

Burn of Swartigill

Thrumster

Caithness



Excavations Data Structure Report

January 2018

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Excavations Data Structure Report

Project No: 712

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Executive Summary

The second season of excavation at the Burn of Swartigill consisted of an extension to the exploratory test trenches undertaken in 2015 over geophysical anomalies associated with structural material eroding from the burn. The area of the excavation undertaken in the 2017 season comprised an areas measuring 5m wide by 10 m long.

The excavation at has continued to reveal significant and well preserved structural features, as well as identify the potential for preservation of deposits rich in anthropogenic material which corresponds with an area of increased magnetic susceptibility within the gradiometer survey of the site.

The location and orientation of the walls identified in the trench align perfectly with areas of high resistance from the earth resistance survey. These results strongly suggest that these structural features are associated with a large sub-circular structure with an internal area measuring c 6m east-west by 5m north- south.

The whetstone recovered from rubble on south side of the trench reminiscent of 10th and 11th century artefacts from Norway and Iceland, though further analysis of this find is required before its provenance can be confirmed. The presence of this artefact raises the possibility of Viking period or early Mediaeval activity on the site which postdates the demolition of the structure.

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank Yarrows Heritage Trust for commissioning the work, and to all the local volunteers and visitors to the site, without whom this excavation would not have been a success. We would also like to thank, in particular, Islay MacLeod and her family who organised access to the site and provided accommodation so generously.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Site Location, Topography and Geology

The site is situated in Thrumster, Caithness at National Grid reference ND 3210 4573 along the south side of the Swartigil Burn at c. 65m OD within uncultivated rough grazing land. The burn cuts through the north side of a meltwater channel (Figure 1). The meltwater channel measured c.5m deep by c.40m across.

The solid geology is part of the Lybster Flagstone Formation of sedimentary rock comprised of siltstone, mudstone and sandstone. The drift geology is recorded as alluvium with presence of peat to the south of the site and of Devensian till to the north. (BGS, 2014)

2.0 Archaeological Background

Caithness comprises a landscape rich in all archaeological periods and especially dense in Iron Age sites.

The late Iron Age settlement site of Thrumster is located c. 1km to the west, Upstream of the Burn of Swartigill. The site is characterised as a 'wag', which is defined as a post-broch structure mainly found in Caithness and characterised by a rectangular building form possessing two rows of orthostats forming a central aisle. The settlement takes the form of a low mound about 20m across, in the top of which are visible the remains of solidly constructed drystone wall footings, perhaps for turf buildings (Canmore 210956, HER MHG30667, NMRS ND34NW42).

Two broch sites are situated within close proximity to the site, including the Broch of Thrumster Main located 1.3km to the South East of the site (Canmore 8963, HER MHG2043, NMRS ND34NW1). The Broch of Yarrow (Canmore 8982, HER MHG1937, NMRS ND34SW1) is located on a spur on the edge of the Loch of Yarrow 2.5km to the South East along with a range of complex secondary structures including 'wags'.

Two medieval farmsteads and farming landscapes are located in close proximity to the Burn of Swartigill (combined record as Canmore site 271492, HER MHG48275, NMRS ND34NW66).

The first farmstead, Swartigill's North settlement, is located on the northern edge of the meltwater channel, c. 30m to the North West of the Swartigill Burnsite. This site is comprised of a heavily robbed out range as well as a smaller building and a set of run rig cultivations.

The second farmstead, Swartigill's South settlement, is situated on the southern edge of the meltwater channel, c. 160m in the East South East of the Swartigill Burn site. This site is comprised of a heavily robbed building and an enclosure situated immediately to the east with field system composed of field systems and embankments to the south and east.

It was originally thought that the Swartigill Burn site represented a mill dating from the same period as the Swartigill's township, and was included in the record for this site.

2.1 Previous Work

The site at the Burn of Swartigill was first identified in 2004 by members of the Yarrows Heritage Trust. This was followed in 2007 by a Ground Penetrating Radar survey by the Orkney College Geophysics Unit in conjunction with cleaning and recording of the burn section by CFA Archaeology Ltd. The GPR survey identified a strong reflection from the spread of stony material seen in the erosion bank, but it was not possible to assess if this was associated with either archaeologically significant material or naturally occurring stones (CFA Archaeology, 2007).

In 2012, members of the Yarrows Heritage Trust cleaned and recorded the eroding section, recovering in the process a significant quantity of early Iron Age and late Iron Age pottery.

In August 2014 ORCA undertook a geophysical survey of the site over an area measuring 25m wide x 30m long, with the objective of categorising the structural remains identified in the eroding section. The survey techniques employed including fluxgate gradiometer, earth resistance and a ground penetrating radar.

The gradiometer survey identified strong magnetic variations likely to be associated with anthropogenic activity, while the earth resistance suggested the presence of a potential sub-rectangular structure measuring 10m wide x 16m long, possibly representing a building orientated with its long axis at right-angles to the stream. The ground penetrating radar helped clarify the nature of some anomalies visible in the gradiometer and earth resistance survey.

The University of the Highlands and Island Archaeology Institute, in collaboration with the Yarrows Heritage Trust, undertook a small-scale exploratory excavation at the Burn of Swartigill in September 2015. The objective of this excavation was to evaluate the potential for future work and 'ground-truth' features identified during geophysical survey. A secondary aim was to establish something of the character of archaeological remains eroding from the banks of the Burn of Swartigill.

A small trench measuring 3.5m long x 3.0m wide was excavated from the eroding section on a northeast-southwest alignment, with a narrow trench extension measuring 3m long running southwards from the southeast trench edge.

Additionally, a two small trial pits measuring 1x1m and a small trial trench measuring 2x1m were opened to give keyhole views into some of the other geophysical anomalies picked up in the original survey.

The excavation encountered rubble and well-preserved archaeological features which to some extent matched anomalies apparent in the geophysics. A large subterranean stone feature, possibly a drain, was identified at the base of a gully formed by opposing structural features.

Two radiocarbon dates were obtained from deposits in trench 1. The first date relates to a pottery rich deposit that abutted structural features close to the burn and returned a date (lab code: Poz-87142) of 366 - 192BC, at 95% confidence, or 357-204BC at 68.2% confidence levels.

The second sample submitted for dating was from a deposit of sandy silt that sealed an extensive portion of the upper elements of trench 1 and returned a date (lab code: Poz-87141) of 198-47BC at 95% likelihood, or 170-61BC at 68.2% certainty.

These dates appear to confirm the *in situ* nature of the depositional sequence, and the date for the pottery rich deposit indicates activity sometime between the mid Fourth to early Second Centuries BC and therefore places this element of the site towards the end of the conventional 'Early Iron Age'. The other date is Second to mid First Century BC and therefore would be placed in the conventional 'Middle Iron Age'.

3.0 Fieldwork Aims and Objectives

The initial phase of archaeological evaluation at the site undertaken in 2015 identified the apparent presence of well-preserved, substantial archaeological features. It was not possible to ascertain the nature, form and function of the features within this initial small scale investigation.

By combining the results of the initial investigations along the eroding burn edge (Yarrows Trust 2011) and the Geophysical survey (ORCA 2014) with the identification of structural remains during intrusive excavation (ORCA 2015), it was possible to infer that there was at least one well preserved archaeological structure on the site.

The chronology indicated from both the C14 Radio carbon dates obtained during the 2015 investigation and the diagnostic nature of the ceramics recovered during the 2011 and 2015 excavations, indicated a very strong possibility that the structural remains on the site are associated with early to middle Iron Age occupation.

Armed with these inferences, the aims of the second season of intrusive archaeological investigation on the site have been divided into a number of specific objectives and a number of more general research questions.

Specific Objectives

- What is the relationship between the structural features identified in the 2015 excavation season and the geophysical anomalies identified during surveys of the site in 2014?
- What is the preservation, form, extent and date of any features of archaeological interest encountered within the excavation area.
- What is the nature and environmental context of the substantial drain feature identified during the 2015 excavation season and what is its relationship to the Swartigill Burn?

Research Questions

- What was the lifespan of the structural features in the site?
- What was the function or the role of the site?
- How has the function or nature of the site changed through time?
- What can analysis of the palaeoenvironment tell us about aspects of hydrology, soil formation and land use during the Iron Age?

4.0 Fieldwork Methodology

The area targeted for excavation in the 2017 season comprised the extension of Trench 1 from the 2015 investigation to the west and south to a total area of 5m wide northeast – southwest x 10m long northwest – southeast, incorporating trial pits 2 and 3.

The locations of the evaluation trenches were set out by ORCA staff by relocating original grid points established in the 2015 investigation.

The topsoil, turf layers and sub-soil were stripped by a 360° mechanical excavator onto the upper most deposits and features of archaeological interest under continuous supervision by an ORCA archaeologist.

Following exposure of archaeological horizons, all significant archaeological features requiring examination or recording were cleaned using appropriate hand tools. Archaeological horizons were recorded by digital photographs, pro-forma context record sheets, and drawn both in plan and section. In addition to conventional photography, elevated photography was undertaken by means of an extendable photographic pole and an unmanned aerial system (UAS). The trenches were located on the OS National Grid by means of a Trimble 5800/R8 GPS system with RTK correction.

Environmental samples were taken by means of bulk soil sample of at least 5lts volume and spot soil samples of deposits less than 5lts in volume. 3D locations of finds and sample locations were recorded on the site survey.

The excavations were covered with durable geotextile membrane and tarpaulins, held down with stones and tyres, in order to protect the archaeological remains and facilitate quicker and less damaging uncovering of the site in future seasons of investigation.

5.0 Fieldwork Results

The backfilled material from Trench 1 from the 2015 investigation was removed and the excavation area was extended to cover an area 5m wide east – west by 10m long north – south. The excavations encountered widespread deposits of alluvium **004**, which shrouded the structural remains encountered in the previous seasons of excavation.

The alluvium **004** contained frequent orangey brown mineralised inclusions, indicating that there has been leeching of minerals through the deposits, most likely due to the frequent flooding of the burn. Geoarchaeological coring undertaken in a northeast-southwest transect across the flood plain showed that this deposit was present consistently throughout the site's environs.

In the north end of Trench 1, deposit **004** was removed by hand excavation to reveal more of the structural features identified in 2015. The remains of a possible cellular structure were identified, comprised of a coursed drystone wall orientated east-west **006**, and contiguous with a linear arrangement of boulders **037** on a southwest – northeast alignment. This alignment of boulders may be related to the structural remains **031** identified within the burn section during the 2015 excavations, and appear to form the edges of further cellular features which are yet to be fully defined.

The stonework of wall **006** on the north side of the cell survived to a height of around 0.6m and leaned towards the north. It is not known at this stage whether this attribute pertains to the structure's design or the gradual degradation of the feature. It is perhaps more likely that this wall acted as a revetment against an embankment or structural feature to the north, rather than a freestanding wall.

Opposite wall **006**, the south side of the cell is defined by a substantial alignment of upright set boulders **026**, also on an east-west alignment. These boulders are extant to c 0.5m to the base of the cell, though their full height and extent has not yet been fully investigated.

The interior of the cell contained a rubble deposit **024** with a well consolidated matrix of silty sand, indicating the likelihood that the structure was gradually infilled. Rubble layer **024** overlay a surface of large slightly rounded tabular boulders **025**, which form the capping stones of a drain feature running through the centre of the cell on an east –west alignment. The full length of the drain has not yet been investigated, though it appears to rise up towards the northwest where the burn is located.

The walls of the drain were formed from coursed stonework **032** and **029** on both sides, forming a channel 0.2m wide and 0.25m deep. The drain feature was filled by deposits of yellowish brown sandy clay **027** and **028**. These deposits were sterile of both cultural and environmental material. This is perhaps not surprising since this feature appears to represent a means of channelling water from the northwest of the site (where the burn is currently located) to the east. The continual passage of water would prevent

accumulation of material during the site's occupation.

The packing stones behind the south side of the drain butts the north face of the boulder wall **026**, indicating that the drain is a secondary feature to the construction of the wall. Boulder wall **026** is backed by a rubble infill **019**, which in turn butts the north face of a double faced wall **038**.

Wall **038** forms a curvilinear feature running from east to west across the trench and appears to turn to the south at its eastern extent. This wall is 1m wide and is extant to a height of c 0.4m, though the full height and extent of this feature has not yet been investigated.

In a sondage excavated through alluvium deposits **004** and **007** in the south end of the trench, a less well defined curvilinear wall **045** was also encountered, also on a roughly east-west alignment and curving to the northwest.

Traces of a possible wall **040** on the west side of the trench may represent the continuation of the walls **045** and **048**, with traces of stonework protruding through the alluvial deposits to the south. These structural elements may form a continuous wall, representing one side of a sub-circular structure.

The interior of this possible sub-circular structure is occupied by a layer of rubble **030**, which butts the interior faces of walls **038** and **040**. In the southern sondage, rubble layer **043**, butts wall **045**. These rubble deposits extend into the centre of the trench, sloping down away from the wall faces and forming a shallow hollow in the centres of the feature. Rubble deposit **030** on the north side of the features is relatively disorganised with numerous voids and poorly consolidated soil matrix. Rubble deposit **043** on the south side of the feature is much more densely packed with a very well consolidated soil matrix.

The east-west orientated wall **045** appears to butt the west side of a further north-south orientated wall **045** observed in the in the southeast corner of the trench. The physical and stratigraphic relationship between these features is not clear at this stage, though it appears to represent a certain degree of structural complexity, perhaps relating to an entrance feature or an earlier phase of building.

The hollow in the centre of the trench formed by the inclination of the sloping rubble deposits **030** and **043** was occupied by a brown peaty deposit **044**. This is likely to

represent a post abandonment land surface forming over the remains of the structure which has become partially humified due to periodic flooding and subsequent drying episodes within the hollow.

On the west side of the trench, wall **040** is overlain by a deposit of disorganised rubble **041**, which appears to be a continuation of rubble **019** associated with walls **038** and **026**. Rubble layer **041** was sealed by a silty deposit **039** with abundant inclusions of carbonised material, as well as traces of magnetic residues.

6.0 Finds

The artefact assemblage from the 2017 season of excavation was notably limited compared to the small investigation undertaken in 2015. This is partially due to the nature of this season's excavation, expanding the excavation area by removing the culturally sterile alluvium in order to investigate the form and extent of the structure, rather than excavating into deposits.

Of the artefacts recovered, the most notable item was a whetstone of fine grained pale schist. This artefact was recovered from rubble layer **045** on the south side of the trench, less than 0.3m below ground level. The hone is an even four sided bar, measuring 120 mm long by 35mm wide, tapering to 10mm wide at the opposite end. One face at the narrow end of the object has been partially drilled to form a small divot. There is evidence for ware along all edges of the hone and it has been broken two thirds of the way along its length. It is possible that the divot in the narrow end of the hone represents an incomplete drill hole.

A small number of prehistoric ceramic sherds were recovered from rubble layer **030** and alluvium **004**. These pieces were small and badly abraded, indicating that they are likely to have been redeposited, washed in with the alluvial material. A fragment of prehistoric ceramic recovered from rubble layer **024** within the northern cell was in better condition, and is potentially of an Iron Age form similar to the material recovered during the 2015 season of excavation.

7.0 Discussion

7.1 Summary of the fieldwork results

The 2017 season of excavation at the Swartigill Burn has continued to reveal significant and well preserved structural features, as well as identify the potential for preservation of deposits rich in anthropogenic material.

Although it was not possible to fully investigate the extent and form of the drain feature **025** this season, it is clear that its orientation is likely to be associated with the structural remains identified along the burn edge in previous investigations. The drain feature itself is comprised of a well-constructed composite of stonework elements. The small area of the drain investigated to date indicates that the capping stones are sloping from west to east, downwards away from the burn. It is not known with certainty whether the burn was situated within its current course when the drain was in use, but it seems likely that this feature was designed to channel water from this source. It is not clear at this stage whether this was to create water supply for a specific activity, or simply to divert water away from a certain area.

The stonework supporting the drain on the south side of the feature abuts a row of substantial boulders **026**, forming a substantial wall which is stratigraphically earlier than the construction of the drain. This boulder wall is backed by a substantial deposit of rubble infill **019**, which in turn abuts the curvilinear double faced wall **038**. The stratigraphic relationship between these features is not clear at this stage. It is possible that the boulder **026** wall and rubble infill **019** form a revetment against the north side of wall **038**.

The location and orientation of walls **038**, **045** and **040** align perfectly with areas of high resistance from the earth resistance survey. These results strongly suggest that these structural features are associated with a large sub-circular structure with an internal area measuring c 6m east-west by 5m north- south.

The whetstone recovered from rubble deposit **043** is reminiscent of 10th and 11th century artefacts from Norway and Iceland, though further analysis of this find is required before its provenance can be confirmed. The presence of this artefact raises the possibility of Viking period or early Medieval activity on the site which postdates the demolition of the structure.

On the west side of the structure, deposit **039** sealing had abundant inclusions of

charcoal, charred grain and fragments of magnetic material. The richness and excellent preservation of this material within this deposit is indicative of occupation activity on the site. The magnetic material may represent hammer-scale, indicating evidence for metalworking, though further analysis is required to confirm this hypothesis. The stratigraphic location of this material suggests that this is likely to be associated with a phase of occupation at the site. As with the earth resistance survey, the location and extent of this deposit matches an area of increased magnetic susceptibility within the gradiometer survey of the site.

8.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

There is definite correlation between the structural remains and anthropogenic soils in Trench 1 and the features identified in the geophysical survey. This indicates the potential for the preservation of significant further structural features and deposits rich in cultural and environmental information at Swartigill.

The dating evidence for the site so far indicates that there is potentially an early Iron Age phase of occupation at this site. There is, however, a strong possibility that the primary phase of occupation may pre-date this activity, since the deposits which have so far been investigated appear to be associated with structures which may themselves be secondary to an earlier phase of building.

Swartigill Burn could potentially represent an opportunity to investigate a site from the transitional time period between the late Bronze Age and early Iron Age, an important and relatively under studied aspect of northern Scottish prehistory.

Further C14 radiocarbon dating will be undertaken from deposits sampled during this most recent excavation season in order to further investigate the antiquity of the site.

Understanding the nature and function of the structural features on the site are also important research questions. The presence of significant quantities of magnetic material suggests that some form of metal working may have been undertaken on the site. There is also evidence for domestic activity and agricultural processing. At present, the environmental evidence from this site is limited, due to the limited extent of deposits investigated to date. There is high potential for further deposits equally rich in environmental and cultural evidence on the site which could provide us with insight into the activities being undertaken at this site.

The recovery of the whetstone of possible Viking or early medieval typology from the upper rubble deposits also poses some interesting research questions. Further analysis of this artefact is necessary to confirm its provenance, but it may be indicative of the longevity of the site. The lack of further evidence for occupation from this period so far on the site would suggest that this later activity may have been limited to a small area or may have been relatively transient and short lived. It may also be indicative of traces of occupation or activity which have since been destroyed by the natural processes of the flood plain.

It is recommended that further seasons of excavation be undertaken at the Burn of Swartigill in order to define its extent, date, function and preservation. The site has been covered with geotextile, tarpaulin and tyres in order to ensure the preservation of features and deposits while ensuring ease of access for future excavation.

If further excavation is to be undertaken at the site, it is recommended that the excavation area be expanded to the north in order to investigate the relationship between the features identified in Trench 1 and those within the eroding burn section.

The excavations should also be extended to the east to investigate the full extent of the feature in the earth resistance survey, and ascertain the nature of the north-south embankment along this side of the site.

Further geophysical features to the south and west could also be investigated by means of exploratory test trenches in these areas. A programme of works with these aims and objectives would require a larger excavation team and an extended period of excavation.

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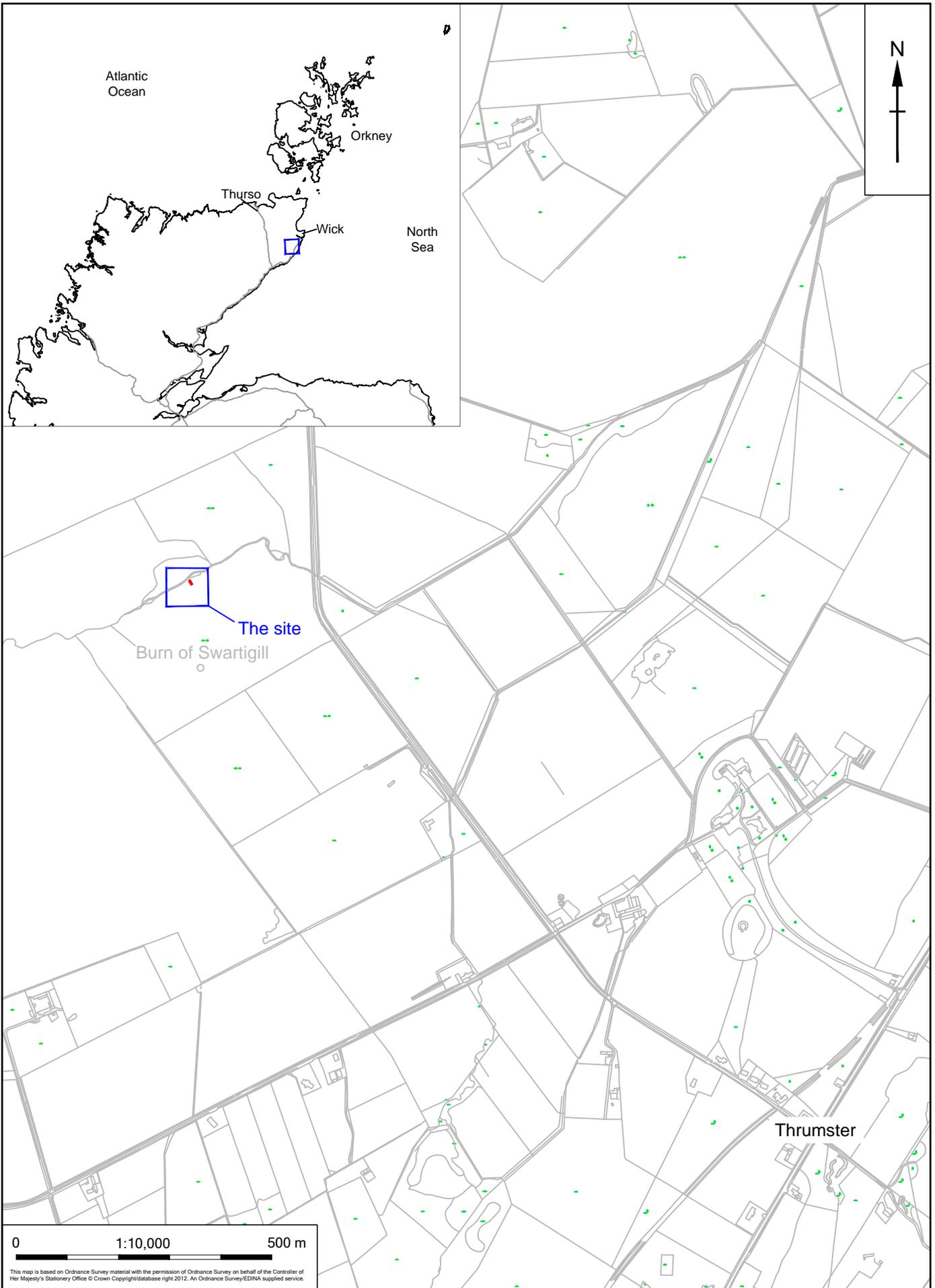
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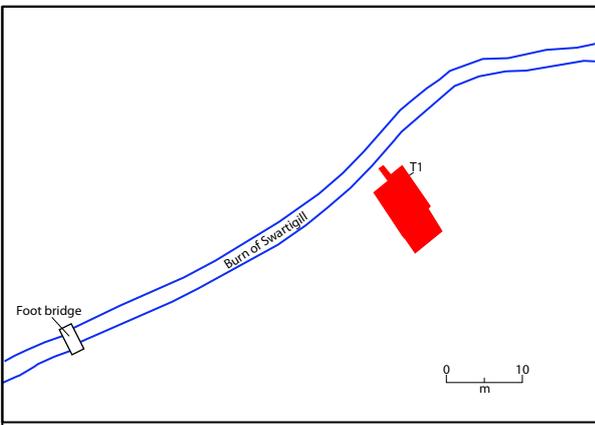


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-  Basemap
-  Site Location

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Figure 1. Site Location | |
| Project Name: | Swartigill Burn 2017 |
| Project No: | 712 |
| Scale: | 1:10,000 @ A4 |
| August 2017 | RB Rev. No. 1 |



| KEY | |
|---------------------|--|
| Stone | |
| Drain capstone | |
| Grid point | |
| Wall face | |
| Limit of excavation | |
| Erosion edge | |



Orkney College, East Road, Kirkwall, KW15 1LX

Figure 2. Trench 1

This plan was produced using original survey data collected by ORCA © 2012
 X:\ORCA\ORCA Projects\CAIT\1402 Yarrows\588 Yarrows Swartigill Burn Excavation\Geomatics\Illustrator

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| Project Name: Swartigill Burn 2017 | |
| Project No: 712 | Scale: 1:150@A4 |
| August 2017 | RB Rev. No. 1 |

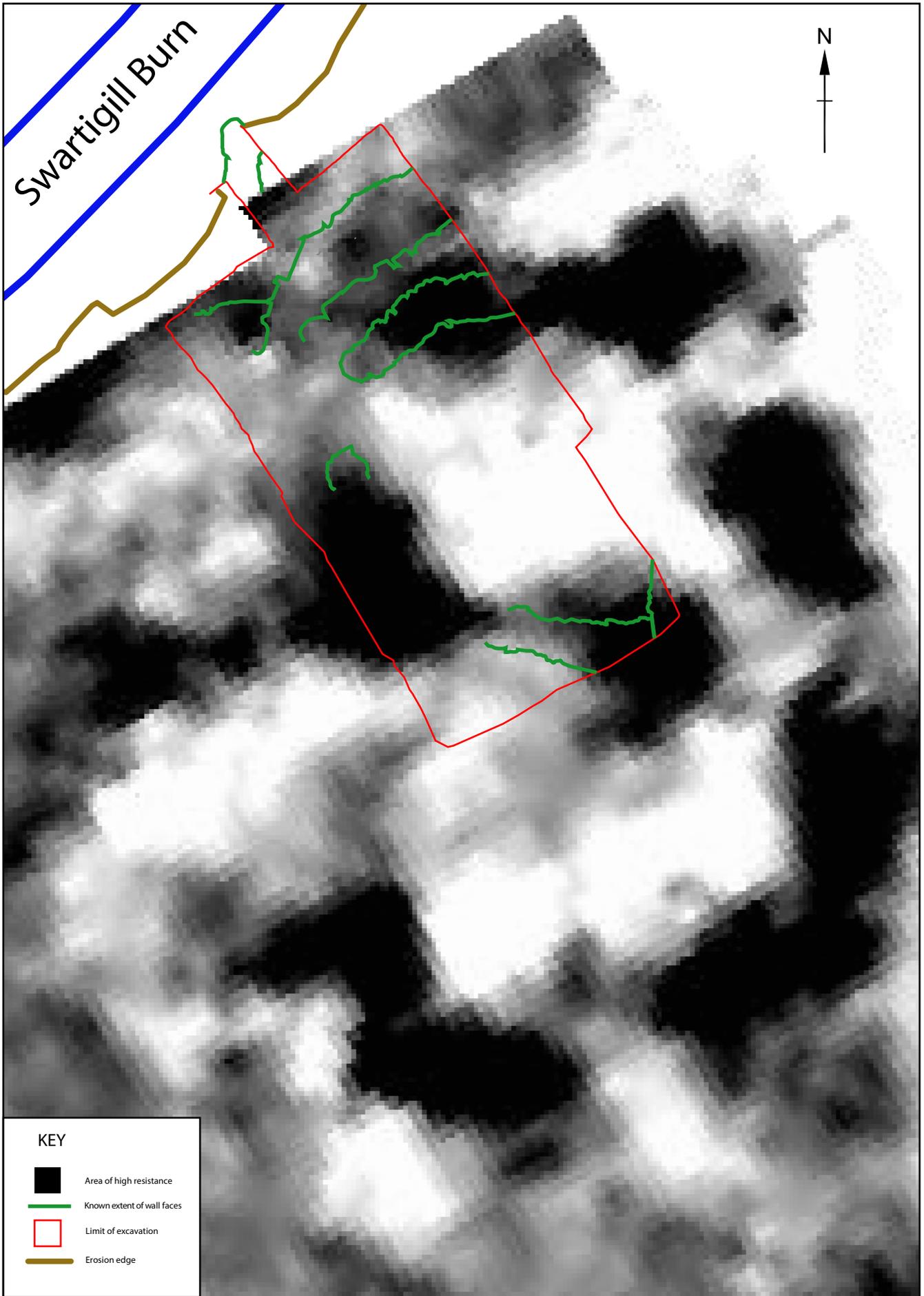


Figure 3. Excavation area and earth resistance survey

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| Project Name: Swartigill Burn 2017 | |
| Project No: 712 | Scale: 1:100@A4 |
| July 2016 | RB Rev. No. 1 |



Plate 1:
Detail shot of curvilinear wall **038** and boulder wall **026** and drain capstones.
View facing west.



Plate 2:
Detail shot of boulder wall **026** and drain capstones **025**
View facing south.



Plate 1:
Detail shot of cell containing drain **025** formed by walls **006** and boulder wall **026**. View facing west.



Plate 2:
General shot of south sondage with traces of walls **045** and **042**. View facing south.



Plate 5: Elevated shot of Trench 1

Appendix 1:Contexts Register

| Context | Site Subdivision | Type | Description |
|---------|----------------------|---------|--|
| 001 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Topsoil/ turf layer |
| 002 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Subsoil |
| 003 | Trench 1 | FEATURE | 2012 trial pit |
| 004 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Alluvial deposit with orange mineralisation |
| 005 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Grey clay silt sealed by 004 |
| 006 | Trench 1 | STR | Wall on north side of cellular feature |
| 007 | Trench 1 (South EXT) | LAYER | Mineralised soil, same as 004 |
| 008 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Silty deposit sealed by 007 |
| 009 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Silty deposit with patches of possible turf material |
| 010 | Trench 1 | STR | Wall face in burn erosion section |
| 011 | Trench 1 (NORTH EXT) | LAYER | Dark silty layer butting 010 |
| 012 | Trench 2* | LAYER | Topsoil, same as 001 |
| 013 | Trench 2* | LAYER | Subsoil, same as 002 |
| 014 | Trench 2* | LAYER | Stony deposit sealed by 002 |
| 015 | Trench 3* | LAYER | Topsoil, same as 001 |
| 016 | Trench 3* | LAYER | Subsoil, same as 002 |
| 017 | Trench 3* | LAYER | Silty layer, same as 004 |
| 018 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Grey silty clay deposit sealed by 005 |
| 019 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Rubble core between 026 and 038 |
| 020 | Trench 4 | LAYER | Top soil |
| 021 | Trench 4 | LAYER | Orangey brown subsoil |
| 022 | Trench 4 | LAYER | Dark greyish brown deposit (Sealed by 021) |
| 023 | Trench 4 | STR | Stonework of possible dyke |
| 024 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Rubble infill of north cell |
| 025 | Trench 1 | STR | Capstones of drain features |
| 026 | Trench 1 | STR | Linear arrangement of boulders on south side of north cell |
| 027 | Trench 1 | FILL | Upper fill of drain |
| 028 | Trench 1 | FILL | Lower fill of drain |
| 029 | Trench 1 | STR | Side wall of drain on north side |
| 030 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Rubble within centre of sub-circular feature |
| 031 | Trench 1 | STR | Possible wall face in eroding burn section |
| 032 | Trench 1 | STR | South supporting wall of drain |
| 033 | Trench 1 | STR | Large upright boulder in burn section |
| 034 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Rubble deposit in possible cellular feature |
| 035 | Trench 1 | STR | Boulder wall of possible cellular feature |
| 036 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Subsoil, same as 008 |
| 037 | Trench 1 | STR | Boulder wall, continuation of 006 in north cell |
| 038 | Trench 1 | STR | Double faced east-west wall on south side of north cell |
| 039 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Carbon rich deposit overlaying 041 in west side of trench |
| 040 | Trench 1 | STR | Possible continuation of wall 038 on west side of STR |
| 041 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Rubble layer, possible continuation of 019 |
| 042 | Trench 1 | STR | Possible north-south wall in southeast corner of trench |
| 043 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Tightly packed rubble in south sondage |
| 044 | Trench 1 | LAYER | Peaty deposit in central depression |
| 045 | Trench 1 | STR | East-west curvilinear wall butting 042 |

* Trench 2 and 3 contexts subsumed into Trench 1 when it was extended.

Appendix 2: Drawing Register

| Drawing Number | Drawing Type | Site Sub-division | Description | Sheet Number | Scale |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-------|
| 1 | Plan | T1,2,3,4 | General site plan | 1 | 1:20 |
| 2 | Section | T1 | Southwest facing section of trench | 2 | 1:10 |

Appendix 3: Samples Register

| Sample Number | Sample type | Context number |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 01 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 004 |
| 02 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 005 |
| 03 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 009 |
| 04 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 018 |
| 05 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 024 |
| 06 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 011 |
| 07 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 027 |
| 08 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 028 |
| 09 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 004 |
| 10 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 004 |
| 11 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 024 |
| 12 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 024 |
| 13 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 027 |
| 14 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 039 |
| 15 | Bulk Sample (GBA) | 044 |

Appendix 4: Small Finds Register

| SF | Context | Material |
|----|---------|-----------------------|
| 1 | 001 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 2 | 006 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 3 | 006 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 4 | 004 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 5 | 006 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 6 | 011 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 7 | 004 | Cu Alloy object |

| | | |
|----|-----|---|
| 8 | 004 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 9 | 005 | Charcoal fragments |
| 10 | 014 | Charcoal fragments |
| 11 | 012 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 12 | 011 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 13 | 011 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 14 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 15 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 16 | 017 | Charcoal fragments |
| 17 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 18 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 19 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 20 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 21 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 22 | 009 | Burnt bone fragment |
| 23 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 24 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 25 | N/A | Worked stone – quern |
| 26 | 009 | Worked stone – fragment of quern stone? |
| 27 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 28 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 29 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 30 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 31 | 009 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 32 | 028 | Worked Stone |
| 33 | 004 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 34 | 004 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 35 | 019 | Worked Stone – hone stone |
| 36 | 024 | Worked Stone – granite coble. |
| 37 | 004 | Prehistoric pot sherd |
| 38 | 002 | Flint – flake |
| 39 | 024 | Prehistoric pot rim sherd |
| 40 | 030 | Chert nodule |
| 41 | 043 | Charcoal fragments |

Appendix 5:Photographic Register

Batch 01

| Frame | Description | Direction of shot |
|-------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | General Shot - Site Pre. Ex. | NE |
| 2 | General Shot - Site Pre. Ex. | NE |
| 3 | Working Shot - Site Pre. Ex. | NE |
| 4 | General Shot - Site Pre. Ex. | NW |
| 5 | General Shot - Site Pre. Ex. | SW |
| 6 | General Shot - Site Pre. Ex. | SW |
| 7 | Trench Q1 Post Turf/TopSoil Stripping 1m Scale/ 0.3m Scale | W |
| 8 | Trench Q1 Post Turf/TopSoil Stripping | W |
| 9 | Trench Q1 Post Turf/TopSoil Stripping | NW |
| 10 | Trench Q1 Post Turf/TopSoil Stripping 1m Scale/ 0.3m Scale | NW |
| 11 | Trench 01 - 2012 TEST PIT 003 1m Scale/ 0.3m Scale | SW |
| 12 | Trench 01 - 2012 TEST PIT 003 1m Scale/ 0.3m Scale | SW |
| 13 | TEST PIT 003 | SW |
| 14 | TEST PIT 003 | SW |
| 15 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 16 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 17 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 18 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 19 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 20 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 21 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 22 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 23 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 24 | General Shot Working Shots | Various |
| 25 | Extension To Trench 1 With 7 + 8 | |
| 26 | Extension To Trench 1 With 7 + 8 | W.N.W. |
| 27 | Extension To Trench 1 With 7 + 8 | W.N.W. |
| 28 | Extension To Trench 1 With 7 + 8 | W.N.W. |
| 29 | Extension To Trench 1 With 7 + 8 | S.S.W. |
| 30 | Extension To Trench 1 With 7 + 8 | S.S.W. |
| 31 | (007) In Close-Up | S.S.W. |
| 32 | (007) In Close-Up | S.S.W. |
| 33 | Site Visitor! - Lizard! | |
| 34 | Site Visitor! - Lizard! | |
| 35 | Wall (010) | E |
| 36 | Wall (010) | E |
| 37 | Wall (010) | E |
| 38 | Wall (010) (Looking down on wall) | N |
| 39 | Wall (010) (Looking down on wall) | SE |
| 40 | Wall (010) (Looking down on wall) | SE |
| 41 | Wall Face (010) Looking Flush-on | E |
| 42 | Wall Face (010) Looking Flush-on | E |
| 43 | Wall Face (010) Looking Flush-on | E |
| 44 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | N |
| 45 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | N |
| 46 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | N |
| 47 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | N |
| 48 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | N |

| | | |
|-----|---|----|
| 49 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | N |
| 50 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | N |
| 51 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | N |
| 52 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | S |
| 53 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | S |
| 54 | General Shots Across Trench 1 | S |
| 55 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Wall face | S |
| 56 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Wall face | S |
| 57 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Close-Ups | S |
| 58 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Close-Ups | S |
| 59 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Close-Ups | S |
| 60 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Close-Ups | S |
| 61 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Close-Ups | S |
| 62 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Close-Ups | S |
| 63 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Further Extension | S |
| 64 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Further Extension | S |
| 65 | IN SITU Pottery 006 + 012 Against (010) Further Extension | S |
| 66 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 67 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 68 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 69 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 70 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 71 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 72 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 73 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 74 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 75 | General Shots Of Trenches | N |
| 76 | Pauls Test-Pit Elevated View | N |
| 77 | Pauls Test-Pit Elevated View | N |
| 78 | Pauls Test-Pit Elevated View | N |
| 79 | Pauls Test-Pit Elevated View | N |
| 80 | Trench Overview (Trench 1) | N |
| 81 | Trench Overview (Trench 1) | N |
| 82 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 83 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 84 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 85 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 86 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 87 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 88 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 89 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 90 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 91 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 92 | Overview (Working Trench 1) | S |
| 93 | Organic Deposit (009) From Above Pre - Ex | NE |
| 94 | Organic Deposit (009) From Above Pre - Ex | NE |
| 95 | Organic Deposit (009) With (010) Wall in Foreground | SE |
| 96 | Organic Deposit (009) With (010) Wall in Foreground | SE |
| 97 | Silty Deposit (018) Overlaying (006) | NE |
| 98 | Silty Deposit (018) Overlaying (006) | NE |
| 99 | Silty Deposit (018) Overlaying (006) | NE |
| 100 | Silty Deposit (018) Overlaying (006) | SE |
| 101 | Silty Deposit (018) Overlaying (006) | SE |
| 102 | Silty Deposit (018) Overlaying (006) | SE |
| 103 | Quern (026) In Rubble Layer (019) | NW |
| 104 | Quern (026) In Rubble Layer (019) | NW |
| 105 | Quern (026) In Rubble Layer (019) | NW |

| | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|
| 106 | Quern (026) In Rubble Layer (019) | NW |
| 107 | Quern (026) In Rubble Layer (019) | SW |
| 108 | Trench 4 Post Extension-Showing (023) | E |
| 109 | Trench 4 Post Extension-Showing (023) | E |
| 110 | Trench 4 Post Extension-Showing (023) | S |
| 111 | Trench 4 Post Extension-Showing (023) | S |
| 112 | Trench 4 Post Extension-Showing (023) | N |
| 113 | Trench 1 | NNE |
| 114 | Trench 1 | NNE |
| 115 | Trench 1 | NNE |
| 116 | Trench 1 | NNE |
| 117 | Trench 1 | NNE |
| 118 | Trench 1 | NNE |
| 119 | Trench 1 | NNE |
| 120 | Trench 1 | NNE |
| 121 | Wall (010) In Detail | ESE |
| 122 | Wall (010) In Detail | ESE |
| 123 | Wall (010) In Detail | ESE |
| 124 | Wall (010) With Background | ESE |
| 125 | Wall (010) With Background | ESE |
| 126 | Wall (010) From Above | NE |
| 127 | Wall (010) From Above | NE |
| 128 | Wall (010) From Above | NE |
| 129 | Wall (010) From Above | NE |
| 130 | Wall (010) With (006) | SW |
| 131 | Wall (010) With (006) | SW |
| 132 | Wall (010) With (006) | SW |
| 133 | Wall (010) With (006) | SW |

Batch 2

| Frame | Description | Direction of shot |
|-------|--|-------------------|
| 1 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | N |
| 2 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | N |
| 3 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | E |
| 4 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | W |
| 5 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | NW |
| 6 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | W |
| 7 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | NW |
| 8 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | N |
| 9 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | NW |
| 10 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | NW |
| 11 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | N |
| 12 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | N |
| 13 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | NE |
| 14 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | W |
| 15 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | NW |
| 16 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NE |
| 17 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NE |
| 18 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NE |
| 19 | General Shot- removal of 2015 backfill and turf stripping – Trench 1 | E |
| 20 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | N |
| 21 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NE |
| 22 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NW |
| 23 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NW |

| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| 24 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NW |
| 25 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | W |
| 26 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NE |
| 27 | General Working Shot – Trench 1 | NE |
| 28 | General site shot in the snow | NW |
| 29 | General site shot in the snow | NW |
| 30 | General site shot in the snow | NW |
| 31 | General site shot in the snow | NW |
| 32 | General site shot in the snow | NW |
| 33 | General site shot in the snow | NW |
| 34 | General shot of wall (006), (024), (019) – Trench 1 | W |
| 35 | General shot of wall (006), (024), (019) – Trench 1 | E |
| 36 | General shot of wall (006), (024), (019) – Trench 1 | E |
| 37 | General shot of wall (006), (024), (019) – Trench 1 | W |
| 38 | General shot of wall (006), (024), (019) – Trench 1 | NW |
| 39 | General shot of wall (006), (024), (019) – Trench 1 | W |
| 40 | General shot of wall (006), (024), (019) – Trench 1 | W |
| 41 | Detail shot of west facing section of (006) (029) (032) (026) – Trench 1 | SW |
| 42 | Detail shot of (006) (029) (032) (026) – Trench 1 | SE |
| 43 | General shot of (019), (026), (038) – Trench 1 | W |
| 44 | General shot of (004) overlaying (038) – Trench 1 | N |
| 45 | General site working shot | W |
| 46 | General site working shot | E |
| 47 | General site working shot | E |
| 48 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 49 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 50 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SW |
| 51 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 52 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 53 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | E |
| 54 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 55 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 56 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 57 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | E |
| 58 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | N/A |
| 59 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 60 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 61 | General site working shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 62 | General shot – south sondage - Trench 1 | SE |
| 63 | General shot of (006), (024), (019), (25) – Trench 1 | W |
| 64 | General shot of (006), (024), (019), (25) – Trench 1 | SE |
| 65 | General shot of (019) and (38) | E |
| 66 | Detail shot of SF 35 – hone | N/A |
| 67 | Detail shot of SF 35 – hone | N/A |
| 68 | Detail shot of SF 35 – hone | N/A |
| 69 | Detail shot of SF 35 – hone | N/A |
| 70 | General shot of coring | SE |
| 71 | General shot of coring | SW |
| 72 | General shot of coring | SE |
| 73 | General shot of coring | SE |
| 74 | General shot of coring | SE |
| 75 | General shot - UAV | SW |
| 76 | General shot - UAV | SW |
| 77 | General shot - UAV | SW |
| 78 | General shot - UAV | NW |
| 79 | General shot - UAV | NW |
| 80 | General shot - UAV | NW |

| | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 81 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | NW |
| 82 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | W |
| 83 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | W |
| 84 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | W |
| 85 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 86 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | NE |
| 87 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | SE |
| 88 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | W |
| 89 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | SW |
| 90 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | N |
| 91 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | E |
| 92 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | NW |
| 93 | General working shot | NE |
| 94 | General working shot | N |
| 95 | General working shot | N |
| 96 | General working shot | N |
| 97 | General working shot | NE |
| 98 | General working shot | NE |
| 99 | General working shot | NE |
| 100 | General working shot | NW |
| 101 | General working shot | NW |
| 102 | Detail shot of drain – (029) and (032) | NE |
| 103 | Detail shot of drain – (029) and (032) | NE |
| 104 | Detail shot of drain – (029) and (032) | SE |
| 105 | Detail shot of drain – (029) and (032) | NW |
| 106 | Detail shot of drain – (029) and (032) | N |
| 107 | General shot of wall (38) | N |
| 108 | General shot – west facing section of Trench 1 | NE |
| 109 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | N |
| 110 | General shot – end of season post ex shot – Trench 1 | N |
| 111 | General shot – site covered | N |
| 112 | General shot – site covered | N |
| 113 | General shot – site covered | NW |
| 114 | Team photo | NE |
| 115 | General shot – site covered | N |
| 116 | Panoramic and of dig shot of site | W |
| 117 | Panoramic and of dig shot of site | SW |
| 118 | Panoramic and of dig shot of site | N |
| 119 | Panoramic and of dig shot of site | NE |
| 120 | Panoramic and of dig shot of site | E |
| 121 | Landscape shot towards Thrumster | E |

Appendix 6: Environmental Sample retent sorting results

| Sample Number | Context Number | Feature | Sample Vol (l) | Retent Vol (l) | Ceramic | | 'Foreign' Stone | Industrial Waste | | Burnt bone | | | Charcoal | | Material available for AMS Dating |
|--|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|-------|-----------------|------------------|------------|------------|------|------|----------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | | | | Prehistoric Pottery | Other | | Magnetic >0.5mm | Carbonised | Mammal | Bird | Fish | Quantity | Max Size (cm) | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 | 4 | sealing deposit | 8 | 2 | | | + | + | | | | | ++ | 0.3 | none |
| 10 | 4 | sealing deposit | 15 | 2.6 | | | | | | | | | ++ | 0.3 | none |
| 11 | 24 | rubble matrix | 15 | 4.9 | | | | + | | | | | ++++ | 0.7 | charcoal |
| 12 | 24 | lower rubble matrix | 22.5 | 8.2 | + | | | ++ | ++ | | | | +++ | 0.5 | grain, charcoal |
| 13 | 27 | fill of possible drain | 5 | 2.5 | ++ | | + | + | | + | | | ++ | 0.3 | none |
| 14 | 39 | humified silt above [19] | 16.5 | 5.2 | | | + | ++++ | +++ | | | | ++++ | 1.2 | charcoal |
| 15 | 44 | peaty deposit over [30] | 14.4 | 0.7 | | | | | + | | | | ++ | 0.4 | none |
| <p>Key (artefactual): + = rare (0-5), ++ = occasional (6-15), +++ = common (16-50) and ++++ = abundant (>50)</p> <p>Key (environmental): + = rare (0-10), ++ = occasional (11-50), +++ = common (51-100) and ++++ = abundant (>100)</p> <p>N.B. charcoal over 0.5cm³ is suitable for identification and AMS dating</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |