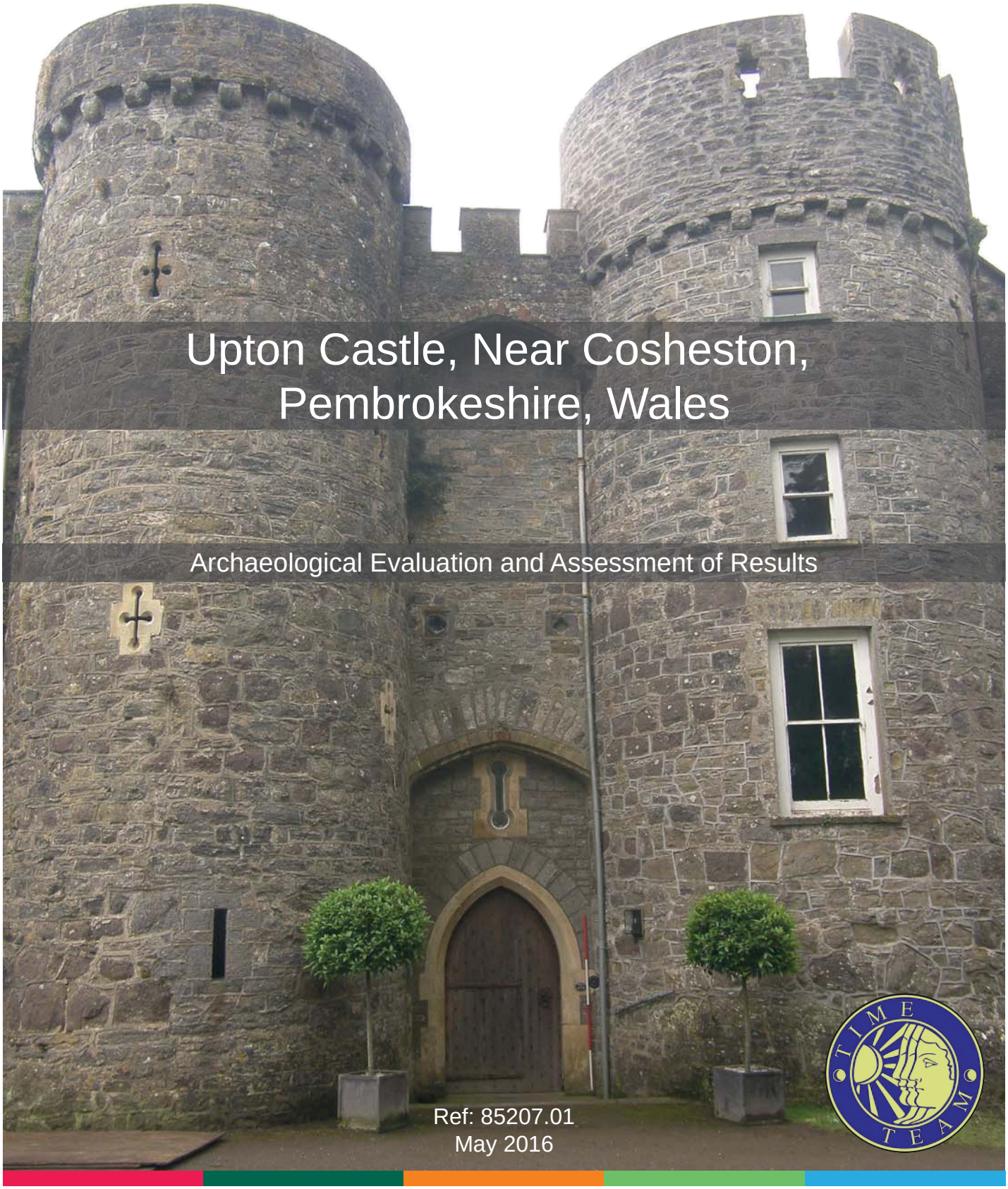
Making sense of heritage

Upton Castle, Near Cosheston, Pembrokeshire, Wales

Archaeological Evaluation and Assessment of Results



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Upton Castle, Near Cosheston, Pembrokeshire, Wales

Archaeological Evaluation Report and Assessment of Results

Prepared for:
Videotext Communications Ltd
11 St Andrews Crescent
CARDIFF
CF10 3DB

Prepared by:
Wessex Archaeology
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
SALISBURY
Wiltshire
SP4 6EB

www.wessexarch.co.uk

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Summary

In July 2012 an archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Channel 4's *Time Team* at Upton Castle, near Cosheston, Pembrokeshire, Wales (centred on NGR 202050, 204690) to investigate the fabric of the castle itself and a small chapel within the castle grounds. The castle is thought to have been built in the 13th century by the Malefant family, while the chapel, which was probably once the parish church for Nash-cum-Upton, is thought to have originated in the 12th/13th century.

The evaluation consisted of ten trenches, both hand and machine excavated. It was clear both from the archaeology within the trenches and from analysis of the standing remains of the castle that considerable alterations had been made to the building since its probable foundation in the 13th century, but the dating of these alterations was difficult to ascertain.

Certain architectural details of the castle were perhaps ornamental rather than practical. There was no moat in front of the eastern tower, and the drawbridge chain holes and the 'murder hole' were therefore probably ornamental additions which served no actual practical purpose. It is possible that there was a large pit in front of the main doorway which did not extend as far as the western tower, but no evidence of this was revealed in the geophysical survey and it could not be investigated through trenching.

Six trenches were excavated around the chapel in order to investigate the development of the building and perhaps provide dating for any alterations as well as to investigate the possibility of pre-chapel archaeological remains.

Evidence was revealed to suggest the chapel was possibly founded in the 11th or 12th century, earlier than had been initially thought. This dating was supported by the identification of nine burials, one of which yielded a radiocarbon date of 1010-1160 cal AD. Geophysical survey revealed that the chancel had originally been apsidal-ended, a Norman architectural form. The original chapel may have been a single-celled structure. The apse was subsequently replaced with a square chancel, possibly to conform to the architectural styles of the 13th/14th century, but this was clearly a later addition to the nave, which may have been contemporaneous with the apsidal chancel. Further alterations may have occurred in the 16th century, including the blocking of the chapel's northern 'Devil's Door'. No pre-chapel remains were found.

Upton Castle, Near Cosheston, Pembrokeshire, Wales

Archaeological Evaluation Report and Assessment of Results

Acknowledgements

This programme of post-excavation and assessment work was commissioned and funded by Videotext Communications Ltd, and Wessex Archaeology would like to thank the staff at Videotext, and in particular Val Croft (Production Manager), Jim Mower (Development Producer), Maddy Geary (Researcher) and Kerry Ely (Locations Manager) for their considerable help during the on-site recording and post-excavation work.

The geophysical survey was undertaken by John Gater, Jimmy Adcock, Emma Wood and Graeme Atwood (of GSB Prospection). Emma Wood also undertook the on-site survey and mapping. The excavation strategy was devised by Neil Holbrook (Cotswold Archaeology). The on-site recording was co-ordinated by Steve Thompson with on-site finds processing by Darryl Freer, both of Wessex Archaeology.

The excavations were undertaken by *Time Team*'s retained archaeologists, Phil Harding (Wessex Archaeology), Tracey Smith, Matt Williams (LP Archaeology), Ian Powlesland, Rob Hedge (Foundations Archaeology) and Cassie Newland, assisted by Tom Jamieson, Alice Forward, Matt Nichols, James Meek, Phil Poucher, and Bristol MA students Jack Reid, Stephanie Le Feuvre and Kate Davies. The metal-detector survey was undertaken by Jack Tree. On-site pottery identification was by Paul Blinkhorn with small finds identification by Danielle Wootton.

The archive was collated and all post-excavation assessment and analysis undertaken by Wessex Archaeology. This report was compiled by Steve Thompson with initial historical research by Jim Mower and Maddy Geary of Videotext Communications. Specialist reports were prepared by Lorraine Mepham (finds), with Lorrain Higbee (animal bone) and Dr Kevin Hayward (stone identifications). Report illustrations were prepared by Rob Goller. The post-excavation project was managed on behalf of Wessex Archaeology by Lorraine Mepham. This report has benefited from discussion with Phil Harding and standing buildings specialist Richard K. Morriss.

Finally, thanks are extended to Pru and Steve Barlow, the owners of Upton Castle, for allowing access to the castle for geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation.

Upton Castle, Near Cosheston, Pembrokeshire, Wales

Archaeological Evaluation Report and Assessment of Results

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project background

1.1.1 Wessex Archaeology was commissioned by Videotext Communications Ltd to undertake a programme of archaeological recording and post-excavation work on an archaeological evaluation undertaken by Channel 4's *Time Team* at Upton Castle, near Cosheston, Pembrokeshire, Wales (hereafter the 'Site') (**Figure 1**).

1.1.2 This report documents the results of archaeological survey and evaluation undertaken by *Time Team*, and presents an assessment of the results of these works.

1.2 The Site, Location and Geology

1.2.1 Upton Castle is located within the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park on the south bank of the River Carew, 1.5km north-east of Cosheston, *c*. 4.5km north-east of Pembroke and *c*. 8km north-west of Manorbier, centred on NGR 202050, 204690, at a height of approximately 90m above Ordnance Datum (m aOD).

1.2.2 The underlying geology is Old Red Sandstone, Lower Carboniferous limestone and ridgeway conglomerate (BGS Sheet 228).

1.2.3 The Site is currently under private ownership with the associated gardens open periodically to the public. Within the gardens is a chapel, comprising a small nave and chancel.

2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1.1 This section draws on the summary provided by Jim Mower (Videotext Communications 2012). Upton Castle is more properly described as a 'fortified mansion', the earliest remaining part of which is believed to date from the 13th century, although the towers are unusually strong in comparison with other examples. Three of the original towers survive and there is evidence of a drawbridge and portcullis entrance, while one wing contains the remnants of what was probably the Great Hall. The inhabited part of the castle mainly dates from the 17th and 18th centuries with later additions of two further towers in the 19th century. Nearby, a small medieval chapel, also thought to date from the 13th century, contains several early effigies. It was probably once the parish church for Nash-cum-Upton. In the grounds of the chapel is a stone preaching cross.

2.1.2 Little is known of the history of Upton Castle. It is thought to have been built in the 13th century by the Malefants or Malenfants (also spelt Maliphant, Maliphaunt and Malyfant), a Norman family who held it until the 16th century when the male line died out. The first Malefant we hear of in Wales was Walter, who was killed fighting the Welsh outside

Cilgerran in 1258. Based on the style of armour and the crossed limbs of a crusader, the battered old effigy in the family chapel is likely to be an earlier lord, perhaps someone who responded to the Third Crusade preached throughout Wales by the Archbishop of Canterbury in 1188. The better preserved knightly effigy in the chapel is apparently in similar style to the tomb of the Black Prince, who died in 1376, so it is thought to represent William Malefant who died in 1361 – though there is no inscription to confirm this.

2.1.3 After the Malefants, the castle was owned by several generations of the female line, the Bowen and Evans families. In the 18th century Upton went out of the family altogether and was sold to the Taskers whose descendants eventually sold it to Mr Stanley Neale in 1927. Mr Neale was responsible for laying out and planting the present-day gardens.

2.1.4 No archaeological work, either non-invasive or invasive has been conducted at Upton Castle.

2.1.5 Upton Castle and Gardens are listed in *Coflein*, the database for National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW) as follows:

Upton Castle (NPRN 103460)

2.1.6 Upton Castle is a medieval fortified house which has had later wings added during various phases of building, four of which can be identified. There are three drum towers at the north front, with the entrance between the central and west towers (**Front cover; Figure 2, Plate 2**). A sketch by Norris *c.* 1800 shows an entrance with two flanking towers as probably being the oldest part of the castle, with the addition of an imposing three-storey wing to the south- east. Beyond this, again to the east, is a further two-storey building which must have been adjacent to the chapel.

Upton Castle Gardens (NPRN 265872)

2.1.7 The garden is described as a plantsman's garden, with varied and interesting plantings of a wide range of hardy and half-hardy trees, shrubs and herbaceous species, mainly dating from the 1920s. Original Victorian terraces survive below the castle, and there is a small maze incorporated into the currently accessible woodland walk. The large walled garden is not accessible, but it is partly in use, complete with modern glasshouses. This garden is depicted on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch map of Pembrokeshire XL, sheet 3 (1907). Its main elements on that map include chapel, well, woodland, parterres, pond, orchard, greenhouse and walled garden.

Upton Chapel (NPRN 300442)

2.1.8 Transitional Norman building attached to Upton Castle (**Figure 8, Plate 16; back cover**); 12th/13th century with 18th century restoration of south door and windows, and 20th century restoration of interior. Essentially the private chapel of Upton Castle; dedicated to St Giles. The nave is constructed of coursed rubble masonry and the chancel of random rubble. Slate roofs with tile ridges. W bellcote. The chapel contains a number of important effigy monuments, including that of William Malefant (d. 1362). Unique, fist-shaped candle holder in NE corner of nave. Norman font.

Upton Chapel churchyard cross (NPRN 305135)

2.1.9 A 1.75m high stone cross situated on a restored single-step rectangular masonry base some 2m to the south-west of the south-west corner of Upton chapel. The cross comprises a 1.32m high tapering octagonal shaft, broached at its base up to circa 0.5m, surmounted by a 0.43m high by 0.75m wide octagonal cross-head. A small, concrete-filled hole in the top of the crosshead indicates the probable former presence of a finial. No socket stone is visible as the rectangular base has been turned into a raised bed and is

planted with shrubs and flowers. A late 18th/early 19th century painting of Upton Castle by Warwick Smith shows the cross, complete with a spherical finial, situated on a two-step stone base and in the same location as it is today. The general condition of the cross is good with only slight damage to the top of the shaft and the northern arm of the crosshead. The monument is listed as part of a group listing, Listed Building Grade II, along with Upton Castle and the chapel.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1.1 The project design (Videotext Communications 2012), provides full details of the research aims and methods; a brief summary is provided here.

3.1.2 The project aimed to ascertain the location, date, condition, character and extent of the underlying archaeological remains and address the significance of those archaeological remains in an attempt to answer two key research questions:

- **Research Aim 1**: What are the character, extent and function of surviving archaeological remains comprising the medieval castle? Upton Castle has been much altered over time with 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th century changes and additions to both the main building and the landscape itself. No plan exists of the original structure.

- **Research Aim 2**: What are the character, extent and function of surviving archaeological remains comprising pre Anglo-Norman settlement at the site? It has been suggested that Upton Castle is sited at the location of a pre-Anglo-Norman high status site. An effigy found in the chapel is thought to be pre-Norman and the orientation of the chapel suggests that it may relate to an earlier building complex.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Geophysical Survey

4.1.1 During the course of the evaluation a geophysical survey was carried out across the Site by GSB Prospection LTD. A combination of fluxgate gradiometer (magnetic) and ground penetrating radar (GPR) was used. The survey grid was tied in to the Ordnance Survey grid using a Trimble real time differential GPS system.

4.2 Evaluation Trenches

4.2.1 Ten trenches (Trenches 1–10) of varying sizes were excavated using a combination of machine and hand digging. Their locations determined in order to investigate and to address specific research objectives (**Figure 1**).

4.2.2 At various stages during excavation the deposits were scanned by a metal detector and signals marked in order to facilitate investigation. The excavated up-cast was scanned by metal detector.

4.2.3 All archaeological deposits within the trenches were recorded using Wessex Archaeology's pro forma record sheets with a unique numbering system for individual contexts. Trenches were located using a Trimble Real Time Differential GPS survey system. All archaeological features and deposits were planned at a scale of 1:20 with sections drawn at 1:10 and 1:20. All principal strata and features were related to the Ordnance Survey datum.

4.2.4 A full photographic record of the investigations and individual features was maintained, utilising digital images. The photographic record illustrated both the detail and general context of the archaeology revealed and the Site as a whole.

4.2.5 At the completion of the work, all trenches were reinstated using the excavated material.

4.2.6 The work was carried out on the 10th–13th July 2012. The archive and all artefacts were subsequently transported to the offices of Wessex Archaeology in Salisbury where they were processed and assessed for this report.

5 RESULTS

5.1.1 The following sections provide a summary of the information held in the Site archive. Details of individually excavated contexts are retained in the Site archive and a tabulated version of these can be found in **Appendix 1**.

5.2 Geophysical Results

5.2.1 No geophysical report was produced for the survey that was undertaken at Upton Castle. However, references to the results within this document come from discussions with members of GSB Prospection and limited published results in Taylor (2013, 122–41).

5.3 Evaluation Trenches

5.3.1 Any substantial archaeological remains revealed were recorded and left *in situ*. No removal of structural elements took place and therefore the earliest phases of activity were not fully exposed and therefore not fully interpreted.

*Trench 1 (**Figure 3**)*

5.3.2 Trench 1 was located against the southern wall (**128**/**132**) of the eastern chamber of the castle, to investigate a series of flooring layers and deposits visible through a doorway arch which had been recently unblocked by the owner. It was clear that the floor surfaces were not contemporaneous with the archway through the southern wall but were instead associated with the doorway through the north wall of the eastern chamber (**Figure 3, Plate 5**). The eastern chamber (currently a wood store) was last used as a stable block, as indicated by the drainage channels in the floor. Archway **133** is *c*. 1m wide and 2m high with the springers for the arch located at *c*. 1.50m. It was contemporaneous with a second archway **135** (now blocked) located to the west and leading to a presumed staircase. The staircase and the eastern chamber were separated by wall **106**.

5.3.3 Trench 1 was divided into two distinct areas. The first involved the investigation of the archway and the floor surfaces while the second aimed to ascertain the medieval ground level to the south of the eastern chamber.

5.3.4 The stratigraphically earliest deposit excavated was the natural geology **103** which was sealed by reworked natural/trample layer **107** on which the southern wall of the eastern chamber **128**/**132** had been constructed. Archway **133** had been inserted into wall **128**/**132** and wall **106** had been constructed to separate the eastern chamber from the staircase to the west, accessed through archway **135**. A remnant of flagged floor surface **127** was revealed on top of trample layer **107** and was probably contemporaneous with the first phase archway **133**. The date of the initial construction is unknown and no dateable material was recovered from these early deposits.

5.3.5 Sealing floor surface **127** was layer **108**, possibly a collapse of render from the interior of the eastern chamber, or the first of a series of deliberate make-up deposits to raise the

floor level within the chamber. Four further levelling deposits (**109**, **110**, **111** and **113**) were revealed on which floor surface **114** was set on bedding layer **112** (**Figure 3, Section 1**). The new floor surface was over 0.35m higher than the original; archway **133** could have still functioned as a useable doorway, though stepped access would have been necessary. It is unclear if the doorway through the northern wall of the chamber had been inserted at this point, but it seems likely that this was the case. It is unclear when the raising of the floor level and the insertion of the northern door took place, but it is likely to have occurred at the same time as the blocking of the original main northern entrance as shown on a pre-1888 illustration of the north side of the castle (Laws 1888, 213). The illustration indicates that the main doorway was located beneath a 'murder-hole' and one of the holes through which the chains of a drawbridge are connected is also clearly visible.

5.3.6 It is unclear what function the eastern chamber served at this time but it was eventually converted into stables, and the floor was raised a further *c*. 0.50m to make it level with the northern exterior of the castle. Prior to this, however, archway **133** was completely blocked (by the addition of **116**), and the door rebates blocked (with **129** and **130**). Butting **116**, **129** and **130** were a series of levelling deposits (recorded as **117**, **118**, **119**, **120**, **121**, and **122**) on which floor **124** was constructed on bedding layer **123** (**Figure 3, Section 2**). Floor **124** is the current floor surface of the eastern chamber. The floor was subsequently repaired by the addition of **126** on bedding **125**.

5.3.7 At some point following the blocking of the archway, threshold stone **131** was inserted to create a decorative niche; this was clearly a late addition as the foundation **134** is formed of broken brick.

5.3.8 To the south, outside the line of the wall, the natural geology **103** was encountered at 0.28m below the current ground surface (at *c*. 88m aOD). This was cut by a tree hole (**105**) of probable modern date (**Figure 3, Plates 3 and 4**). Overlying this was a layer of degraded natural which was overlain by the current topsoil and turf of the garden. The medieval ground surface was not identified. Sherds of post-medieval North Devon gravel-tempered ware and 17th/18th century Staffordshire-type slipware were recovered from topsoil and degraded natural.

*Trench 2 (**Figure 4**)*

5.3.9 Trench 2 was placed alongside an east-west wall (**209**) which ran parallel to the southern elevation of the eastern chamber and which currently formed a retaining wall for the upper raised terrace. This formed part of the extensive landscaping to the south of the main castle buildings, but it was originally thought possible that wall **209** formed part of surrounding medieval curtain wall. It was also hoped that Trench 2 would locate the medieval ground surface to compare with the deposits in Trench 1.

5.3.10 Following the removal of the topsoil, a number of archaeological deposits and features were observed. No clearly natural deposits were observed within Trench 2 and the earliest layer was **211**, sealed by **213**. Layer **213** appeared to be cut by **212**, the possible construction cut for wall **209**, but this cut was not fully excavated. Wall **209** had at one time been free-standing, as the pointing was either flush or had been recessed or raked out and did not extrude between the masonry. It was clear that the wall was too narrow to have been a defensive curtain wall and was most probably constructed during one of the major landscaping events within the garden.

5.3.11 Following the construction of wall **209**, the area was levelled by a series of dumping events (**210**, **206/208** and **203/207** (**Figure 4, Sections 2 and 3**). Wall **214** may have been built upon **207**; this was the eastern wall of the corridor room leading to the main castle entrance on the north side. If this was the case, wall **214** must have been

constructed late in the sequence, but this could not be confirmed. Butting 214 and physically sealing **203/207** was **202**, and this was in turn cut by linear feature **205**; a probable planting hole.

5.3.12 The only datable finds recovered from Trench 2 were post-medieval (pottery, vessel glass).

*Trench 3 (**Figure 5**)*

5.3.13 Trench 3 lay on the northern side of the castle, to investigate the possibility of a surrounding moat as indicated by the drawbridge chain holes visible on the pre-1888 illustration and still visible below the 'murder-hole' and above the main doorway into the building. Trench 3 was located against the western tower, on the west side of the main entrance.

5.3.14 The natural bedrock **308** was encountered immediately under the topsoil, and it was clear there was no moat at this point. The foundation structure 302 for 303 (the extant standing wall of the tower) lay directly on 308, and it was cut by drains 304 and 306 (**Figure 5, Plates 7-8**).

*Trench 4 (**Figure 6**)*

5.3.15 Trench 4 lay on the northern side of the chapel, on the site of the blocked northern or 'Devil's' door into the nave. The northern wall of the nave (**408**) was constructed of roughly shaped stone blocks with a foundation of similar material. The foundation appeared to be butted by layer **407**, which appeared to be reworked natural, resulting from trample activity during the construction of the chapel or later.

5.3.16 The internal floor level of the chapel is some 0.25m lower than the current ground surface, and the threshold stone of the doorway had been removed prior to the blocking. The earliest blocking activity was deposit **406** on which blocking wall **409** had been constructed (**Figure 6, Section 4**). Subsequently, deposit **405** built up around the chapel. This deposit was later cut by a modern ceramic drain (**Figure 6, Plate 11**).

*Trench 5 (**Figure 6**)*

5.3.17 Trench 5 also lay on the northern side of the chapel, a few metres to the east of Trench 4, and investigated the junction of the nave and the chancel, which were apparently not contemporaneous constructions.

5.3.18 The earliest structural element encountered was the foundation (**507**) for the north-east corner of the nave wall (**506**), which was butted by deposit **505**, possibly a trample deposit or levelling associated with the nave construction. The chancel was clearly a later addition, and its foundations and northern wall **508/509** butted the east-facing nave wall (**Figure 6, Plate 10**). Physically overlying **505** and butting **508** was a reworked natural layer (**504**) containing fragments of mortar and medieval roof tile fragments, indicating its deposition during works around the chapel. Cutting **504** was a modern ceramic drain (also observed in Trench 4).

5.3.19 Limited GPR survey was carried out within the interior of the chapel, and revealed the presence of a possible apse in the form of a solid mass of semi-circular masonry at the eastern end of the chancel. This discovery, combined with a lack of known burials at this point within the interior of the church suggests that the chapel is likely to have had its origins in the 11th or 12th century (Taylor 2013, 131-3, 137; Richard K. Morriss pers. comm.).

*Trench 6 (**Figure 7**)*

5.3.20 The natural bedrock (**608**) was encountered at 0.38m below the current ground surface at a height of *c*. 87.10m aOD, below topsoil and a landscaping/levelling deposit (**602**). Sealing **608** was a possible stone structure (**606**); the nature of which was unclear (**Figure 7, Plate 12**). It is possible that **606** merely represents the top of the natural geology, but an archaeological origin cannot be discounted. Sealing **606** was layer **603**, which was subsequently cut by grave **605**, containing skeleton **609**. The grave was only partially uncovered, and remained unexcavated, although part of the skeleton was exposed, and a sample of bone removed for radiocarbon dating. This produced a date of 1010–1160 cal AD. This is further supporting evidence for an 11th/12th century origin for the chapel. A possible second grave was identified (**607**), but this was not confirmed.

*Trench 7 (**Figure 7**)*

5.3.21 Trench 7 lay due west of the chapel. The natural geology (**705/706**) was encountered at 0.31m below the current ground surface at a height of *c*. 87.10m aOD. Five graves were recorded within Trench 7 (**Table 1**). These were only partially exposed and none were excavated although skeletal material was observed (**Figure 7, Plate 14**). All graves were cut through the natural geology, except for grave **713** which cut the fill of earlier grave **711**.

Table 1: Graves within Trench 7

Grave cut	Contains skeleton	Backfilled with
707	716	704
709	717	708
711	718	710
713	Not seen	712
715	Not seen	714

*Trench 8 (**Figure 1**)*

5.3.22 Trench 8 lay on a south-facing slope in the walled garden to the east of the chapel. The natural geology was encountered at 0.31m below the current ground surface at 84.50-83.90m aOD. Ditch 804, aligned NW-SE, cut the natural geology. The function of this ditch is unclear, and no datable finds were recovered, but it was most probably associated with later horticultural activity.

*Trench 9 (**Figure 8**)*

5.3.23 Trench 9 lay due south of the chapel. Under the topsoil, a series of levelling deposits (**902**, **904**, **905** and **906**) were recorded, which sealed a possible grave (**908**) which cut rubble-rich deposit **903**. Two further possible graves (**910** and **912**) were observed cutting the natural geology following the partial removal of deposit **903**. Deposit **903** contained five sherds of Dyfed gravel-tempered pottery of probable 13th/14th century date. The origin of the deposit is unclear and it may represent reworked natural or an old subsoil layer. No human remains were observed in any of the possible graves.

*Trench 10 (**Figure 9**)*

5.3.24 Trench 10 investigated a geophysical anomaly to the south-east of the chapel. Under the topsoil, a dump of roughly shaped Cosheston sandstone blocks (**1004**) was revealed on top of a slate-rich dump of material (**1002**) (**Figure 9, Plates 17 and 18**). These two deposits appeared to be the result of the discard of waste material following refurbishment works around the chapel.

6 FINDS

6.1.1 Finds were recovered from eight of the ten trenches excavated. Quantities of finds overall are small; no finds were recovered from Trenches 3 and 8, and quantities from Trenches 4 and 5 are minimal. Only pottery was recovered in any appreciable quantity. The chronological focus of the Site is in the post-medieval period; there is a small proportion of medieval items.

6.1.2 All finds have been quantified by material type within each context, and this information is summarised by trench in **Table 3**. This section provides basic details of the finds in order to assess their potential to address the aims and objectives of the project.

6.2 Pottery

6.2.1 The pottery assemblage is mainly of post-medieval date, with a few medieval sherds.

Medieval

6.2.2 Thirteen sherds are medieval. Eleven of these are in a coarse fabric containing prominent rock fragments (siltstone), and a little quartz, which can be identified as Dyfed gravel-tempered ware, although it should be noted that, due to a strong visual similarity between ware types in the two areas, there is some debate as to whether some pottery identified as Dyfed gravel-tempered ware actually has an origin in North Devon (O'Mahoney 1995, 8). Only one of these sherds is diagnostic – the rim from a glazed jug, from layer **903**. It may be observed that the inclusions in this sherd, which has a patchy, olive-green glaze, are smaller and less prominent than those in the other, unglazed sherds, and this may reflect a different source; jugs from Carmarthen, whose fabric is similarly described, have been ascribed a possible source area further to the east (*ibid*., 9, type A1). Dyfed-gravel-tempered ware has a lengthy currency, from the 12th to at least the 16th century in south-west Wales (Papazian and Campbell 1992, 56; O'Mahoney 1985, 9–11), although the jug (which provides the only dating evidence for layer **903**) can probably be dated to the 13th or 14th century. One small body sherd from levelling deposit **1002** is in a fine micaceous sandy ware, 13th century or later in date; the source could be within the Old Red Sandstone geology of the Gwent-Herefordshire area. Finally, a body sherd from Trench 10 topsoil is in a coarse fabric with igneous-derived inclusions, possibly an import from North Devon.

Post-medieval

6.2.3 The post-medieval assemblages encompasses a fairly wide range of wares, from early post-medieval coarsewares (redwares, including North Devon gravel-tempered and slipwares; and black-glazed wares) and associated finewares (Staffordshire-type mottled wares and slipwares; tinglazed earthenwares, Nottingham/Derby stoneware), all probably of 17th to early 18th century date, through early factory-produced wares of the 18th century (white saltglaze, creamware, porcelain), to modern industrial wares (19th/20th century). The largest group (56 sherds) came from Trench 2 topsoil, with smaller quantities from other trenches.

6.3 Ceramic Building Material (CBM)

6.3.1 This category includes fragments of roof tile, floor tile and brick. Some of the roof tile (ten fragments) is of medieval date, and includes three identifiable fragments of crested ridge tiles, two with shallow knife-cut crests and one with an unusual horn-like protuberance extending inwards from the tile edge. All these fragments are in Dyfed gravel-tempered fabrics.

6.3.2 The remaining 13 fragments of roof tile (all from levelling deposit **1002**) are in post-medieval North Devon gravel-tempered fabrics, with characteristic coarse, frequent inclusions, and including some fragments with a thick, treacly-looking glaze. Although no crests or other diagnostic features are present, all these fragments are likely to belong to ridge tiles.

6.3.3 Two joining fragments from an unglazed floor tile, in a coarse fabric, probably medieval, came from subsoil **702**.

6.3.4 All of the brick is post-medieval, although some differentiation can be distinguished between hard-fired, modern brick, and some fragments in a softer, coarse fabric. No complete dimensions survived, nor even sufficiently large fragments to determine whether any of the bricks were frogged.

6.4 Clay Tobacco Pipe

6.4.1 Most of the clay pipe consists of plain stem fragments. There is one decorated (rouletted) stem from Trench 2 topsoil, and the same context also produced the only bowl, with a widely splayed base, a type typical of the Broseley area of Staffordshire, and datable to c. 1680–1730 (Oswald 1975, fig. 7, 5c).

6.5 Stone

6.5.1 Roofing slates make up the bulk of the stone (13 fragments); some have surviving pegholes, but no original complete dimensions are preserved. The slates are in a range of stone types – mudstones and slates from the Cosheston beds, outcropping close to Upton Castle; the Carboniferous Limestone and the Lower Devonian Red Marls, outcropping around 2km to the north.

6.5.2 Only one other piece of stone was recovered: a fragment of calcareous sandstone, possibly from the Silurian sandstones that outcrop at Haverfordwest, which shows no obvious signs of working (levelling deposit **1002**).

6.6 Glass

6.6.1 The glass includes both vessel (59 fragments) and window glass (4 fragments). The majority of the vessel glass derives from green wine bottles dating between the mid-17th and later 18th centuries; many of these fragments are heavily oxidised. The more diagnostic pieces – rims/necks and bases – probably represent both ‘onion’ and ‘mallet’ bottle forms, spanning the period *c*. 1680–1760 (Dumbrell 1983). Other vessel fragments belong to later bottles/jars (including a complete inkwell), and one wine glass.

6.6.2 The window glass is all post-medieval. One modern clear fragment came from Trench 2 topsoil, while the other three fragments (two from subsoil **702** and one from degraded natural layer **102**) are in pale greenish or blueish glass, of earlier post-medieval date. All fragments are small; quarry size and shape cannot be determined.

6.7 Metalwork

6.7.1 The metalwork includes objects of copper alloy, lead and iron. Copper alloy comprises one large, domed stud, of uncertain function (recovered from the walled garden); and a modern cartridge case (Trench 6 topsoil).

6.7.2 The iron objects are all heavily corroded, and have been X-radiographed as a basic record, and to aid identification. Most can be identified as nails of varying sizes (19

examples); there are also five sheet fragments (**1002**), a hook-like object of unknown function (**702**), and a large object, probably a structural fitting of some kind (**407**).

6.7.3 The lead includes three identifiable fragments of window came, and a hollow rectangular strip of unknown function.

6.8 Worked Bone

6.8.1 The head of a medium-sized brush, with regularly-spaced holes for insertion of bristles, came from Trench 1 topsoil.

6.9 Human Bone

6.9.1 Nine inhumation graves (or possible graves) were located (one in Trench 6, five in Trench 7 and three in Trench 9), but only one of these was (partially) excavated (605). Skeleton **609**, within grave **605**, was left *in situ*, but the radius and ulna were retained for radiocarbon dating (1010-1160 cal AD; SUERC-41222). The radius and ulna were identified as belonging to an individual of less than 18 years of age, possibly female.

6.10 Animal Bone

Quantity and provenance

6.10.1 A total of 84 fragments (or 727g) of animal bone were recovered from 17 separate contexts located of medieval, post-medieval and modern date located in Trenches 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9 and 10.

Methods

6.10.2 The following information was recorded where applicable: species, skeletal element, preservation condition, fusion and tooth ageing data, butchery marks, metrical data, gnawing, burning, surface condition, pathology and non-metric traits. This information was directly recorded into a relational database (in MS Access) and cross-referenced with relevant contextual information.

Results

6.10.3 Bone preservation is on the whole good, although a few fragments from post-medieval contexts show signs of abrasion. This could indicate that some of the post-medieval assemblage is residual, having been reworked from medieval deposits.

6.10.4 Once conjoins are taken into account the fragment count falls to 67 fragments, of which less than half (*c*. 45%) are identifiable to species and skeletal element.

6.10.5 Six fragments of bone were recovered from medieval layer **903**. The identified fragments are all from sheep and include two humeri and an atlas vertebra.

6.10.6 Bone was recovered from nine post-medieval contexts including linear **205** and construction cut **212**. Less than half of the 31 fragments (*c*. 48%) are identifiable to species, all of which belong to livestock species. Cattle and sheep bones are present in equal numbers, but pig bones are rare.

6.10.7 Modern topsoil and subsoil layers provided a small number of bone fragments. Cattle, sheep and pig bones are amongst the small number of identified fragments. A piece of worked bone was also recovered from Trench 1 topsoil. The object is part of a brush, which has been made from the shaft of a large mammal (e.g. cattle) long bone.

6.10.8 A small number of unidentifiable bone fragments were also recovered from undated layers **406** and **905**.

6.11 Marine Shell

6.11.1 With the exception of one cockle, one mussel and one whelk, all of the marine shell consists of oyster. Both right and left valves are present, i.e. both preparation and consumption waste. Condition of the shells is fair to good; several retain measurable original dimensions.

6.12 Potential and Further Recommendations

6.12.1 This is a small finds assemblage, mainly of post-medieval date. Only one of the contexts excavated could be convincingly dated as medieval on the basis of the finds; other medieval finds (pottery and ceramic roof tile) were found residually in later contexts. Pottery, glass and clay pipes have produced the closest dating evidence, and have a chronological focus from the 17th century through to the modern period. The small quantities of other material types represented severely limit their further potential.

6.12.2 All finds have already been recorded to an appropriate archive level, and no further analysis is proposed.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL

7.1.1 No archaeological deposits suitable for environmental sampling were present on the Site.

8 RADIOCARBON DATING

8.1.1 A single radiocarbon date was obtained on a sample of articulated human bone selected from a discrete burial and submitted to the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (**Table 3**). It has been calculated using the calibration curve of Reimer *et al.* (2013) and the computer programme OxCal (v4.2.3) (Bronk Ramsey and Lee 2013) and cited in the text at 95% confidence and quoted in the form recommended by Mook (1986), with the end points rounded outwards to 10 years. The range in plain type in the radiocarbon table has been calculated according to the maximum intercept method (Stuiver and Reimer 1986).

8.1.2 In addition, the $\delta^{13}C$ and $\delta^{15}N$ values for the sample are consistent with a terrestrial diet and, therefore, the potential for date offsets is unlikely (see Bayliss *et al*. 2004). Dietary offsets can cause radiocarbon measurements to appear older than their actual date, which in turn can lead to misleading conclusions about the phase of a site.

8.1.3 The date (SUERC-41222) confirms that the burial was made at some point during the 11th or 12th century cal AD (1010–1170 cal AD at 95% confidence).

Table 3: Radiocarbon date

Laboratory Code	Feature and context	Material Identification	Radiocarbon Age (BP)	$\delta^{13}C$ (‰)	δ15N (‰)	C:N Ratio	Calibrated Date Range (95.4% confidence)
SUERC-41222	Grave 605	Human bone, distal left ulna	955±35	-20.7	10.4	3.3	1010–1170 cal AD

9 DISCUSSION

9.1.1 The evaluation at Upton Castle was only partially successful in its stated aims of ascertaining the location, date, condition, character and extent of the underlying archaeological remains while addressing two main research questions.

9.1.2 It was clear both from the archaeological deposits observed, and from analysis of the standing remains of the castle, that considerable alterations had been made to the building since its probable foundation in the 13th century and that the dating of these alterations was difficult to ascertain.

9.2 The Castle

9.2.1 Archway **133**, investigated in Trench 1, was architecturally Norman in style and could potentially belong to the earliest period of castle construction (Richard K. Morriss pers. comm.). Only a remnant of the associated flagged floor **127** was revealed, though with no dateable material. This doorway had apparently formed the original access into the eastern chamber of the castle. The current entrance on the northern side was inserted later and was associated with later floor surfaces. The illustration of Upton Castle published by Laws (1888, 213) shows this later addition of the northern doorway.

9.2.2 No traces of the contemporaneous ground surface associated with archway **133** were located to the south of the doorway in either Trenches 1 or 2, due to the alterations and landscaping in later periods including the insertion of the garden terrace wall, initially thought to be the remains of the medieval curtain wall.

9.2.3 On the northern side of the castle, Trench 3 found no evidence of a moat, despite the drawbridge chain holes visible above the current main doorway into the castle. The chain holes and the 'murder hole' were perhaps ornamental additions which served no actual practical purpose. It is possible that there was a large pit in front of the main doorway which did not extend as far as the western tower, but no evidence of this was revealed in the geophysical survey and it could not be investigated through trenching.

9.3 The Chapel

9.3.1 Six trenches were positioned around the chapel to investigate the development of the building and its chronology, and to investigate the possibility of pre-chapel archaeological remains.

9.3.2 Trench 4 was positioned against a blocked northern doorway, also known as the 'Devil's Door'. The placing of a doorway in the northern wall of chapels or churches was often due to topographic reasons, but here it is probably due to the widespread belief which existed in the medieval period that the Devil resided in the soul of an unbaptised child. When the child was christened, the Devil would be driven out of the child, and would need a means of escape, i.e. through the 'Devil's Door'. Such doors are known in 12th century churches such as All Saints Church, Covington, Cambridgeshire and it is possible that the north door of Upton Chapel belongs to the original construction. During the Reformation of the 16th century, many of 'Devils' Doors' were blocked up due to changes in religious practice; a post-16th century date for the blocking of this door is likely.

9.3.3 Trench 5 investigated the junction of nave and chancel; excavation revealed that the chancel was the later addition. Geophysical survey in the interior of the chapel revealed the remains of an earlier apsidal-ended chancel subsequently replaced by the current square chancel (Taylor 2013, 131–3, 137; Richard K. Morriss pers. comm.). The geophysical survey showed that the chapel was constructed in one of the simplest forms

of early Norman church, consisting of a single cell comprising both nave and chancel. Similar Norman apsidal-ended churches such as St Andrews, Winterborne Tomson, Dorset (Wilkinson and Ashley 2006, 28) or East Ham, Essex (Rodwell 1989, 80) are rare, as during the 13th and 14th century many were altered as a reflection of the architectural styles of the day. It is unclear if the apsidal end seen here was contemporaneous with the nave or later.

9.3.4 The evidence of a Norman style apsidal chancel, an early Norman chapel, combined with the radiocarbon date of AD 1010–1160 obtained from an inhumation grave in Trench 6, indicates the potential for the chapel to be earlier than originally thought, perhaps 11th/12th century rather than 12th/13th century.

9.3.5 No evidence was recovered in any of the trenches around the chapel for any archaeological deposits pre-dating its construction.

10 STORAGE AND CURATION

10.1 Museum

10.1.1 It is recommended that the project archive resulting from the evaluation will be deposited with The National Museum of Wales. In the interim the archive will be held at the offices of Wessex Archaeology at Old Sarum, Salisbury, Wiltshire, under the project code **85207**.

10.2 Preparation of archive

10.2.1 The complete site archive, which will include paper records, photographic records, graphics and digital data, will be prepared following the standard conditions for the acceptance of excavated archaeological material by the local museum, and in general following nationally recommended guidelines (SMA 1995; CIfA 2014; Brown 2011; ADS 2013).

10.2.2 All archive elements are marked with the project code, and a full index has been prepared. The physical archive comprises the following:

- 1 file of paper records
- 4 cardboard boxes or airtight plastic boxes of artefacts, ordered by material type

10.3 Copyright

10.3.1 The full copyright of the written/illustrative archive relating to the Site will be retained by Wessex Archaeology Ltd under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act* 1988 with all rights reserved. The recipient museum, however, will be granted an exclusive licence for the use of the archive for educational purposes, including academic research, providing that such use shall be non-profit making, and conforms with the *Copyright and Related Rights regulations* 2003.

10.4 Security Copy

10.4.1 In line with current best practice (e.g. Brown 2011), on completion of the project a security copy of the written records will be prepared, in the form of a digital PDF/A file. PDF/A is an ISO-standardised version of the Portable Document Format (PDF) designed for the digital preservation of electronic documents through omission of features ill-suited to long-term archiving.

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Table 2: All finds by material type and by trench (number / weight in grammes)

Material	Tr 1	Tr 2	Tr 4	Tr 5	Tr 6	Tr 7	Tr 9	Tr 10	unstrat	Total
Pottery	8/30	67/427	-	-	16/288	17/98	8/84	5/100	3/43	124/1070
Medieval	-	-	-	-	-	*2/6*	*5/45*	*3/7*	*3/43*	*13/101*
Post-medieval	*8/30*	*67/427*	-	-	*16/288*	*15/92*	*3/39*	*2/93*	-	*111/969*
Ceramic Building Material	2/38	13/1041	3/71	1/89	1/35	6/428	5/339	25/884	-	56/2925
Clay Pipe	3/5	12/39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15/44
Stone	-	-	2/87	-	2/995	1/6	1/38	9/1202	-	15/2328
Glass	5/97	43/1641	-	-	1/21	6/77	-	8/77	-	63/1913
Metalwork (no. objects)	3	9	2	-	3	4	4	7	1	33
Copper Alloy	-	-	-	-	*1*	-	-	-	*1*	*2*
Lead	*1*	*1*	-	-	-	-	*2*	-	-	*4*
Iron	*2*	*8*	*2*	-	*2*	*4*	*2*	*7*	-	*27*
Worked Bone	1/11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1/11
Human Bone	-	-	-	-	3/27	-	-	-	-	3/27
Animal Bone	2/18	34/409	8/39		2/16	5/12	16/135	17/98	-	84/727
Marine Shell	11/146	12/185	-	1/5	-	-	-	1/4	-	25/340

Appendix 1: Trench and Context Summaries

Bgl: Below Ground Level
aOD above Ordnance Datum

Trench 1	Dimensions :	2.5m by 1.4m by 0.40m	Ground surface level:	88.55m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202057.5,204700.2		

Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)
101	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of lawn, mid- to dark brown silty clay with rare small sandstone pebbles 0.02m. Seals 102. Post-medieval pottery (two sherds).	0.21m thick
102	Layer	Light red/pink-coloured clay with decayed sandstone fragments; thin band of decayed sandstone; layer of redeposited regolith; weathered upper geology. Sealed by 101 and overlies 105. Post-medieval pottery (one sherd).	0.06m thick
103	Natural	Mid-reddish-brown sandy clay; upper geology; regolith or rab-type deposit of decayed upper sandstone bedrock. Stratigraphically sealed by 107 and physically cut by planting hole 104.	-
104	Cut	Cut of sub-square feature; 0.90m long by 0.66m wide and 0.19m deep. Cuts top of upper geology 103; filled with 105. Probable planting hole associated with the garden.	0.19m deep
105	Fill	Mid-reddish-brown to mid-brown silty loam; fill of planting hole 104. Root disturbed. Sealed by 102.	0.19m thick
106	Wall	Roughly north-south internal dividing wall, separating what was previously the eastern chamber of the castle (now a wood-store accessed through northern doorway) from a presumed staircase. Wall is *in situ* and rendered in whitewash; difficult to investigate, but appears to be stone rubble. Wall probably original and associated with the first construction phase of the castle.	-
107	Layer	Reworked/trampled natural layer, reddish-brown sandy bedrock, upper geology; regolith which has been reworked, possibly during the castle's first construction phase. Sealed by 106, 128, 132 and 127, seals 103.	0.09m thick
108	Layer	Light grey/white sandy silt with common small stone fragments, with render and mortar fragments; seals first phase floor layer 127. Nature of deposit unclear, possibly collapse deposit of render from wall associated with the first phase floor, or possibly deliberate make-up layer for second phase of flooring 114. Seals 127 and overlain by 109.	0.06m thick
109	Layer	Reddish-brown sandy clay with common sandstone fragments. Redeposited natural bedrock material; seals 108 and overlain by 110. Make-up/levelling layer for second phase floor surface 114.	0.10m thick
110	Layer	Mid-grey-brown silty clay layer with abundant fragments of mortar and ash. Repeated depositions of similar material resulting in homogenous levelling/make-up layer for floor surface 114. Seals 109 and overlain by 111.	0.14m thick
111	Layer	Mid-reddish-brown sandy silt with common small sandstone fragments. Thin spread of redeposited natural material. Dumped levelling/make-up material. Seals 110 and overlain by 112.	0.03m thick
112	Layer	Thin spread of mid-grey limestone mortar; seals 111 and overlain by 113.	0.02m thick

113	Layer	Compact, light reddish-brown sandy silt deposit with abundant small crushed sandstone fragments with common flecks of coal. Deliberate bedding deposit of dumped material for floor surface 114. Material potentially derived from hearth clearances. Seals 113 and overlain by floor surface 114.	0.10m thick
114	Surface	Surface formed of stone sets, bedded into 113. Stones have roughly squared-off to create flat surface, stones are pitched, on average 0.10m by 0.07m by 0.04m. Stone is possibly Cosheston sandstone, a form of dolerite.	0.10m thick
115	Render layer	Layer of white render; physically overlies fragmentary render on wall 128. 115 added to 128 prior to the blocking of archway 133 by 116 but following the construction of floor surface 114 and associated levelling deposits. 115 overlies 114 at eastern end of the section.	-
116	Wall	Deliberate blocking wall inserted into archway 133 following the construction of floor surface 114, but prior to levelling associated with construction of stable floor surface 124. Wall necessary to allow floor surface and make-up layers to be built up. This wall was removed from archway 133 by the current owners; remains of the wall are visible but only seen as uncoursed rubble, with lime render. This blocking sealed original southern entrance to eastern chamber.	-
117	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-grey to light grey and brown sandy loam; heterogeneous deposit of mixed material to create levelling layer, multiple deposits of different waste material banked up against wall 116; overlain by 118.	0.21m thick
118	Layer	Repeated depositions of reddish-brown redeposited natural and mortar dumps creating distinct lenses of material. Seals 117 and overlain by 119.	0.17m thick
119	Layer	White to light grey dump of mortar, deliberate levelling deposit of waste material. Seals 118 and is overlain by 120.	0.08m thick
120	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown and dark brown silt and sandy loam with common sub rounded and rounded stones *c*. 0.10m in size. Heterogeneous levelling. Seals 119 and overlain by 121.	0.14m thick.
121	Layer	Mixed and mottled light grey/white with black specks. Dump of lime render with flecks of charcoal and ashy material. Seals 120 and overlain by 122.	0.12m thick
122	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-brown and light grey sandy mortar withy common lime mortar components. Repeated dumps of waste material. Seals 121 and overlain by 123.	0.19m thick
123	Layer	Mid reddish-brown fine compact sand bedding layer of redeposited natural for floor surface 124.	0.07m thick
124	Surface	Third phase (probably Victorian) floor surface formed of water worn stones, *c*. 0.08m by 0.06m by 0.04m, set into 123. Floor laid for use of eastern chamber as stable block (indicated from the visible drain channels).	0.06m thick
125	Layer	Mixed and mottled mid-grey-brown silty clay bedding layer for floor repair 126 in floor 124.	0.06m thick
126	Surface	Brick and stone repair to floor surface 124, only partially visible in section and plan. Small repair against wall 106.	0.14m thick
127	Surface	Remnant of stone flagged floor surface. First phase of flooring visible in the eastern chamber, medieval in date and associated with archway 133 through walls 1132 and 128. Flags were *c*. 0.24m long by 0.11m wide and 0.03m+ thick; set directly into trample deposit 107. 127 sealed by 108.	0.03m thick+

128	Wall	Main southern elevation of eastern chamber, contemporaneous with and equivalent to 132. Archway 133 inserted into it for access from south. Archway 135 also inserted into 132/128, leading to staircase separated from eastern chamber by wall 106.	-
129	Structure	Blocking structure within rebate on western side of archway 133; associated with the blocking of the archway by 116.	-
130	Structure	Blocking structure within rebate on eastern side of archway 133 through wall 128/132; associated with the blocking of the archway by 116. Appears to be formed of brick and stone rubble.	-
131	Threshold stone	Initially thought to be original threshold stone into eastern chamber from the south, but clear that stone had been inserted into archway below walls 128 and 132. Probably Victorian in date and associated with the blocking of archway 133. 1.08m long by 0.54m wide and 0.05m thick.	0.05m thick
132	Wall	Main southern elevation of eastern chamber, contemporaneous with and equivalent to 128. Archway 133 inserted into it for access from the south. Archway 135 also inserted into 132/128, leading to staircase separated from the east chamber by wall 106.	-
133	Archway	Norman arch inserted into wall 128/132 to provide access to the eastern chamber from the south. Original/first phase entrance into this chamber, eventually blocked by 116 when new entrance inserted on northern side.	-
134	Foundation	Foundation structure formed of broken bricks for inserted threshold stone in blocked archway 133.	0.10m thick
135	Archway	Norman arch inserted into wall 128/132 to provide access by a set of steps (now gone) to a staircase leading to the first floor. This archway is currently blocked.	-

Trench 2	**Dimensions :**	3.20m by 1.94m by 1.145m	**Ground surface level:**	88.10m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202059, 204688.7		

Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
201	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of garden under lawn. Dark brown silty clay with rare subangular small stone inclusions. Seals 204, fill of 205. Sherds of post-medieval and modern pottery.	0.22m thick
202	Layer	Mid-greyish-brown silty clay with common stone rubble. Dump of levelling material, seals 203 and cut by 205. Landscaping deposit within garden; contained fragments of late 17th-18th century bottle glass.	0.07m thick
203	Layer	Mid-reddish-brown silty clay; layer of redeposited natural incorporating waste rubble material. Levelling deposit within garden. Seals 206 and overlain by 202.	0.29m thick
204	Fill	Dark brown silty clay; fill of feature 205, topsoil-derived material, indicating feature is probably garden-related planting hole. Contained 17th/18th century pottery.	0.35m thick
205	Cut	Cut of SW-NE aligned linear feature with slightly stepped moderate sides and concave base; 1.55m long by 0.60m wide and 0.35m deep. Probable 19th century planting hole. Cuts 202 and filled with 204.	0.35m deep

206	Layer	Large-scale homogenous levelling deposit resulting from multiple depositions of similar material within possible construction cut 212 for wall 209. Deposit filled construction cut and was then banked up against 209 to raise ground surface of garden terrace. Deposit also seals layer 210, a dump of material. Contained post-medieval brick.	0.96m thick
207	Layer	Equivalent to 203, recorded at western limit of the trench and sealed by wall 214. Seals 208. Contained 17th/18th century pottery.	0.28m thick
208	Layer	Equivalent to 206, recorded at the western end of trench, sealed by 207. Contains late 17th/early 18th century pottery.	0.19m + thick
209	Wall	Roughly east-west wall; forms retaining wall of garden terrace. Originally a free standing structure as the struck joins between courses can be seen. 0.80m long (recorded length) by 0.12m+ wide and at least 1.80m high. Appears to have been constructed within cut 212.	1.80m high +
210	Layer	Mid-reddish-brown silty clay with abundant large sub-rounded and angular roughly shaped stones; deliberate dumped deposit of material which sits upon 213 and sealed by 206. Levelling dump.	0.42m thick
211	Layer	Layer of dark brown sandy silt below 213 in the edge of cut 212. True nature of this deposit not fully understood as not fully exposed.	-
212	Cut	Possible construction cut for wall 209, which cuts 213. 0.80m long (recorded length) by 1m wide and 0.35m+ deep; contains wall 209 and backfill deposit 206. Cut is wide for such a narrow wall - possible that this is not an actual cut but just a change in deposit between 206 and 213.	-
213	Layer	Mid-reddish-brown compact silty clay with small subangular stones, probable redeposited natural levelling layer; cut by 212.	-
214	Wall	Extant eastern wall of corridor which had been added onto the southern side of the main castle building, leading to the main entrance on the northern side. Appears to be constructed upon 207, though this would make it very late in the sequence.	-

Trench 3	**Dimensions :**	4.50m by 0.90m by 0.65m	**Ground surface level:**	89.00m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202044.6,204705.3		

Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
301	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of lawn on the northern side of the castle. Dark brown silty clay with rare subangular stones. Seals 307, fill of 306 and 305, fill of 304.	0.11m thick
302	Structure	Large sandstone slab forming the foundation of tower (added at some time in the castle's history). Sits directly upon the natural 308.	-
303	Wall	Extant wall of tower. Constructed upon 302.	-
304	Cut	Cut of modern drain; cuts 308 and is filled with 305.	-
305	Fill	Fill of modern drain 304, including ceramic pipe and backfill.	-
306	Cut	Cut of French drain, filled with 307.	-
307	Fill	Rubble-rich fill of drain 306.	-
308	Natural	Natural sandstone bedrock, cut by 304 and 306.	-

Trench 4	**Dimensions :**	1.12m by 0.90m by 0.76m	**Ground surface level:**	87.30m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202092,204702.2		

Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
401	Layer/surface	Modern gravel layer forming pathway around northern side of the chapel; seals 402. Contained post-medieval brick.	0.02m thick
402	Layer	Layer of modern stone, levelling/backfill associated with drain cut 404. Overlies 403 and sealed by 402.	0.17m thick
403	Fill	Fill of modern pipe trench 404, including ceramic pipe and backfill.	0.12m + thick
404	Cut	Cut of modern pipe trench filled with ceramic pipe and backfill 403; cuts 405/410.	0.12m + deep
405	Layer	Dark brown coarse silt with common small gravels; levelling layer built up against backfilled northern door of the chapel. Deposit butts archway 411, blocking wall 409, and cut by 404.	0.15m thick
406	Layer	Mid-brown silty loam with common small limestone fragments. Deposit blocking lower portion of archway 411 following removal of the threshold stone. 409 constructed on top of it to block the archway remnant. deposit sits on foundation blocks of 408.	0.25m thick
407	Layer	Mid-orange-brown compact clay silt; probably the upper levels of natural, regolith which has been reworked by trample activity associated with construction. Overlain by wall 408.	0.38m thick
408	Wall	Extant north wall of the chapel nave, in which archway 411 was inserted. Wall formed of roughly worked stone blocks, (re)pointed with modern material.	-
409	Wall	Blocking wall of archway 411, built to seal the northern doorway (or 'Devil's door') of the chapel. Constructed of roughly shaped stone rubble upon 406.	-
410	Layer	Equivalent to 405.	-
411	Archway	Doorway arch in the north wall of the nave 408.	-

Trench 5	**Dimensions :**	1.30m by 1.10m by 0.54m	**Ground surface level:**	87.10m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202097.1,204700.8		

Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
501	Layer/surface	Modern layer of gravel forming a pathway around the northern side of the chapel; seals 502.	0.02m thick
502	Layer	Layer of modern stone, levelling/backfill infilling drain cut 503 and sealing ceramic drain pipe. Overlain by 503. Equivalent to 402.	0.60m thick
503	Cut	Cut of modern trench for ceramic drain pipe which cuts 504 and is filled with ceramic pipe and backfill material 502.	0.60m deep
504	Layer	Mid-brown silty clay with occasional degraded limestone fragments and mortar. Layer disturbed by construction activity, unclear if associated with the initial construction of the nave or the later addition of the chancel. Cut by 503 and seals 505. Contained medieval ceramic root tile fragments.	0.36m thick

505	Layer	Mid-brown silty clay with frequent large flat stones (on average 0.15m in size). Stones laid flat and so appear to be structural. Unclear as not investigated but could be drain capping stones, a levelling deposit or possible grave capping. Appears to butt 507, the foundation for the north wall of the nave 506.	-
506	Wall	North-east corner of chapel nave; constructed upon foundation stone 507 and butted by addition of later chancel; wall 508 on foundation 509. Built of roughly shaped stones forming decorative quoins.	-
507	Foundation	Stone foundation for the NE corner of the nave. At the corner the footing is stepped to receive the junction of the northern and eastern walls.	-
508	Wall	North wall of the later chancel, constructed on 509 and butts nave wall 506.	-
509	Foundation	Foundation for later chancel wall 508; butts 506. Stones bonded with yellow mortar.	-

Trench 6	**Dimensions :**	1.70m by 1.30m by 0.68m	**Ground surface level:**	87.50m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202087.6, 204704.6		

Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
601	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of lawn to the NW of chapel. Dark brown clay silt with rare small subangular and rounded stones. Seals 602. Contained modern pottery.	0.10m thick
602	Layer	Dark brown sandy clay/silt levelling deposit/garden dumping to NW of chapel. 602 seals 604 fill of grave 605.	0.12m thick
603	Layer	Mid-pinkish-brown sandy silt and common inclusions of pea-gravel, angular sandstone fragments and occasional slate fragments. Possible reworked natural deposit; overlies 606 and cut by grave 605.	0.16m thick
604	Fill	Grave backfill, sealing skeleton 609. Reddish-brown silty clay; redeposited natural material.	0.45m thick
605	Grave	Grave cut. Not fully exposed but recorded as east-west aligned and 0.54m long by 0.36m wide and 0.45m+ deep. Cut through 603. Only partially revealed due to narrow constraints of trench. Contains skeleton 609.	0.45m+ deep
606	Structure	Possible structure (wall?) formed of limestone blocks in yellow sandy clay; overlay natural bedrock 608. Recorded as 1.30m long by 0.65m wide and 0.10m high. May just be top of natural geology. Grave 605 appears to butt up against 606, or possibly physically cut through it.	-
607	Feature	Unexcavated feature seen in plan in SW corner of trench. Possible grave cut, but may just be rubble in top of grave 605 or a remnant of 603, as it is similar.	-
608	Natural	Light yellow sandy silt with large sandstone blocks. Natural bedrock; is sealed by 606	-
609	Skeleton	Individual within grave 605; sealed by backfill 604. Only partially revealed in plan due to constraints of trench. Fragment of rib, top of pelvis (ilium) and the left radius and ulna exposed. Sample of bone sent for radiocarbon dating (cal AD 1010-1160).	-

Trench 7	Dimensions :	2.25m by 1.65 by 0.40m	Ground surface level:	87.50m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202085.2,204702.3		

Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)
701	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of lawn area to NW of chapel. Dark brown clay silt with rare small subangular and rounded stones. Seals 702.	0.11m thick
702	Subsoil	Dark greyish-brown compact silty clay, sealed by 701 and overlies 703. Contained post-medieval/ modern pottery.	0.15m thick
703	Layer	Mid-reddish-brown silty clay with common large limestone blocks, *c*. 0.20m in size. Levelling deposit which seals graves. Possible accumulation deposit which has built up as a result of the number of burials.	0.13m thicik
704	Fill	Fill of grave 707, overlies skeleton 716. Dark reddish-brown silty clay, mix of natural material and overlying deposits through which the grave was cut.	-
705	Natural	Outcrop of Cosheston sandstone, distinct from the red sandstone observed elsewhere on site. Cut by graves. Equivalent to 706.	-
706	Natural	Equivalent to 705.	-
707	Grave	Grave cut containing skeleton 716 and backfill 704. Grave not excavated, just investigated to confirm it was a burial.	-
708	Fill	Backfill of grave 709, seals skeleton 717.	-
709	Grave	Grave cut containing skeleton 717 and grave backfill 708. Grave not excavated, just investigated to confirm it was a burial.	-
710	Fill	Backfill of grave 711; seals skeleton 718.	-
711	Grave	Grave cut containing skeleton 718 and grave backfill 710. Grave not excavated, just investigated to confirm it was a burial.	-
712	Fill	Backfill of grave 713; no skeleton observed.	-
713	Grave	Grave cut, backfilled with 712. Grave not excavated. Cuts 710 (fill of grave 711)..	-
714	Fill	Backfill of grave 715; no skeleton observed.	-
715	Grave	Grave cut, backfilled with 714. Grave not excavated.	-
716	Skeleton	Partially exposed skeletal remains within grave 707, sealed by 704.	-
717	Skeleton	Partially exposed skeletal remains within grave 709, sealed by 708.	-
718	Skeleton	Partially exposed skeletal remains within grave 711, sealed by 710.	-
719	Fill	Fill of service trench 720.	-
720	Cut	Cut of modern service trench	-

Trench 8	Dimensions :	5m by 0.90m by 0.56m	Ground surface level:	84.85–84.20 m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202118.8,204699.2		

Context	Category	Description	Depth (bgl)
801	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of area of grass within walled garden. Dark brown sandy silty clay, seals 802.	0.24m thick
802	Subsoil	Mid-reddish-brown sandy silt subsoil layer; seals 810 and sealed by 801.	0.07m thick
803	Natural	Decayed upper geology, regolith, light to mid-reddish-brown silty sandy clay. Cut by ditch 804.	-

804	Cut	Cut of roughly NE-SW aligned ditch cutting natural 803; filled with 805, 806, 807, 808, 809 and 810. Ditch corresponds to slope within walled garden. Recorded as 0.90m long by 0.57m wide and 0.33m deep with gradual concave sides and concave to flat base. Function unknown, but likely to be related to walled garden.	0.33m deep
805	Fill	Dark brown-grey silty clay; fine deposit which has formed in a convex-shaped layer; origin uncertain, possibly just a dump of material thrown in from the north. Lies on the base of cut 804 and sealed by 806.	0.08m thick
806	Fill	Mixed and mottled mid-grey and white silty clay with common mortar fragments. Secondary deposit. Seals 805 and overlain by 807 and 808.	0.12m thick
807	Fill	Layer of late roof tiles; unclear if they form a distinct structure, but do appear to have been laid within ditch 804 on top of fill 806. Sealed by 808 and seal 806.	0.02m thick
808	Fill	Dark grey-brown silt, sterile layer of repeated depositions of similar material resulting in homogenous layer, potentially as the result of water activity washing topsoil in. Sealed by 809 and seals 806	0.29m thick
809	Fill	Mid- to light grey silty clay, mortar-rich fill of 804, dump of waste material. Seals 807 and 808 and sealed by 810.	0.20m thick
810	Fill	Tertiary fill of 804, light brown silt, seals 809 and sealed by 802.	0.05m thick

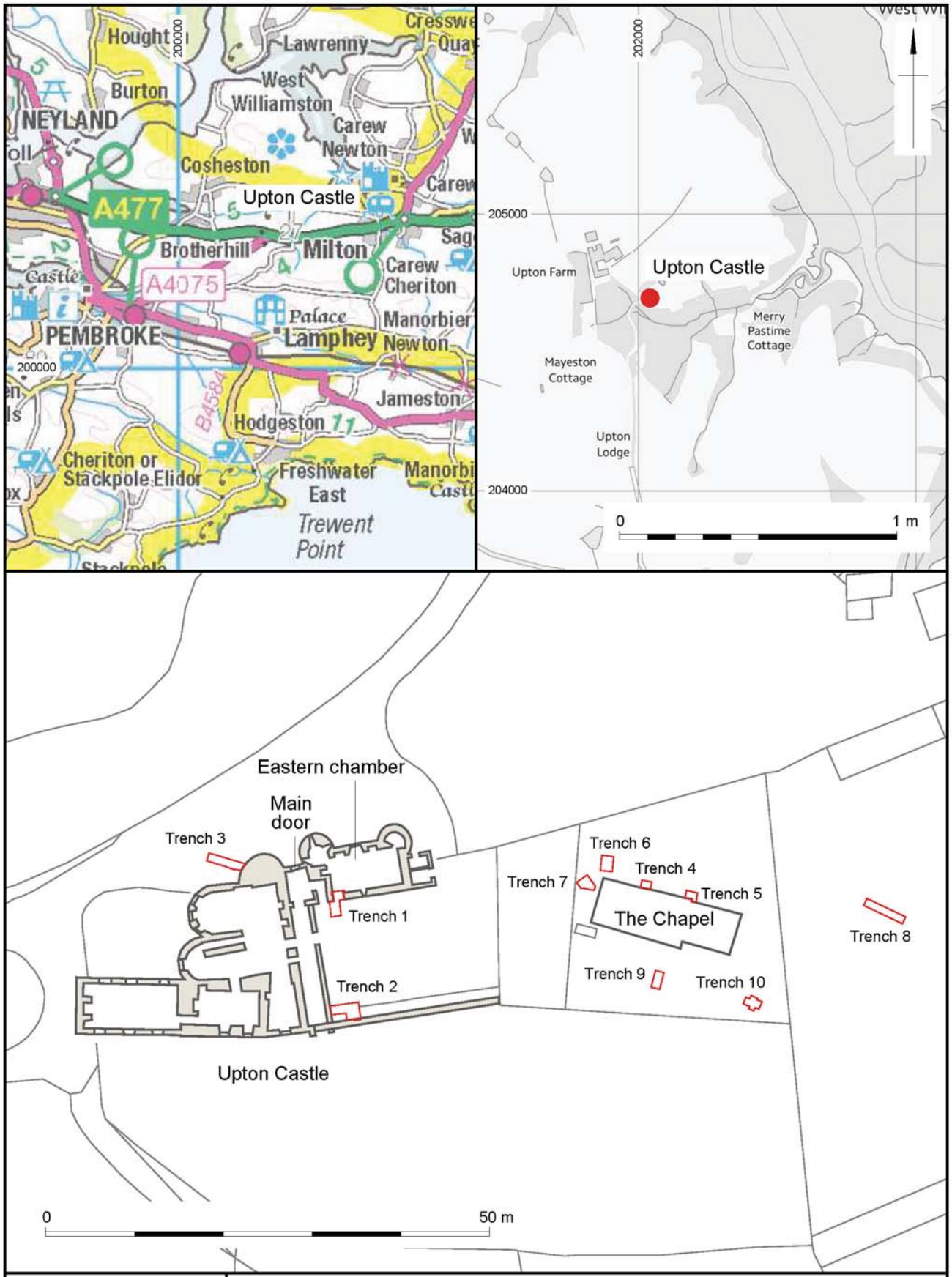
Trench 9	**Dimensions :**	2m by 1m by 0.56m	**Ground surface level:**	86.80m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202093.4, 204691.5		

Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
901	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of grassed area to south of chapel; orange-dark brown clay silt. Seals 904. Contained single sherd post-medieval pottery.	0.12m thick
902	Layer	Orange to dark brown clay silt with common slate fragments; layer of waste material derived from renovation works associated with the chapel. Sealed by 905 and seals 906. Contained two sherds of post medieval pottery.	0.11m thick
903	Layer	Mixed and mottled brown and dark reddish-orange silty clay with common building rubble material, associated with chapel. Cut by possible grave 908; seals 907. Contained five sherds of medieval pottery (?13th/14th century).	0.14m thick
904	Layer	Orange to dark brown clay silt; levelling layer below 901 and seals 905.	0.11m thick
905	Layer	Orange to mid-brown clay silt layer; seals 902 and is sealed by 904; make-up levelling layer	0.05m thick
906	Layer	Orange to dark brown clay silt; seals 909 (fill of grave 908). Levelling layer.	0.09m thick
907	Natural	Probably natural deposit, mid-orange-brown silty clay; sealed by 903.	0.11m + thick
908	Grave	Cut of possible grave; cuts 903 and filled with 909; possible upright stone marker at eastern end of grave (not very convincing). Grave only partially exposed as change in colour at base of trench and possible cut in section. 0.25m wide and at 0.20m + deep.	0.20m +deep
909	Fill	Deliberate backfill of possible grave 908.	-
910	Grave	Possible grave cut, filled with 911; visible cutting 907. Not excavated.	-

911	Fill	Fill of possible grave 910; mid-orange-brown silty clay.	-
912	Grave	Possible grave cut, filled with 913; visible cutting 903. Not excavated.	-
913	Fill	Fill of possible grave 912, mid-orange-brown silty clay.	-

Trench 10	**Dimensions :**	1.90m by 1.50 by 0.68m	**Ground surface level:**	86.10m aOD
	Coordinates (NGR):	Centred on NGR 202104,204688.8		

Context	**Category**	**Description**	**Depth (bgl)**
1001	Topsoil	Current topsoil and turf of grassed area to SE of chapel. Dark brown sandy silty clay, seals 1002. Medieval and post-medieval pottery.	0.25m thick
1002	Layer	Mid-reddish-brown silty clay with common small slate fragments and mortar; deliberate levelling layer of material probably associated with refurbishment of the chapel. Deposit sealed by dump of stone 1004, and overlies 1003. Contained two sherds of medieval pottery.	0.22m thick
1003	Layer	Mid-reddish-brown silty clay, layer of redeposited or reworked natural material. Seals 1005 and sealed by 1002. Contained single sherd of post-medieval pottery.	0.13m thick
1004	Layer	Dump/spread of Cosheston sandstone blocks, *c*. 0.90m by 0.85m wide and 0.20m high. Appears to be wheelbarrow load dumped on top of 1002; waste material. Sealed by 1001 and seals 1002.	0.20m high
1005	Natural	Natural regolith, decayed upper natural, revealed below 1003.	-



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Site and trench location plan

Figure 1

Plate 1: South facing elevation of the eastern chamber

Plate 2: North facing elevation of the eastern chamber

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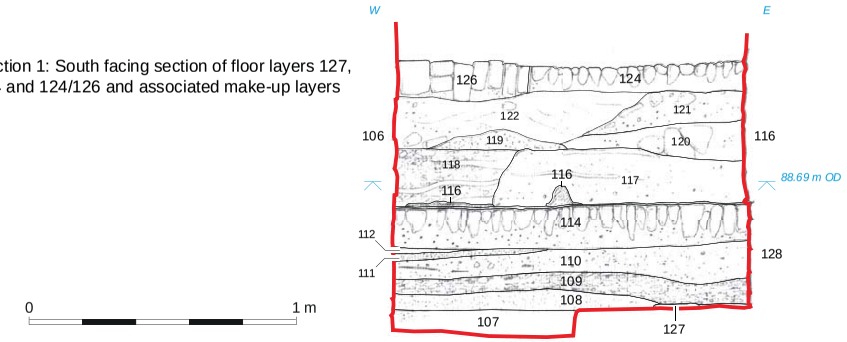
Plate 4: East facing section of Trench 1 (scales 1 m, 0.2 m)

Plate 3: Trench 1 view from the south (scale 1 m, 0.5 m)

Plate 5: South facing section through floor layers 127, 114 and 124/126 and associated make-up layers (scales 1 m, 0.5 m)

Section 1: South facing section of floor layers 127, 114 and 124/126 and associated make-up layers



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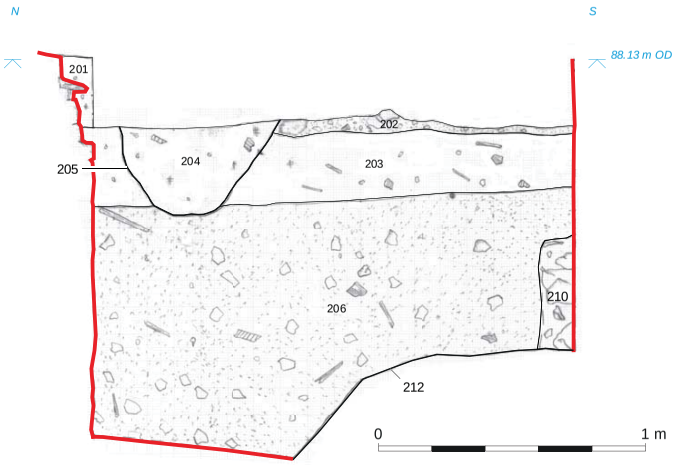
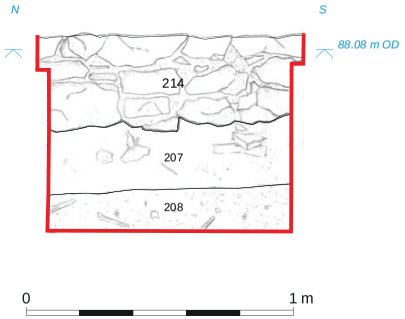
Trench 1: plan, section and photographs

Figure 3



Section 2: East facing section of Trench 2



Section 3: East facing section of Trench 2

Plate 6: West facing section of Trench 2 (scales 2 m, 1 m)

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Trench 2: plan, sections, and photograph

Figure 4

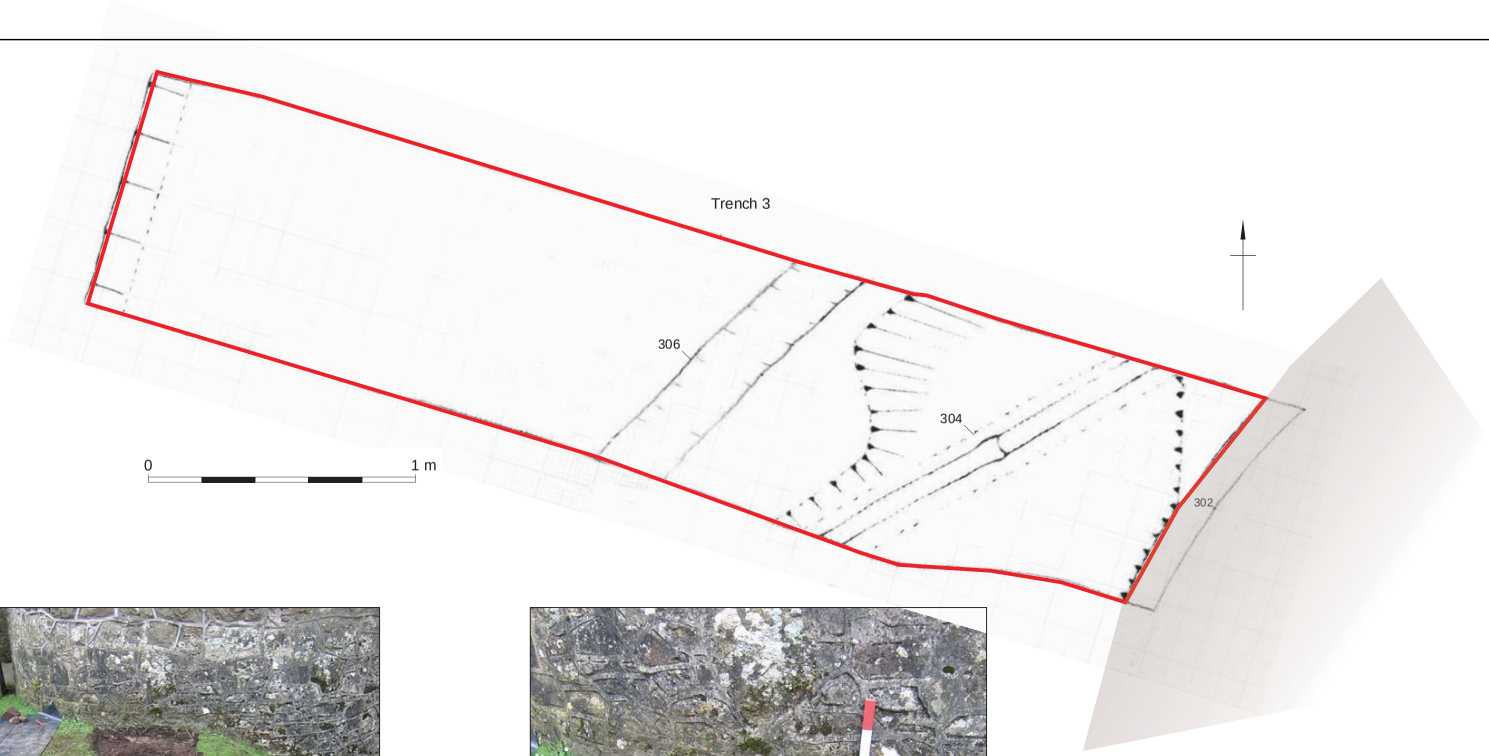

Plate 7: Trench 3 view from the north (scale 1 m, 0.5 m)

Plate 8: Trench 3 showing modern pipe 304/305, bedrock 308, north wall of western tower 303 on foundation slab 302 (scale 1 m, 0.5 m)

Plate 9: Working shot; opening Trench 3, view from the north

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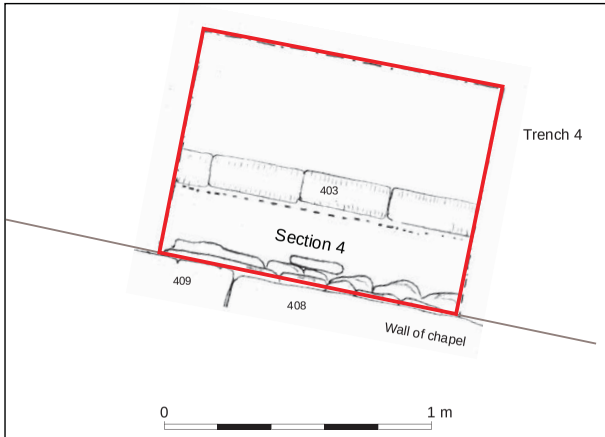
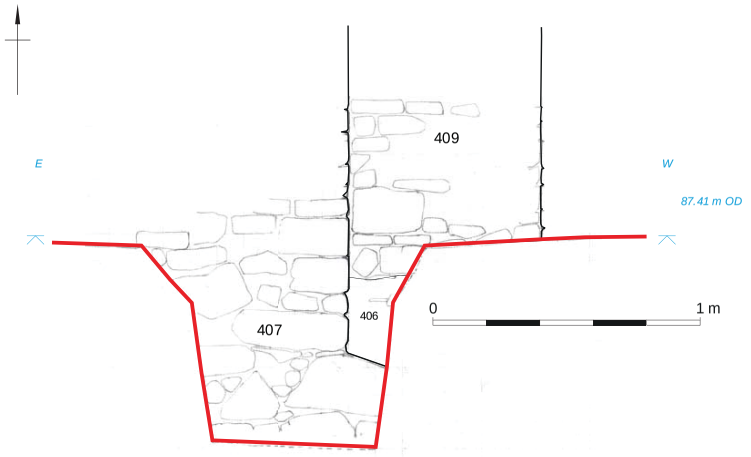
Trench 3: plan and photographs

Figure 5





Section 4: North facing elevation, north wall of nave 408, doorway arch 411 and blocking 409

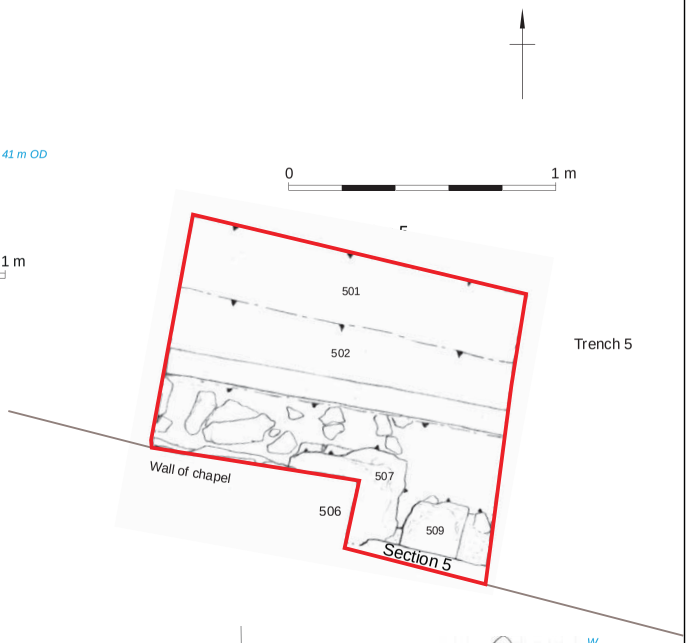


Plate 10: Trench 5, view from the east (1 m, 0.5 m)

Plate 11: Trench 4, view from the north (2 x 0.5 m)

Section 5: North facing elevation of junction of nave wall 506, foundation 507 and abutting chancel wall 508, foundation 509

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Trenches 4 and 5: plans, sections and photographs

Figure 6

Plate 12: Trench 6, view from the east (scales 1 m, 0.5 m, and 0.2 m)

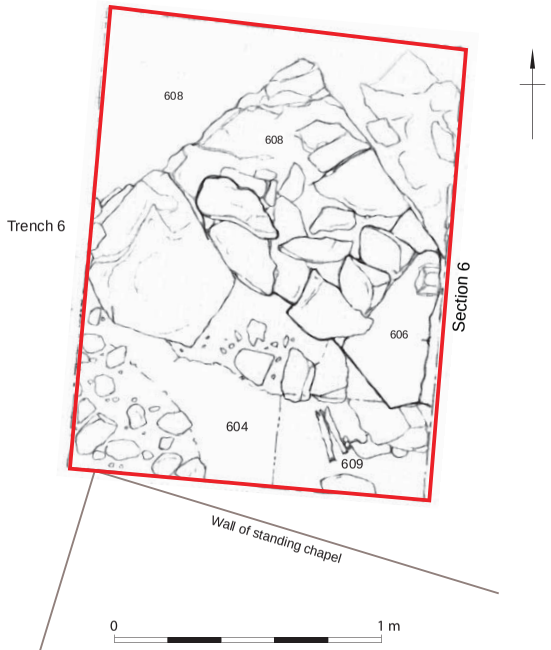
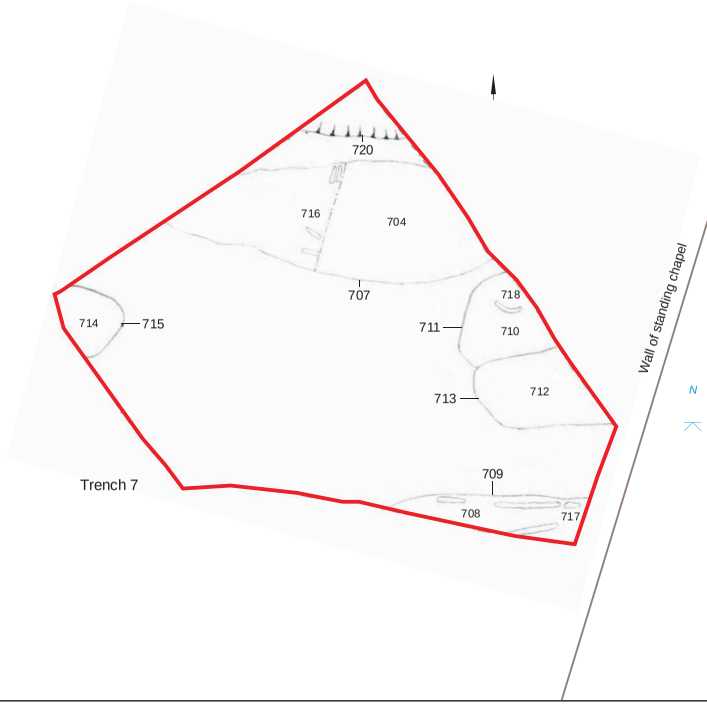
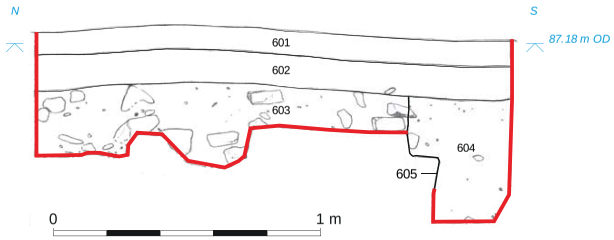


Plate 13: Trench 7, view from the east (scale 1 m, 0.5 m)





Section 6: West facing section of Trench 6

Plate 14: Grave 709 and skeleton 717, view from the south (scale 0.5 m)

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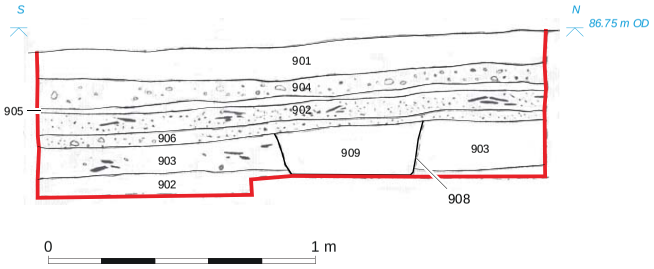
Trenches 6 and 7: plans and photographs

Figure 7



Section 9: West facing section of Trench 9

Plate 15: Trench 9 from the south (scale 1 m, 0.5 m)

Plate 16: The chapel of St Giles, view from the north east (scale 2 m)

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Plate 17: Trench 10, view from the east (scale 2 m, 0.5 m)

Plate 18: North facing section of Trench 10 showing dumped stone deposit 1004 (scale 0.5 m)

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Wessex Archaeology Ltd registered office Portway House, Old Sarum Park, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 6EB
Tel: 01722 326867 Fax: 01722 337562 info@wessexarch.co.uk www.wessexarch.co.uk

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