Consideration of Cumulative Impacts

IACC provided a schedule of all applications made since November 2018 within 5km of the three Development Areas. Using the description of development as listed in the schedule as a guide, the eight schemes below are those considered to have the greatest potential (primarily based on proximity and scheme size) to create cumulative effects. Those eight schemes are considered further below with a recommendation as to consider further as part of the cumulative assessment.

IACC also provided a list of nine 'Energy Island Projects' for consideration.

FPL/2019/157 Full application for erection of 50 seated grandstand at Cae Cynlas, Bryn Du

Location: Ty Croes, Ynys Mon, LL63 5SN. Approx. 3.1km south of DA4

Status: Approved and implemented. See image below (was uploaded to the website https://www.pitchero.com/clubs/cpdaberffraw/photos May 2020)

Other information: No documents available to view on the LPA website.



Assessment of cumulative effects: No further consideration

FPL/2018/2 Full application for the siting of 30 chalets, reception building, and creation of lake together with the formation of associated access road & parking areas, landscaping, and other associated works on land at Penmynydd Farm

Location: Penmynydd Farm, Caereiliog, LL65 3YL. Approx. 400m north of DA4

Status: Refused (7/5/2019) and later dismissed at appeal (26/2/2020)

Other information: No documents available to view on the LPA website.

Assessment of cumulative effects: No further consideration

MIG/2018/1 Full application for the replacement, regularisation and operation of an Asphalt plant and replacement weighbridge, the retention of an existing concrete batching plant, together with the retention of ancillary developments that include a workshop, office, aggregate stockpiling yard and ancillary plant and machinery at Cae'r Glaw Quarry

Location: Cae'r Glaw Quarry, Gwalchmai. Approx. 3.2km east of DA5

Status: Approved 20/3/2019.

Other information: No documents available to view on the LPA website.

Assessment of cumulative effects: This proposal is already considered in the Draft ES (and discounted) as the proposal is for the retention of infrastructure/equipment, although unlikely due to distance any potential impacts from the quarry proposal on receptors would have been captured in baseline surveys.

VAR/2020/24 Section 73 application to vary condition (01) of application 27C106E/FR/ECON - Full application for improvements to the existing highway (A5025) between A5 East of Valley Junction to the proposed Power Station Access Road Junction at eight separate locations together with reconstruction and localised widening of existing pavement and surface dressing, temporary construction compound including temporary pavement recycling facility, creation of 2 attenuation ponds and maintenance access, creation/temporary diversion of cycle routes, creation of alternative parking facilities to mitigate loss of lay by together with other associated works including drainage, boundary treatments, planting, new signage and road markings) so as to extend the implementation period of the development by a further three years (up to 13th July 2023) along the A5

Location: Starts (also closest point to Traffwll) is Valley of the A5. Approx. 2.2km west of DA6

Status: Approved 7/8/2020

Other information: The application is for the extension of implementation period (July 2023). The original application was for highway improvements, carried out in 8 sections, starting from Valley and heading north to Wylfa (improvement of highways was part of the power plant application).

Assessment of cumulative effects: This proposal is for highway improvements along the A5025 which does not form part of the proposed vehicle route for Parc Solar Traffwll. The construction phase of the improvements works may lead to increased traffic generation along A55 and to a lesser extent on more local routes. However, traffic generation from the Parc Solar Traffwll will be over a 4 to 5 month period totalling approximately 6 HGV deliveries a day with construction staff vehicles contributing additional movements. These volumes of traffic will be negligible compared to existing movements using the A55. No further consideration

DIS/2019/127 Application to discharge condition (46)(Site contamination investigations) and (47)(Contamination verification report) of planning permission 46C427K/TR/EIA/ECON at Ardal Tirlenwi Cae Glas landfill

Location: Ardal Tirlenwi Cae Glas landfill tip area, Caergybi/Holyhead. Approx. 4.8km west of DA6

Status: Site is restored

Other information: This scheme is part of the Penrhos Coastal Park proposal. This (landfill) site is south of the A55 whereas the Coastal Park is to the north. As part of the outline planning permission for the Coastal Park, the restored landfill site is proposed to be a nature reserve (Cae Glas Nature Reserve), no further development is proposed on this land.

Assessment of cumulative effects: As the site is restored and any potential cumulative effects would have been captured by baseline survey works/assessment. No further consideration required.

DIS/2020/92 Discharge of Conditions at Penrhos Coastal Park

Location: Penrhos Coastal Park, Valley, Holyhead LL65 2JE. Approx. 4.8km north west of DA6

Status: Not yet determined

Other information: A leisure village at Penrhos Coastal Park, Holyhead, with up to 500 new lodges and cottages and 315 new dwellings at Kingsland. Original planning application for the coastal holiday park/leisure village was approved 19/04/2016 (ref. 46C427K/TR/EIA/ECON). This proposal is for discharge of conditions.

Assessment of cumulative effects: Consideration of approved scheme is carried out below (Energy Island schemes). No further consideration

OP/2019/17 Outline application for the erection of 30 dwellings together with full details of layout and access at London Road, Bodedern

Location: Land off London Road, Bodedern. Approx. 2.2km north of DA6

Status: Approved 3/11/2020 – no reserved matters application has been submitted

Other information: Documents available to view on LPA website.

Assessment of cumulative effects: Vehicular access to Bodedern is via junction 4 of the A55. This is the only common highway with Parc Solar Traffwll. The construction phase of the improvements works may lead to increased traffic generation along A55 and to a lesser extent on more local routes. However, traffic generation from the Parc Solar Traffwll will be over a 4 to 5 month period totalling approximately 6 HGV deliveries a day with construction staff vehicles contributing additional movements. These volumes of traffic will be negligible compared to existing movements using the A55. No further consideration

OP/2020/6 Outline application for the erection of 31 new Residential Dwellings together with full details of a new estate road at Roebuck Estate, Llanfackraeth, Holyhead

Location: Land adjacent to Roebuck Estate, Llanfackraeth, Holyhead. Approx. 4.5km north

of DA6

Status: Withdrawn 9/2/2021

Other information: Documents available to view on LPA website

Assessment of cumulative effects: No further consideration

ENERGY ISLAND SCHEMES

Holyhead Waterfront Development - VAR/2020/20/EIA

Application made under s.73 of the TCPA to extend life of consent.

Location: Holyhead Waterfront, Holyhead. Approximately 8.6km north west of DA6.

Status: Application (s73) was submitted March 2020 and to be determined

Other information: The current application seeks to extend the time to implement the outline consent. The proposed development is the same as that previously approved. Submission documents are available on LPA website.

Assessment of cumulative effects: The updated Transport Assessment identifies that c. 90% of traffic generated by the proposal will orientate from the A55/Anglesey and beyond. Trip demand generated by the proposal would, over a 12 hours average would by up to approximately 2,000 on a weekend and nearly 1700 during the week.

Vehicular access Holyhead is along the A55. This is the only common highway with Parc Solar Traffwll. The construction phase of the improvements works may lead to increased traffic generation along A55 and to a lesser extent on more local routes. However, traffic generation from the Parc Solar Traffwll will be over a 4 to 5 month period totalling approximately 6 HGV deliveries a day with construction staff vehicles contributing additional movements. These volumes of traffic will be negligible compared to existing movements using the A55.

Traffic generation is the only potential for cumulative effects to be experienced, given the distance between the two proposals. Given the above no further consideration.

Penrhos Leisure Village - 46C427K/TR/EIA/ECON

A leisure village at Penrhos Coastal Park, Holyhead, with up to 500 new lodges and cottages and 315 new dwellings at Kingsland.

Location: Penrhos Coastal Park, London Road, Holyhead. Approximately 4.8km north west of DA6.

Status: Outline application approved April 2016. Currently an application has been submitted to discharge pre-commencement conditions DIS/2020/92.

Other information: Submission documents are available on LPA website.

Assessment of cumulative effects: The nature of Parc Solar Traffwll and the distance to Penrhos Leisure Village means that only traffic generation has the potential for cumulative effects. Vehicular access to Bodedern is via junction 4 of the A55. This is the only common highway with Parc Solar Traffwll. The construction phase of the improvements works may lead to increased traffic generation along A55 and to a lesser extent on more local routes. However, traffic generation from the Parc Solar Traffwll will be over a 4 to 5 month period totalling approximately 6 HGV deliveries a day with construction staff vehicles contributing additional movements. These volumes of traffic will be negligible compared to existing movements using the A55.

Given the above, no further consideration required.

Anglesey Eco Park - 46C13H/1/CONS (DECC consultation) Section 36 Consent reference 12.04.09/19C

Location: Penrhos, Holyhead located approximately 5.3km to the north west of DA6

Status: Section 36 Consent reference 12.04.09/19C dated 16 September 2011 subsequent variation dated 4 April 2014. Certification of lawfulness to confirm safeguarding of consent September 2016.

Other information: Limited available information

Assessment of cumulative effects: There will be limited opportunity for Parc Solar Traffwll and Anglesey Eco Park to create cumulative effects largely due to the separation distance but also due to the benign nature of a solar and its operation, such that potential environmental effects are limited.

The 4 to 5 month construction phase of Parc Solar Traffwll is unlikely to compete with demand for labour or resources given the comparative small scale of the scheme. Likewise for traffic generation; 6 HGV deliveries per day will be insignificant to the likely volumes of traffic generated by the Eco Park.

Given the above, no further consideration required.

Holyhead Deep - Marine Licence ORML1618 - April 2017

Location: 6.5km off-shore west of the Holyhead, in 80m of water

Status: 0.5MW demonstrator array installed in June 2018. Under the terms of the licence the operational period for the 0.5MW device is five years after which it will either be decommissioned or incorporated into the larger scheme, subject to the relevant permissions. Long-term plan is to expand the Holyhead Deep site to a commercial tidal energy array with a total installed capacity of up to 80MW.

Other information: Minesto has submitted a scoping report to UK consenting authorities Marine Management Organisation (MMO) and Natural Resources Wales (NRW), asking for their scoping opinion for development of an 80MW site in Holyhead Deep.

Assessment of cumulative effects: Given distance between the schemes and the environments they operate in there is no potential for cumulative impacts.

Morlais Demonstration Zone TWA/3234121

The proposal is to create up to 240 MW of tidal stream generating capacity and provide a consented tidal technology demonstration zone, specifically designed for the installation and commercial demonstration of multiple arrays of tidal energy devices. The Project will include communal infrastructure for tidal technology developers which provides a shared route to a local grid connection.

Location: 6.5km offshore west of the Holyhead,

Status: A decision is expected in summer 2021.

Assessment of cumulative effects: The EIA confirms that with mitigation in place the potential residual effects during the on shore construction phase on the majority of ecological receptors (including nesting/foraging chough) will be of negligible to minor adverse significance in the short to medium term. It is considered there will be no potential for cumulative effects on chough populations between the Morlais and Parc Solar Traffwll proposals as there is no evidence to suggest choughs (with linkages to Holy Island Coast SAC/SPA/SSSI) use the application site.

Vehicular access to Holyhead is along the A55. This is the only common highway with Parc Solar Traffwll. The construction phase of the improvements works may lead to increased traffic generation along A55 and to a lesser extent on more local routes. However, traffic generation from the Parc Solar Traffwll will be over a 4 to 5 month period totalling approximately 6 HGV deliveries a day with construction staff vehicles contributing additional movements. These volumes of traffic will be negligible compared to existing movements using the A55

Given distance between the schemes and the environments they operate in there is no potential for cumulative impacts.

Port of Holyhead Expansion DNS/3234821

The principal works which the Harbour Revision Order would authorise Stena Line Ports Ltd to carry out two areas of reclamation of land which are intended to expand the current facilities at the harbour to provide two new berths for vessels together with associated landside areas and facilities.

Location: 8km north west of DA6

Status: Currently waiting on whether to pursue inquiry or written reps.

Assessment of cumulative effects: Given the distance between the proposals there is limited potential for cumulative effects. However, vehicular access to Holyhead is along the A55. This is the only common highway with Parc Solar Traffwll. The supporting EIA for the Port Expansion concluded that the impact for all highway links was of minor adverse significance for both the construction and operational phases and was therefore not significant. Considering the Parc Solar Traffwll's 4 to 5 month construction period and that traffic generation will total on average 6 HVGs deliveries a day there is limited potential for significant effects to the serving highway.

Holyhead Great Breakwater Improvements – Marine Licence

Refurbishment of Breakwater: Seaward side use an armoured slope to seaward face of superstructure to reduce wave impact forces and wave overtopping. Leeward side of the Breakwater would restore rubble mound to original levels using concrete mattress.

Location: Holyhead port, 9.6km north west of DA6

Status: Scoping opinion Issued by NRW in July 2020

Assessment of cumulative effects: The Scoping Request advises that delivery of all materials would be made by barge and therefore would be no traffic impacts.

Given the distance between the proposals there is little or no potential for cumulative effects.

Menai Science Park (M SParc) - VAR/2020/75

M-SParc benefits from an outline planning permission (reference 33C304B/ECON) for a total of 22,703sq.m of floorspace for research and development and associated light industrial uses, that was originally anticipated to be delivered over 7 no. phases. The outline permission was issued by the Isle of Anglesey County Council on 30th December 2015.

Location: Gaewren, 15km east of DA5

Status: Phase 1 (5,000m2) is built out and occupied. Currently seeking to amend the outline planning consent to support the next phases of development on the site through a revised parameter configuration, more flexible phasing strategy and extended timescale.

Assessment of cumulative effects: The variation condition would allow the remainder of the park to be developed over two phases, rather than seven. An application has yet to be submitted that would allow commencement of these phases. As such it is considered there is no potential for cumulative effects to be experienced.

CONCLUSION

The above information demonstrates there is limited potential for the proposed Parc Solar Traffwll to create cumulative effects with schemes that have been consented but not yet implemented or have become operational. This is largely due to intervening distances between sites but also the benign nature of the solar proposal. Such that it will not generate emissions to atmosphere, ground or hydrology, the potential visual amenity effects will be limited in extent and once constructed will not generate vehicle movements of any note.

No further consideration of potential cumulative effect will be given the identified proposals.

PARC SOLAR, TRAFFWLL, YNYS MÔN

Gwerthusiad Archeolegol / Archaeological Evaluation



PARC SOLAR, TRAFFWLL, YNYS MÔN

Gwerthusiad Archeolegol / Archaeological Evaluation

Yr Amgylchedd Hanesyddol yn Cofnodi Prif Gyfeirnod / Historic Environment Record Event Primary Reference Number 46000

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Wedi'i baratoi ar gyfer / Prepared for: Low Carbon

Ionawr 2021 / January 2021

Ysgrifenwyd gan / Written by: Stuart Reilly, Carol Ryan Young, John Roberts & Carolina Ferreira

Delwedd clawr blaen / Front Cover image: Ergyd cynllun cyn-ex o ffos gylch [1003] yn Ffos 10; graddfa 2x1m (cyfeirnod archif: G2658_2241)/ Pre-ex plan shot of ring ditch [1003] in Trench 10; scale 2x1m (archive reference: G2658_2241)

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Approved by	Principal Archaeologist	John Roberts	AM	05/03/21			

Revision History						
Rev No.	Summary of Changes	Ref Section	Purpose of Issue			
01	Change of name of applicant from Low Carbon to Parc Solar Traffwll Limited	Throughout	Client approval			
02	Insert Trench Layout Plan for Area 5 & renumber figures		GAPS approval			

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- Figure 16: Area 3, Field E, Trench 08 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 17: Area 3, Field F, Trench Plan; scale 1:500@A4.
- Figure 18: Area 3, Field F, Trench 04 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 19: Area 4, Field A, Trench Plan; scale 1:750@A4.
- Figure 20.1: Area 4, Field A, Trench 01 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 20.2: Plan of Linear [103]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 20.3: SSW facing section [103]; scale 1:10@A3.
- Figure 21.1: Area 4, Field A, Trench 02 Plan; scale 1:80@A4.
- Figure 21.2: Plan of Linear [211]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 22.1: Area 4, Field A, Trench 03 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 22.2: Plan of Linear [303]; scale 1:20@A3;
- Figure 22.3: W facing section [303]; scale 1:10@A3.
- Figure 22.4: Plan of Linear [305]; scale 120@A3.
- Figure 23.1: Area 4, Field A, Trench 04 Plan; scale 1:80@A3

- Figure 23.2: Plan of linear [403]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 24.1: Area 4, Field A, Trench 05 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 24.2: Plan of Linear [505]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 25: Area 4, Field B Trench Plan; scale 1:1,250@A4.
- Figure 26: Area 4, Field B, Trench 01 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 27.1: Area 4, Field B, Trench 03 Plan: scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 27.2: Plan of Linear [304]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 28.1: Area 4, Plan B, Trench 05 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 28.2: Plan of Linear [505]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 29.1: SE facing baulk section [505]; scale 1:10@A4.
- Figure 29.2: W facing section [505]; scale 1:10@A4.
- Figure 30.1: Area 4, Field B, Trench 08 Plan; scale 1:80@A3;
- Figure 30.2: Plan of Linear [804]; scale: 1:20@A3.
- Figure 31.1: Area 4, Field B, Trench 09 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 31.2: Plan of Linear [903]; scale 1:20@A3
- Figure 31.3: Plan of Linear [907]; scale 1:20@A3
- Figure 31.4: Plan of Linear [909]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 32.1: ESE facing section [903]; scale 1:10@A3.
- Figure 32.2: ESE facing section [907]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 33: Area 4, Field B, Trench 10 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 34: Area 4, Field B, Trench 12 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 35: Area 4, Field C Trench Plan; scale 1:1,500@A4.
- Figure 36: Area 4, Field C, Trench 02 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 37: Area 4, Field C, Trench 05 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 38: Area 4, Field C, Trench 12 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 39: Area 4, Field C, Trench 16Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 40: Area 4, Field D, Trench Plan; scale 1:1,000@A4.
- Figure 41: Area 4, Field D, Trench 02 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 42: Area 4, Field D, Trench 04 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 43: Area 4, Field D, Trench 06 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 44: Area 4, Fields E, F & G, Trench Plan; scale 1:1,000@A4.
- Figure 45.1: Area 4, Field E, Trench 05 Plan; scale 1:80@A4.

- Figure 45.2: Plan of Pit [504]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 46: Area 5 Trench Plan; scale 1:1,500@A4.
- Figure 47.1: Area 5, Trench 01 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 47.2: Plan of Trackway [104]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 48: WSW facing section [104]; scale 1:10@A3.
- Figure 49.1: Area 5, Trench 02 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 49.2: Plan of Linear [203]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 50.1: Area 5, Trench 03 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 50.2: Plan of Linear [304]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 50.3: Plan of Linear [306]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 51.1: Area 5, Trench 04 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 51.2: Plan of Linear [404]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 52: Area 5, Trench 05 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 53.1: Area 5, Trench 06 Plan: scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 53.2: Plan of Linear [603]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 54.1: Area 5, Trench 10 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 54.2: Plan of Curvilinear [1003]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 55.1: S facing baulk section [1003]; scale 1:10@A4.
- Figure 55.2: NE facing section [1003]; scale 1:10@A4.
- Figure 55.3: SE facing section [1003]; scale 1:10@A4.
- Figure 56.1: Area 5, Trench 12 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 56.2: Plan of Linear [1204]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 57.1: Area 5, Trench 13 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 57.2: Plan of Linear [1304]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 57.3: Plan of Pit [1306]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 58: N facing section [1306]; scale 1:10@A4.
- Figure 59: Area 5, Trench 14 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 60: Area 5, Trench 15 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 61: Area 5, Trench 16 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 62: Area 5, Trench 17 Pan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 63: Area 6, Field A, Trench Plan; scale 1:1,000@A4.
- Figure 64: Area 6, Field A, Trench 02 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.

- Figure 65.1: Area 6, Field A, Trench 03 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 65.2: Plan of Linears [303] & [304]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 66: Area 6, Field A, Trench 04 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 67: Area 6, Field A, Trench 05 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 68: Area 6, Field A, Trench 06 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 69.1: Area 6, Field A, Trench 09 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 69.2: Plan of Linear [903]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 70: Area 6, Field B Trench Plan; scale 1:750@A4.
- Figure 71.1: Area 6, Field B, Trench 01 Plan; scale 1;80@A3.
- Figure 71.2: Plan of Linear [104]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 71.3: Plan of Linear [106]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 71.4: Plan of Posthole [108]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 72.1: Area 6, Field B, Trench 02 Plan; scale 1:80@A3;
- Figure 72.2: Plan of Linear [204]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 72.2: Plan of Linear [205]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 73.1: Area 6, Field B, Trench 04 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 73.2: Plan of Linear [404]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 73.3: Plan of Posthole [406]; scale 1:20@A3;
- Figure 73.4: Plan of Linear [408]; scale 1:20@A3;
- Figure 73.5: Plan of Linear [409]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 74: Area 6, Field B, Trench 06 Plan; scale 1:125@A4.
- Figure 75: Area 6, Field C, Trench Plan; scale 1:500@A4.
- Figure 76.1: Area 6, Field C, Trench 01 Plan; scale 1;80@A3.
- Figure 76.2: Plan of Pit [104]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 76.3: Wraparound section [104]; scale 1:10@A3.
- Figure 77: Area 6, Field D, Trench Plan; scale 1;500@A4.
- Figure 78.1: Area 6, Field D, Trench 01 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 78.2: Plan of Linear [103]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 79.1: Area 6, Field D, Trench 02 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 79.2: Plan of Linear [203]; scale 1:20@A3.
- Figure 80.1: Area 6, Field D, Trench 03 Plan; scale 1:80@A3.
- Figure 80.2: Plan of Linear [303]; scale 1:20@A3.

CRYNODEB ANNHECHNEGOL

Comisiynwyd Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol Gwynedd (GAT) gan Parc Solar Traffwll Limited i gynnal gwerthusiad archeolegol (ffosio treialon) i gefnogi ymgynghoriad cyn ymgeisio ar gyfer prosiect Parc Solar Traffwll, fferm solar arfaethedig ar ochr orllewinol Ynys Môn. Roedd ffosio'r treial yn cynnwys 131 o ffosydd a oedd yn targedu anomaleddau geoffisegol ac yn ymchwilio i'r datblygiad arfaethedig yn gyffredinol. Ymgymerwyd â'r ffosio rhwng 9fed Tachwedd a 9fed Rhagfyr 2020.

Cadarnhaodd ffosydd y treial bresenoldeb nodweddion archeolegol mewn 42% o'r ffosydd a gloddiwyd, yn bennaf yn gyn-ffiniau caeau, yn hen draciau, yn rhychau aradr neu'n ddraeniau tir. Roedd tystiolaeth ysbeidiol hefyd ar gyfer gweithgaredd cynhanesyddol yn bennaf ar ffurf taeniadau twmpathau llosg ond dadorchuddiwyd ffos gylch fach ac maen hir tebygol yn ystod ffos y treial. Ychydig o dystiolaeth arteffact a gafwyd o'r nodweddion yr ymchwiliwyd iddynt fel rhan o'r gwerthusiad.

Yn seiliedig ar y canlyniadau hyn, argymhellir cynnal rhaglen lliniaru archeolegol os bydd y datblygiad yn mynd yn ei flaen. Yn ogystal, argymhellir y dylid lliniaru ôl-gloddio ar yr ecofactau a gymerir o nodweddion cynhanesyddol tebygol i helpu i alluogi gwell dealltwriaeth o'r nodweddion hyn a'r safle yn gyffredinol.

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was commissioned by Parc Solar Traffwll Limited to undertake an archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) in support of a pre-application consultation for the Parc Solar Traffwll project, a proposed solar farm on the western side of Ynys Môn. The trial trenching comprised 131 trenches that both targeted geophysical anomalies and investigated the proposed development in general. The trenching was undertaken between 9th November and 9th December 2020.

The trial trenches confirmed the presence of archaeological features in 42% of the trenches excavated, primarily being former field boundaries, former trackways, plough furrows or land drains. There was also sporadic evidence for prehistoric activity primarily in the form of burnt mound spreads but a small ring ditch and a probable standing stone were also uncovered during the trial trenching. Little artefactual evidence was recovered from the features investigated as part of the evaluation.

Based on these results, it is recommended that a programme of archaeological mitigation be carried out if the development proceeds. In addition, it is recommended that post-excavation

mitigation should be undertaken on the ecofacts taken from probable prehistoric features to help enable a greater understanding of these features and the site in general.

1 INTRODUCTION

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) was commissioned by *Parc Solar Traffwll Limited* to undertake an archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) in support of a pre-application consultation for the Parc Solar Traffwll project, a proposed solar farm on the western side of Ynys Môn. The proposed development included photovoltaic panels; mounting frames; inverters; transformers and associated cabling; a 33kV distributor network operator substation; onsite substations; deer fencing; and internal service road and access. The proposed development took place within fields of pasture spread across four discrete land parcels in the vicinity of the village of Llanfihangel yn Nhowyn, Ynys Môn (Figure 01):

- Area 3 (14.33ha; NGR SH3379375955; postcode LL65 3SL);
- Area 4 (27.46ha; NGR SH3412276901; postcode LL65 3SG);
- Area 5 (7.58ha; NGR SH3457176725; postcode LL65 3SH); and
- Area 6 (16.71ha; NGR SH3157277674; postcode LL65 3NN).

The trial trenching was the second stage of archaeological evaluation following on from a geophysical survey undertaken in July/August 2020 (GAT Report 1560, McGuinness 2020). A total of 131 trenches were placed to investigate anomalies discovered during the geophysical survey (Figures 02, 03 & 04). The archaeological anomalies included a possible large banked enclosure, prehistoric burnt mounds, raised mounds, enclosures, a kiln and a small rectangular possible ditched settlement feature.

The evaluation that was undertaken from 9th November to 9th December 2020 and conformed to the following guidelines:

- Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) Version 1.1 (The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018);
- Guidelines for digital archives (Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, 2015);
- Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991);
- Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide (Historic England, 2015); and

• Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).

GAT is certified to ISO 9001:2015 and ISO 14001:2015 (Cert. No. 74180/B/0001/UK/En) and is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and a member of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME).

The project was monitored by the Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Service (GAPS) on behalf of the Local Planning Authority.

The regional Historic Environment Record Enquiry No. for the archaeological evaluation is GATHER1338 and the event primary reference number is 46000.

1.1 Aims and Objectives

The key aims and objectives were to:

verify and determine the results of the geophysical survey report (GAT report 1560)

that identified probable evidence for prehistoric activity in the form of possible burnt

mounds banked and ditched enclosures and raised mounds (McGuinness, 2020, 40).

As outlined in The Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales a greater

understanding of settlement chronology as well as settlement and land use is

required for the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age in Wales. As such, where suitable

materials survive radiocarbon dating should be undertaken (Gale 2010, 2-3);

the probable preservation of relict field systems which predate historic mapping may

be of medieval (1110 - 1539 AD) or post medieval (1539 - 1750 AD) origin and may

contribute to settlement and land use development as outlined in Medieval (1110 -

1539 AD) and Post Medieval Wales (1539 – 1750 AD) by A Research Framework for

the Archaeology of Wales Version 03, Final Refresh Document March 2017; and

• If no additional archaeological activity is identified, establish why this may be the

case.

1.2 Acknowledgements

GAT would like to thank the following for their contribution and support:

GAT Project team: Stuart Reilly, Carol Ryan Young, Michael Sion Lynes and Carolina

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Welfare: Caernarvon Commercials;

Client (Parc Solar Traffwll Limited) James Hartley Bond, Mike Rutgers and Lauren McGill

and James Cook of Sirius Planning Ltd;

Gwynedd Archaeological Planning Services: Jenny Emmett.

Landowners: Peter Williams.

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2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The four proposed development areas are within areas of known and potential archaeological activity. An archaeological desk-based assessment and walkover survey report for the proposed development was commissioned by Sirius Planning Ltd. A draft version of the report was compiled by Archaeology Wales in 2019 (Garcia Rovira and Sinnot 2019). The report aimed to "highlight and assess the impact upon standing and buried remains of potential archaeological interest" within the development areas (*Ibid.* 1.2). A summary of the draft version of the desk-based assessment's conclusions for each of the survey areas is presented below:

2.1 Area 3 (NGR SH3379375955; Garcia Rovira and Sinnot 2019, 2.9)

No previously identified recorded archaeological sites were identified within Area 3 however the prehistoric Castellor Hut Settlement (Scheduled Monument AN088) lies immediately adjacent to the area's northwestern boundary and the possibility of encountering archaeological remains associated with the prehistoric site within Area 3 cannot be discounted. The site walkover survey identified two raised mounds (CAG-003/004) that may be prehistoric cairns or may result from more recent field clearance. Analysis of aerial photographs and historic cartographic sources suggested to the authors that the area has been in agricultural use from at least the medieval period onwards and that the preservation of previously unidentified archaeological remains may be relatively good. The current field boundaries within the area have their origins in the mid- 19th century but there is potential that agricultural remains dating from the Medieval to Post-medieval period may also be encountered within the area.

2.2 Area 4 (NGR SH3412276901; Garcia Rovira and Sinnot 2019, 3.9)

Two known archaeological sites recorded on the Gwynedd HER were identified within Area 4, a Post-medieval sheepfold (GAT HER PRN 28944) and Post-medieval well (GAT HER PRN 28943). Neither site was identified during the site visit and it was suggested that they may survive as buried remains. Close analysis by this author however suggested that they i.e. just outside of the western boundary of Area 4. Another site, St Ulched's Church (Site of) (GAT HER PRN 2525) is located immediately adjacent to the southern boundary of Area 4. The church is thought to have been medieval in date, though no standing remains survive. The churchyard wall does survive and forms part of the southern boundary of Area 4. It is possible that the remains of early graves may be located within the part of the area in proximity to the church site. The site walkover survey identified a circular mound (CAG-005)

on the northwestern side of Area 4 which may be prehistoric in origin or may be the result of more recent field clearance. Analysis of aerial photographs and historic mapping suggests that the area has been in continuous agricultural use since at least the Medieval period and that the current field boundaries largely date to the mid-late 19th century.

2.3 Area 5 (NGR SH3457176725; Garcia Rovira and Sinnot 2019, 4.9)

No known archaeological sites were identified within Area 5 or its immediate environs and no potential sites were identified during the walkover survey or the analysis of Lidar data, aerial photographs or historic maps. The authors did state that given the archaeological potential of the wider landscape, as yet unidentified archaeological remains may survive in Area 5 and they may be relatively well preserved due to the historic lack of development within it. Historic maps suggest that the current field boundaries within Area 5 are likely to date to the mid-late 19th century.

2.4 Area 6 (NGR SH3157277674; Garcia Rovira and Sinnot 2019, 5.9)

No known archaeological sites were identified within Area 6 or its immediate environs but a number of known prehistoric sites identified to the north of the area suggested potential for prehistoric activity to be found within it. Two raised mounds were identified in the central part of the area during the walk-over survey (CAG-006). They may be prehistoric cairns or they may result from more recent field clearance. Cartographic sources also indicated the former presence of post-medieval buildings (CAG-010) to the north of Glan-y-gors farmstead on the western side of the area. Analysis of aerial photographs and historic cartographic sources suggested to the authors that the area has been in agricultural use from at least the Medieval period onwards and that the preservation of previously unidentified archaeological remains may be relatively good. The current field boundaries within the area have their origins in the mid-late 19th century.

2.5 Geophysical Survey (GAT Report 1560) – Summary of Results

GAT undertook a magnetometer survey in July and August 2020 in Areas 3, 4, 5 and 6. The survey did not identify any probable archaeological anomalies but it did reveal anomalies of possible archaeological provenance in Areas 3 and 4. In Area 3 a possible banked enclosure [3.1], two possible prehistoric burnt mounds [3.2; 3.5], a possible subcircular enclosure [3.3] and two raised mounds [3.4, 3.6] that may be prehistoric in origin and coincided with the desk-based assessment results (CAG-004 and CAG-003 respectively). In Area 4, the corner of a possible ditched enclosure [4.1], a possible prehistoric burnt mound [4.2] recorded in the desk-based assessment as a possible prehistoric cairn (CAG-005) in the desk-based assessment, an enclosure [4.3], a small rectangular possible ditched settlement feature [4.4] and a possible kiln site [4.5] have been recorded (McGuinness, 2020, 40).

Former field boundaries recorded on 19th century historic maps have been identified in Areas 3, 5 and 6. Anomalies which appear to represent field boundaries not recorded on historic maps have been identified in Areas 3, 4 and 5. In Areas 4 and 5 these possible boundaries can be resolved into distinct field systems. The remains of ridge and furrow cultivation have been identified in Areas 3, 4 and 5 and modern ploughing is evident in Areas 4 and 5. Land drains and other modern agricultural features were identified in Areas 3, 4 and 6.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Trial Trenching

The trial trenching programme aimed to expose and characterise the possible archaeological anomalies identified during the geophysical survey and to test blank areas in the geophysical survey. Trial trenching was completed at a sampling density of 1.5%, as agreed with GAPS, and formed part of a phased process, with the results informing subsequent strategies.

A total of **131** trial trenches were excavated (Figures 02 - 05); the trenches measured 30x2m. The details of the individual trenches are shown below.

TR3A.1 TR3A.2 TR3A.3 TR3A.4 TR3A.5 TR3A.6	30x2m 30x2m 30x2m 30x2m 30x2m	233487.68 / 375892.08 233534.11 / 375913.08 233488.54 / 375961.48 233527.16 / 375969.16 233607.9 / 375943.59	233481.46 / 375921.42 233564.12 / 375913.02 233515.78 / 375974.06 233557.16 / 375969.16	02 02 02 02
TR3A.3 TR3A.4 TR3A.5 TR3A.6	30x2m 30x2m 30x2m	233488.54 / 375961.48 233527.16 / 375969.16	233515.78 / 375974.06 233557.16 / 375969.16	02
ΓR3A.4 ΓR3A.5 ΓR3A.6	30x2m 30x2m	233527.16 / 375969.16	233557.16 / 375969.16	
ΓR3A.5 ΓR3A.6	30x2m	,	•	02
TR3A.6		233607.9 / 375943.59		
	20,,2,,,	,	233587.2 / 375965.31	02
TD2D 1	30x2m	233593.15 / 376018.68	233623.15 / 376018.62	02
I VOD'T	30x2m	233704.08 / 375918.27	233698.07 / 375947.66	02
TR3B.2	30x2m	233683.74 / 375953.41	233698.47 / 375979.54	02
TR3B.3	30x2m	233746.54 / 375975.13	233735.65 / 376003.08	02
ΓR3B.4	30x2m	233748.71 / 375985.14	233778.71 / 375985.01	02
TR3B.5	30x2m	233762.26 / 376006.32	233761.84 / 376036.31	02
TR3B.6	30x2m	233736.21 / 376041.96	233766.21 / 376041.96	02
TR3B.7	30x2m	233700.18 / 376037.3	233682 / 376061.16	02
TR3B.8	30x2m	233684.01 / 376038.65	233654.01 / 376038.78	02
TR3C.1	30x2m	233895.24 / 375976.68	233865.24 / 375976.81	02
TR3C.2	30x2m	233855.22 / 376017.96	233825.22 / 376018.09	02
TR3C.3	30x2m	233794.73 / 376062.25	233824.73 / 376062.12	02
ΓR3D.1	30x2m	233993.95 / 376078.48	233969.16 / 376095.38	02
TR3D.2	30x2m	233919.21 / 376078.6	233889.2 / 376078.67	02
TR3D.3	30x2m	233877.38 / 376110.91	233847.38 / 376110.97	02
TR3E.1	30x2m	233999.76 / 375897.76	234011.71 / 375925.27	02
TR3E.2	30x2m	234094.47 / 375931.29	234064.48 / 375931.42	02
TR3E.3	30x2m	234032.97 / 375949.62	234002.98 / 375949.75	02
TR3E.4	30x2m	234006.32 / 375960.46	233976.33 / 375960.59	02
TR3E.5	30x2m	233945.35 / 375944.39	233915.35 / 375944.52	02
TR3E.6	30x2m	233980.04 / 375972.67	233986.8 / 376001.89	02
TR3E.7	30x2m	234007.74 / 375997.93	234037.73 / 375997.79	02
TR3E.8	30x2m	234056.54 / 375968.82	234086.54 / 375968.82	02
TR3E.9	30x2m	234005.42 / 376036.89	234035.42 / 376036.89	02
	R3B.1 R3B.2 R3B.3 R3B.4 R3B.5 R3B.6 R3B.7 R3B.8 R3C.1 R3C.2 R3C.3 R3D.1 R3D.2 R3D.3 R3E.1 R3E.2 R3E.3 R3E.4 R3E.5 R3E.6 R3E.7 R3E.8	R3B.1 30x2m R3B.2 30x2m R3B.3 30x2m R3B.4 30x2m R3B.5 30x2m R3B.6 30x2m R3B.7 30x2m R3B.8 30x2m R3C.1 30x2m R3C.2 30x2m R3C.3 30x2m R3D.1 30x2m R3D.2 30x2m R3E.1 30x2m R3E.2 30x2m R3E.3 30x2m R3E.4 30x2m R3E.5 30x2m R3E.6 30x2m R3E.7 30x2m R3E.8 30x2m	R3B.1 30x2m 233704.08 / 375918.27 R3B.2 30x2m 233683.74 / 375953.41 R3B.3 30x2m 233746.54 / 375975.13 R3B.4 30x2m 233748.71 / 375985.14 R3B.5 30x2m 233762.26 / 376006.32 R3B.6 30x2m 233736.21 / 376041.96 R3B.7 30x2m 233700.18 / 376037.3 R3B.8 30x2m 233684.01 / 376038.65 R3C.1 30x2m 233895.24 / 375976.68 R3C.2 30x2m 233895.22 / 376017.96 R3C.3 30x2m 233794.73 / 376062.25 R3D.1 30x2m 233993.95 / 376078.48 R3D.2 30x2m 233993.95 / 376078.66 R3D.3 30x2m 233991.21 / 376078.6 R3D.3 30x2m 233999.76 / 375897.76 R3E.1 30x2m 233999.76 / 375897.76 R3E.2 30x2m 234094.47 / 375931.29 R3E.3 30x2m 234094.47 / 375931.29 R3E.4 30x2m 234096.32 / 375960.46 R3E.5 30x2m 233980.04 / 375972.67 R3E.7 30x2m 234007.74 / 375997.93 R3E.8 30x2m 234007.74 / 375997.93 R3E.8 30x2m 234056.54 / 375968.82	R3B.1 30x2m 233704.08 / 375918.27 233698.07 / 375947.66 R3B.2 30x2m 233683.74 / 375953.41 233698.47 / 375979.54 R3B.3 30x2m 233746.54 / 375975.13 233735.65 / 376003.08 R3B.4 30x2m 233748.71 / 375985.14 233778.71 / 375985.01 R3B.5 30x2m 233762.26 / 376006.32 233761.84 / 376036.31 R3B.6 30x2m 233700.18 / 376037.3 233682 / 376061.16 R3B.8 30x2m 233684.01 / 376038.65 233654.01 / 376038.78 R3C.1 30x2m 233895.24 / 375976.68 233825.22 / 376018.09 R3C.2 30x2m 233894.73 / 376062.25 233824.73 / 376062.12 R3D.1 30x2m 233993.95 / 376078.48 233899.16 / 376095.38 R3D.2 30x2m 233877.38 / 376110.91 233847.38 / 376110.97 R3E.1 30x2m 233899.76 / 375897.76 234011.71 / 375925.27 R3E.2 30x2m 234094.47 / 375931.29 234064.48 / 375949.75 R3E.3 30x2m 234006.32 / 375960.46 233976.33 / 375944.52 R3E.4 30x2m 234006.32 / 375944.39 233915.35 / 375944.52

			Centreline Start (m OSGB)	Centreline End (m OSGB)	Figure
	TR3E.10	30x2m	234050.73 / 376060.96	234080.72 / 376060.83	02
3F	TR3F.1	30x2m	233829.37 / 375829.93	233802.48 / 375816.63	02
	TR3F.2	30x2m	233828.65 / 375865.34	233800.96 / 375876.87	02
	TR3F.3	30x2m	233765.26 / 375874.94	233735.26 / 375874.94	02
	TR3F.4	30x2m	233786.68 / 375881.88	233767.27 / 375904.76	02
4A	TR4A.1	30x2m	234086.63 / 377135.9	234084.74 / 377165.84	03
	TR4A.2	30x2m	234086.05 / 377197.24	234058.48 / 377209.08	03
	TR4A.3	30x2m	234134.54 / 377173.67	234115.97 / 377197.24	03
	TR4A.4	30x2m	234134.22 / 377223.97	234104.48 / 377227.85	03
	TR4A.5	30x2m	234106.84 / 377272.56	234077.11 / 377276.59	03
4B	TR4B.1	30x2m	233897.68 / 377017	233870.41 / 377029.48	03
=	TR4B.2	30x2m	233910.7 / 377048.82	233939.66 / 377056.63	03
=	TR4B.3	30x2m	233896.04 / 377080.49	233908.03 / 377052.99	03
•	TR4B.4	30x2m	234001.83 / 376993.42	234009.63 / 377022.38	03
	TR4B.5	30x2m	233890.09 / 377117.04	233919 / 377125.04	03
•	TR4B.6	30x2m	233912.89 / 377132.21	233918.43 / 377161.7	03
-	TR4B.7	30x2m	233951.47 / 377105.15	233921.52 / 377107.01	03
=	TR4B.8	30x2m	233970.06 / 377096.18	233954.42 / 377121.77	03
=	TR4B.9	30x2m	233989.64 / 377108.73	233995.76 / 377138.09	03
=	TR4B.10	30x2m	234004.88 / 377082.41	234024.57 / 377105.04	03
=	TR4B.11	30x2m	234039.54 / 377062.31	234063.44 / 377080.45	03
-	TR4B.12	30x2m	234092.7 / 377078.79	234081.42 / 377050.99	03
4C	TR4C.1	30x2m	234074.75 / 376872.88	234084.85 / 376901.14	03
•	TR4C.2	30x2m	234162.49 / 376874.16	234192.48 / 376873.16	03
-	TR4C.3	30x2m	234144.14 / 376900.22	234173.92 / 376896.56	03
•	TR4C.4	30x2m	234225.9 / 376860.06	234255.64 / 376856.19	03
•	TR4C.5	30x2m	234301.96 / 376814.34	234286.45 / 376840.02	03
-	TR4C.6	30x2m	234365.78 / 376839.76	234350.39 / 376865.51	03
-	TR4C.7	30x2m	234327.44 / 376928.63	234312.04 / 376954.39	03
-	TR4C.8	30x2m	234280.6 / 376885.26	234265.21 / 376911.01	03
-	TR4C.9	30x2m	234179.09 / 376953.99	234149.8 / 376960.49	03
•	TR4C.10	30x2m	234148.09 / 376941.96	234118.1 / 376942.86	03
•	TR4C.11	30x2m	234183.48 / 377014.97	234153.76 / 377019.17	03
-	TR4C.12	30x2m	234229.76 / 377017.11	234258.13 / 377026.85	03
-	TR4C.13	30x2m	234401.63 / 376921.83	234386.24 / 376947.57	03
=	TR4C.14	30x2m	234305.08 / 376994.3	234289.68 / 377020.04	03
-	TR4C.15	30x2m	234335.26 / 377032	234333.56 / 377061.96	03
-	TR4C.16	30x2m	234378.95 / 377000.96	234387.75 / 377029.64	03
4D	TR4D.1	30x2m	234034.03 / 376587.18	234032.72 / 376617.15	03
-	TR4D.2	30x2m	234044.97 / 376611.28	234054.84 / 376639.61	03
-	TR4D.3	30x2m	234064.28 / 376639.56	234049.28 / 376665.55	03
-	TR4D.4	30x2m	234059.95 / 376671.27	234044.62 / 376697.06	03
}	TR4D.5	30x2m	234026.51 / 376680.28	234008.22 / 376704.05	03
-	TR4D.6	30x2m	234032.45 / 376724.76	234017.62 / 376750.83	03

Area	Trench	Size	Centreline Start (m OSGB)	Centreline End (m OSGB)	Figure
	TR4D.7	30x2m	234100.53 / 376677.44	234083.14 / 376701.88	03
	TR4D.8	30x2m	234063.56 / 376751.86	234047.89 / 376777.44	03
	TR4D.9	30x2m	234153.7 / 376688.5	234173.34 / 376711.18	03
	TR4D.10	30x2m	234175.94 / 376752.91	234204.27 / 376743.05	03
4E	TR4E.1	30x2m	234139.28 / 376576.38	234158.66 / 376599.29	03
	TR4E.2	30x2m	234149.23 / 376596.12	234135.22 / 376622.65	03
	TR4E.3	30x2m	234176.4 / 376612.13	234170.75 / 376641.58	03
	TR4E.4	30x2m	234181.25 / 376646.51	234188.11 / 376675.7	03
	TR4E.5	30x2m	234197.36 / 376642.84	234205.6 / 376671.68	03
	TR4E.6	30x2m	234248.69 / 376673.76	234218.97 / 376677.82	03
	TR4E.7	30x2m	234115.29 / 376588.11	234092.79 / 376568.27	03
4F	TR4F.1	30x2m	234179.76 / 376554.95	234177.19 / 376584.85	05
	TR4F.2	30x2m	234208.95 / 376539.27	234205.94 / 376569.12	05
4G	TR4G.1	30x2m	234245.31 / 376605.25	234238.87 / 376634.56	05
5	TR5.1	30x2m	234399.99 / 376614.86	234385.71 / 376641.24	05
	TR5.2	30x2m	234475.16 / 376620.69	234453.31 / 376641.24	05
	TR5.3	30x2m	234440.03 / 376642.72	234450.06 / 376670.99	05
	TR5.4	30x2m	234500.12 / 376654.89	234487.89 / 376682.29	05
	TR5.5	30x2m	234542.29 / 376672.29	234552.27 / 376700.58	05
	TR5.6	30x2m	234570.83 / 376705.17	234600.56 / 376701.09	05
	TR5.7	30x2m	234633.36 / 376658.88	234655.21 / 376638.33	05
	TR5.8	30x2m	234685.51 / 376628.67	234671.58 / 376655.23	05
	TR5.9	30x2m	234653.5 / 376706.37	234683.28 / 376702.67	05
	TR5.10	30x2m	234555.37 / 376734.44	234525.67 / 376738.74	05
	TR5.11	30x2m	234471.69 / 376703.3	234442 / 376707.6	05
	TR5.12	30x2m	234472.45 / 376728.17	234442.59 / 376731.16	05
	TR5.13	30x2m	234472 / 376750.25	234442.06 / 376752.14	05
	TR5.14	30x2m	234520.05 / 376776.49	234547.1 / 376763.52	05
	TR5.15	30x2m	234584.65 / 376797.3	234612.99 / 376787.49	05
	TR5.16	30x2m	234639.25 / 376794.86	234668.81 / 376799.96	05
	TR5.17	30x2m	234714.76 / 376739.3	234744.52 / 376743.13	05
	TR5.18	30x2m	234680.3 / 376815.71	234671.38 / 376844.35	05
	TR5.19	30x2m	234680.3 / 376815.71	234671.38 / 376844.35	05
6A	TR6A.1	30x2m	231670.92 / 377844.02	231689.28 / 377867.74	04
	TR6A.2	30x2m	231610.99 / 377886.96	231640.77 / 377883.48	04
	TR6A.3	30x2m	231702.32 / 377900.77	231720.86 / 377924.35	04
	TR6A.4	30x2m	231645.37 / 377922.77	231666.43 / 377944.11	04
	TR6A.5	30x2m	231731.31 / 377890.82	231749.8 / 377914.43	04
	TR6A.6	30x2m	231747.2 / 377944.3	231766.18 / 377967.53	04
	TR6A.7	30x2m	231700.28 / 377951.04	231718.92 / 377974.56	04
	TR6A.8	30x2m	231562.08 / 377983.09	231591.26 / 377976.09	04
	TR6A.9	30x2m	231612.85 / 378014.04	231642.08 / 378007.3	04
6B	TR6B.1	30x2m	231512.63 / 377587.74	231513.33 / 377617.73	04
	TR6B.2	30x2m	231539.79 / 377562.22	231558.25 / 377585.86	04

Area	Trench	Size	Centreline Start (m OSGB)	Centreline End (m OSGB)	Figure
	TR6B.3	30x2m	231573.24 / 377587.68	231602.58 / 377593.98	04
	TR6B.4	30x2m	231548.11 / 377607.66	231566.6 / 377631.27	04
	TR6B.5	30x2m	231540.26 / 377637.85	231568.55 / 377647.83	04
	TR6B.6	30x2m	231532.77 / 377676.26	231551.51 / 377699.68	04
	TR6B.7	30x2m	231575.14 / 377679.95	231586.66 / 377707.64	04
6C	TR6C.1	30x2m	231573.86 / 377740.83	231544.82 / 377748.38	04
	TR6C.2	30x2m	231586.22 / 377769.28	231557.18 / 377776.79	04
6D	TR6D.1	30x2m	231670.4 / 377621.44	231657.78 / 377648.65	04
	TR6D.2	30x2m	231676.34 / 377630.16	231678.97 / 377660.05	04
	TR6D.3	30x2m	231673.79 / 377653.99	231648.71 / 377670.46	04
	TR6D.4	30x2m	231683.92 / 377683.37	231711.7 / 377672.03	04
6F	TR6F.1	30x2m	231796.32 / 377878.54	231819.82 / 377897.17	04
	TR6F.2	30x2m	231835.1 / 377884.62	231857.49 / 377864.65	04

The trenches were opened and closed by two 13-tonne tracked mechanical excavators supplied by sub-contractor *RG Hire Ltd*. The trenches were carefully de-turfed by the mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket; the turf was stored close to the trench and re-laid following the backfilling process. The topsoil and subsoil were excavated by machine with a toothless bucket in thin spits until either the natural substrate was reached or archaeological features or deposits were encountered. All archaeological features and deposits encountered were manually cleaned and examined to determine extent, function, date and relationship to adjacent activity.

The following excavation strategy was generally applied: 50% sample of each sub-circular feature, 25% sample of each linear feature (terminal ends and intersection points with other features will be prioritised). The location of the trenches outlines of identified features, and precise locations of drawing baselines and section lines were recorded using a Trimble R8 GPS unit. When it was not viable to excavate a distinct feature due to water ingress or the trench being flooded, its location was surveyed in using a Trimble R8 GPS unit and details of the feature were recorded as thoroughly as practical on GAT pro-formas.

A photographic and written record was completed using GAT pro-formas, and by scaled hand drawings. Photographic images were taken using a Nikon D5100 and 2x Nikon D3100 cameras set to maximum resolution (4928 \times 3264; 16.2 effective megapixels and 4,608 \times 3,072 14.2 effective megapixels respectively) in RAW format with a photographic record maintained on site using GAT pro-formas and digitised in Microsoft Access as part of the fieldwork archive and dissemination process. The photographic record was divided between the two cameras, with the D5100 using photographic record numbers G2658_001 to G2658_263 and the D3100 cameras used numbers G2658_1001 to G2658_1275 and

G2658_2001 to G2658_2272 respectively; in total **810** photographs were taken. The archive was prepared in accordance with the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales Guidelines for digital archives (2015) and the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record Historic Environment Record (HER) Guidelines for Archaeological Contractors (Version 1.3; draft). The photographic images were archived in TIFF format using Adobe Photoshop and archive numbering system G2658_001 to G2658_263, G2658_1001 to G2658_1275 and G2658_2001 to G2658_2272 (cf. Appendix III).

All fieldwork was completed in accordance with industry standards and the GAT Field Manual.

3.2 Data Processing, Report and Archiving

Following the completion of the fieldwork records were checked and data prepared for archiving. Photographic images were converted from RAW to TIFF format for archiving, and metadata on the photographs was produced in *Microsoft Excel* (reproduced as Appendix III). Survey data was downloaded using a Computer Aided Design package and used to prepare the figures in the current report, in combination with the hand drawn plans.

Both paper and digital archives have been complied, including plans, photographs, written material and other material resulting from the project. The digital archive, including the final report, will be deposited with the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments Wales. This will be in accordance with the *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives Version* 1. The paper archive is currently held by GAT.

The current report provides a description of the work, conclusions and recommendations. In line with the GAT Environment Record (HER) requirements, the HER was contacted at the onset of the project to ensure that any data arising is formatted in a manner suitable for accession to the HER and follows the guidance set out in *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018). The report therefore includes a non-technical summary in Welsh and English and will be submitted to the HER with a spreadsheet including short bilingual summaries of the principal Historic Assets recorded during the fieldwork. The GAT HER enquiry number is GATHER1338 and the event primary reference number is PRN 46000. Core Primary Reference Numbers (PRNs) have been obtained for all new assets identified and recorded.

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

All individual features, deposits and fills identified within the trenches were given a unique context number. For a complete list of the contexts identified, depths of topsoil and subsoil and descriptions of the natural substrate see Appendix II. Significant identified features have been given PRN (Primary Reference Number) numbers, for inclusion on the Gwynedd HER. In the text these numbers follow the letters PRN. For the location of trenches with the features therein see Figures 02 - 05.

Summary

The trial trenching was the second stage of archaeological evaluation following on from a geophysical survey undertaken in July/August 2020 (GAT Report 1560, McGuinness 2020). A total of 131 trenches were excavated during November/December 2020 of which 77 contained no archaeological evidence. The trenches which contained no significant archaeological remains varied in nature. In some of these trenches the geophysical anomalies proved to be natural in origin, for example, anomaly 3.9 tested by Trench 6 in Field B, Area 3 there was a high concentration of earthfast boulders within the underlying natural or possible raised mounds such as anomaly 3.6 in Area 3 and anomaly 4.2 in Area 4 were outcrops of gravel and sand (Plate 01) or bedrock, respectively. The trial trenches that had no archaeological remains were excavated across geophysical anomalies and to test the apparently blank and probably natural areas of the geophysical survey.

The remaining 55 trial trenches confirmed the presence of archaeological features, primarily linears, which upon investigation proved to be agricultural in nature, being for example, former field boundaries, former trackways, plough furrows or land drains. The identified remains of 51 probable field boundaries varied in size and depth. The field boundaries that were excavated ranged in width from 0.48m to 1.85m and in depth from 0.04m to 0.80m; the average mean width of the boundaries was 0.57m with an average mean depth of 0.15m. On the whole the probable field boundaries that were investigated, the majority proved to be relatively shallow (as indicated by the mean average sum) that barely cut the surface of the underlying natural and their fills were broadly indistinguishable from that of the overlying subsoil or topsoil. The majority of the fills of these features were sterile with no presence of charcoal inclusions or organic material and only a handful produced limited 19th century pottery sherds, typically black glazed earthenware and tin glazed earthenware; the pot sherds examined, noted on the relevant GAT pro-forma and discarded.

The remnants of burnt mound spreads were also sporadically identified across the proposed areas of the development, in Trench 4, Field D, Area 4, Trench 1, Field D, Area 3 and Trench 8, Field E, Area 3. As were other probable prehistoric features such as a small ring ditch [1003] in Trench 10 and a possible standing stone [1306] in Trench 13, both in Area 5.

The remaining archaeological features uncovered within the trial trenches were isolated pits; in total four such features were identified in the trial trenches. The most notable of these were [1306] that contained a standing stone in Area 5 and [104] in Trench 1, Field C, Area 6 the basal fill of which (106) was sampled due to its charcoal content.

The natural substrate reflected the marginal and undulating topography across the four areas of the proposed development. The trial trenches were excavated across fields of pasture, some of which were located in areas of marginal ground on the edge of areas of wetland. This was particularly the case in Area 6 which is situated to the immediate east of Llyn Dinam and was criss-crossed by several deep drainage ditches (Plate 02) and Area 3 that is positioned on rough grazing to the east of Afon Crigyll and its wide flood plain. Fields C, D and F of Area 3 were marginal and waterlogged with frequent rushes and surface water at the time of the evaluation (Plates 03 & 04). This was reflected in the underlying natural substrate that was either a light grey or blueish grey and light yellow sandy clay or clay in fields that were prone to flooding or which had standing water present (Plate 05). The colouration of the natural substrate changed to a yellow or orange sandy clay on higher and drier ground where it was mixed with moderate subrounded boulders and occasional outcrops of shale bedrock. On the highest portion of ground, either side of Plas Llechylched Farm, notably Fields E, F and G of Area 4 and the western most side of Area 5 (see Figures 04 & 05), the natural substrate was a bright orange sandy clay (Plate 06) with distinct deposits of fractured shale. Also of note was Field A of Area 4, where there was a concentration of naturally occurring iron pan and natural springs.

The topsoil was variable in composition but was predominantly a mid-brown silty or sandy clay, being more clayey in fields of waterlogged ground. Where the subsoil was present it was an mid-orangey brown silty or sandy clay and was typically quite stony. The topsoil and subsoil combined depth varied across the areas of the proposed development. In Area 6 where the topography did not greatly vary the combined depth of the topsoil and subsoil was typically between 0.30m and 0.40m. In Areas 4 and 5 where the topography varied far more, with the high ground concentrated around Plas Llechylched Farm and broadly falls a way to the north, east and west. On the higher ground in notably Fields E, F and G of Area 4 and the western most side of Area 5 the combined depth of the topsoil and subsoil present ranged from 0.45m to 0.75m. This was on broadly level ground and it would suggest that this

is an area of improved pasture. In the remainder of Areas 4 and 5 the depth of the topsoil and subsoil declined to an average of 0.40m on the hill slope and hollows that were more prone to being waterlogged. In Area 3 the higher ground adjacent to the farm Tai Croesien in Field F and the best maintained Field A, the topsoil and subsoil had a combined average depth of 0.50m, while in the hollows to the north and east of the farm, in fields that were less well maintained, such as Field E, the topsoil was relatively shallow with an average depth of 0.30m.

4.2 Area 3

Field A (Figure 06)

4.2.1.1 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.53m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.8 the probable remains of a former field boundary. The trench did not find physical evidence for the field boundary and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.2 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.55m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.7 the probable remains of a former field boundary. The trench identified the remnants of said field boundary, aligned on a north – south axis and was designated [203] (Figure 07), with an exposed length of 2.0m, width of 0.80m and maximum excavated depth of 0.05m. The feature barely scratched the surface of the underlying natural (202), there was no discernible cut within the natural (Plate 07) and the fill (204) was indistinguishable from the overlying topsoil (201), with both being mid-brown silty sandy clay. No artefacts were recovered from (204) but the boundary was though depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1888. The former field boundary has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91510.

4.2.1.3 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.67m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate an undesignated uncertain anomaly. This proved to be a large earthfast boulder. The trench was excavated parallel with and to the immediate south of a large drainage channel that separated Field A from the Castellor Hut Settlement (Scheduled Monument AN088). No archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.4 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.48m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate a series of undesignated uncertain anomalies. The trench did not find physical evidence for said anomalies and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.5 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.46m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.7 the probable remains of a former field boundary. The trench uncovered the remnants of the field boundary, designated [503], aligned

southwest – northeast (Figure 08) and was a continuation of the same boundary identified in Trench 02 to the west. It had an exposed length of 2.0m, width of 1.20m and maximum excavated depth of 0.10m. The feature barely scratched the surface of the underlying natural (502), there was no discernible cut within the natural and the fill (504) was indistinguishable from the overlying topsoil (501), with both being mid-brown silty sandy clay. No artefacts were recovered from (504) but the boundary was though depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1888. The former field boundary has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91510.

4.2.1.6 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.46m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank and probably natural area of the geophysical survey in Field A. It uncovered the remains of a linear feature [604] (Figure 09.1), which was aligned northeast – southwest, with an exposed length of 4.0m, width of 1.0m and depth of 0.70m (Figure 09.2). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with steep sides and a more gradual break of slope at the base which was flat (Plate 08). It contained a single fill (603) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with frequent small to medium sized subrounded and subangular stones and was very similar to the topsoil (601) in colour and composition. No artefacts were recovered from (603). The linear feature [604] is not depicted on any available historic mapping. It may be the remnants of an earlier field system or is a possible drainage ditch. The linear feature has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91511.

Field B (Figure 10)

4.2.1.7 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.48m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate a series of uncertain linear anomalies. The trench uncovered the three parallel linears, which were a series of land drains; the two closest to the southern boundary of Field B were ceramic pipes and the third was a stone filled land drain. Otherwise no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.8 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.46m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomalies 3.1 and 3.3 possible archaeological remains of former field boundaries. There was no indication of either anomaly and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.9 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.43m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate curvilinear anomaly 3.10. There was no indication of this anomaly and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.10 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.43m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate an aspect of anomaly 3.10 a discrete/enhanced response. It uncovered the remains of a linear feature [403] (Figure 11.1), which was aligned north – south, with an exposed length of 2.20m, width of 0.55m and depth of 0.22m (Figure 11.2). The cut had an abrupt break of slope at the top with steep sides and a sharp break of slope at the base, which was flat. It was filled by (404) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with moderate small subrounded stones; no artefacts were recovered from the fill. The linear feature [604] is not depicted on any available historic mapping. It may be the remnants of an earlier field system or was a possible drainage ditch. The linear feature has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91512.

4.2.1.11 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.42m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.9 an irregularly shaped discrete/enhanced response. There was no indication of this anomaly and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.12 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.51m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.9 an irregularly shaped discrete/enhanced response. There was no indication of this anomaly, the response may have been caused by the density of the earthfast boulders within the natural (603) and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.13 Trench 07

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.44m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.1 the possible archaeological remains of a field boundary. It uncovered the remains of a linear feature [703], which was aligned east – west, with an exposed length of 2.0m and width of 0.70m (Figure 12). It was filled by (704) a compact mid-greyish brown silty clay. The feature seeped out ground water the moment it was exposed and the trench quickly flooded. The location of the linear though was secured through GPS survey. It is not depicted on any available historic mapping and may be the remnants of an earlier field system or was a possible drainage ditch. The linear feature has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91513.

4.2.1.14 Trench 08

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.44m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.2 a roughly oval in plan discrete/enhanced response. There was no indication of this anomaly and no archaeological features were identified.

Field C (Figure 13)

4.2.1.15 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.43m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate a series of undesignated uncertain anomalies. The trench did not find physical evidence for said anomalies and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.16 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.30m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank and probably natural area of the geophysical survey in Field C. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.2.1.17 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.22m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank and probably natural area of the geophysical survey in Field C. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

Field D (Figure 13)

4.2.1.18 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.5 a roughly oval in plan discrete/enhanced response. The trench identified elements of two burnt mound spreads (103) and (104) positioned at the southern limit of the trench (Plate 09 & Figure 14) and which corresponded with the location of geophysical anomaly 3.5. The spread (103) was situated at the southern terminal of the trench with an exposed width of 1.90m and length of 1.50m. To the immediate north, at a distance of 1.0m, was a second spread (104) that was roughly oval in plan, with an exposed length of 1.50m and width of 1.30m. The spreads were composed of the same material, consisting of a compact dark brownish black silty sandy clay mixed with frequent small to moderate sized angular and subangular heat fractured stones and frequent inclusions of charcoal. The burnt mound spreads were allocated GAT HER PRN 91514.

North of spread (104) there appeared to be the remnants of leached out burnt mound material (106), that had an exposed width of 1.9m and length of 1.10m. Spread (106) comprised a compact light grey silty clay mixed with very frequent small angular stones, approximately a third of which were heat fractured. Next to (106) there was an apparent palaeochannel [105] which had an exposed width of 1.9m and length of 6.0m that cut through the underlying natural (102) and was aligned east – west. The soft, light greyish brown clayey silt fill of [105] was cut by two stone filled land drains.

No artefacts were recovered from the trench. The archaeological features within the trench were documented in the relevant GAT pro-formas and their location surveyed in using GPS.

4.2.1.19 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.4 a large, roughly oval in plan discrete/enhanced response. There was no indication of this anomaly and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.20 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.30m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field D. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

Field E (Figure 15)

4.2.1.21 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.35m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate an undesignated uncertain anomaly. The trench did not find physical evidence for said anomaly and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.22 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.45m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field E. There was nothing of archaeological significance within the trench but it was noted that there was possible burnt mound material present within the northern baulk at the western end of the trench.

4.2.1.23 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.6 a large, roughly oval in plan discrete/enhanced response at the centre of Field E. The anomaly is non-archaeological being a glacially deposited mound consisting of gravel (302) and boulder clay (303). Nothing of archaeological significance was found within the trench.

4.2.1.24 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.30m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.6 a large, roughly oval in plan discrete/enhanced response at the centre of Field E. The anomaly is non-archaeological being a glacially deposited mound consisting of gravel (403) and boulder clay (402). Nothing of archaeological significance was found within the trench.

4.2.1.25 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.35m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field E. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.2.1.26 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.35m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.11 a discrete/enhanced response. There was no indication of this anomaly and no archaeological features were identified.

4.2.1.27 Trench 07

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.45m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.11 a discrete/enhanced response. The GAT team were told by the land owner that this area of Field E corresponded with the location of a former pond that had been filled in and criss-crossed with land drains. The trench uncovered a deposit of mid grey clay (702) that extended almost the entire length and included a series of stone filled and ceramic pipe land drains. Based on the per. comms. Information it was determined to leave this material in-situ. Otherwise there were no features of archaeological significance.

4.2.1.28 Trench 08

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.28m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate an area of ferrous/magnetic disturbance. This corresponded with a spread of burnt mound material (803) concentrated at the eastern end of the trench and that consisted of compact dark greyish black clay mixed with frequent angular heat affected stones (Plate 10 & Figure 16). The burnt mound continued beyond the limits of excavation. Burnt mound spread (803) was allocated GAT HER PRN 91515.

4.2.1.29 Trench 09

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.28m below the ground surface and was excavated to test an apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field E. Aside from a probable palaeochannel [903] at the centre of the trench nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered.

4.2.1.30 Trench 10

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.32m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field E. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

Field F (Figure 17)

4.2.1.31 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.61m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to verify the location of undesignated geophysical anomalies that included a modern trackway. The trench confirmed this as parallel ruts visible on the surface of the turf created by farm vehicles crossing Field F and were confined to the topsoil. Otherwise nothing of archaeological significance was identified.

4.2.1.32 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.42m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to verify the location of ridge and furrow identified by the geophysical survey. There was no indication of the ridge and furrow within the trench and no other archaeological features were uncovered.

4.2.1.33 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.90m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine an amorphous uncertain geophysical anomaly. The anomaly was not uncovered within the trench and nothing of archaeological significance was noted.

4.2.1.34 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.66m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to investigate anomaly 3.12 an uncertain linear anomaly. This corresponded with linear [405] at the centre of the trench, roughly aligned north – south (Figure 18). The trench flooded with ground water and it was not possible to excavate [405] but its location was surveyed in using GPS. Linear [405] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91516.

4.3 Area 4

Field A (Figure 19)

4.3.1.1 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and was excavated to determine anomaly 4.6 a possible field boundary was present along with ridge and furrow. There was no evidence for the ridge and furrow but the trench located linear [103] with a north northeast – south southwest alignment (Figure 20.1), exposed length of 9.20m, width of 1.10m and depth of 0.20m (Figure 20.2). The cut had gradual break of slope at the surface with gradually sloping, irregular sides and a concave base (Figure 20.3). It was filled by (104) a loose mid brown silty clay mixed with frequent small subrounded stones. The linear appeared to have been cut through the topsoil (101) and with the fill (104) being very similar in colour and composition it is posited that this is a relatively recent feature. Linear [103] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91517.

4.3.1.2 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine an amorphous uncertain geophysical anomaly as well as linear anomaly 4.6 a possible field boundary. The trench identified five possible linears [204], [206], [207], [209] and [211]. Two of the linears, [206] and [209] were most likely land drains. Linear [204], located at the east southeastern end of the trench, appeared to be a possible ditch terminal, with an exposed length of 1.90m and width of 1.10m. To the immediate southeast of it and the land drain [206] there was an irregular in plan linear [207] that had an approximate length of 2.50m and width of 0.60m; it was orientated southeast – northwest. The only feature that was excavated was [211], as the remainder of the trench flooded, with groundwater pouring immediately out of linears [205] and [206]. Every feature though was surveyed in using GPS

Linear [211] was orientated east – west, with an exposed length of 7.0m, width of 1.30m and depth of 0.16m (Figures 21.1 & 21.2). The cut had a gentle break of slope at the top with gently sloping sides that merged with a flat base. It was filled by (212) a soft, mid-greyish brown silty sandy clay mixed with the occasional small stone. No artefacts were recovered from the fill. This may be the remnants of a former field boundary ditch and has been allocated GAT HER PRN 991518.

4.3.1.3 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine the intersection of linears that defined a corner a possible field system; geophysical anomaly 4.6. The trench uncovered two linears [303] and [305], parallel to one another, set 1.0m apart and orientated east - west (Figure 22.1). Linear [303] had an exposed length of 2.4m, width of 0.70m and depth of 0.15m (Figure 22.2). The cut had a fairly sharp break of slope at the top, with quite steep sides and a sharp break of slope at the base which was concave in section (Figure 22.3). It was filled by (304) a loose mid-brown silty clay. Linear [305] had a maximum length of 2.4m, width of 1.02m and depth of 0.15m Figure 22.4). The cut had a fairly abrupt break of slope at the top with gradually sloping sides that merged with an uneven base. It was filled by (306) a loose mid-brown silty clay mixed with occasional small stones. Fills (304) and (306) were almost indistinguishable from the topsoil (301) and no artefacts were recovered from the fills. The larger of the two linears [305] corresponds with the location of the geophysical anomaly 4.6 and may represent the remains of a former field boundary. Anomaly 4.6 is not depicted on available historical mapping and may be the remnants of a relic field system. Linears [303] and [305] were assigned GAT HER PRN 91519 and 91520 respectively.

4.3.1.4 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.46m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine the linears associated with geophysical anomaly 4.6 as well as ridge and furrow. The trench identified the remains of two linears [403] and [405] orientated north - south (Figure 23.1) but there was no physical evidence of the ridge and furrow. The more evident of the two features, [403] (Figure 23.2) had an exposed length of 2.0m, width of 0.80m and depth of 0.25m. The cut had an abrupt break of slope at the top with steep sides and a sharp break of slope at the base which was flat. It was filled by (404) a loose, midorangey brown silty sandy clay mixed with the occasional small subangular stone. At the western end of the trench was [405] with a length of 2.0m, width of 0.72m and depth of 0.10m. In section the cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with guite steep sides and abrupt break of slope at the base which was flat. Linear [405] was quite ephemeral and barely scratched the surface of the yellow sandy clay natural (402). It was filled by (406) a loose mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small stones. Artefacts were not recovered from either linear and the fills (404) and (406) were almost indistinguishable from the topsoil (401). The linears correspond with the location of geophysical anomaly 4.6 may represent the remains of a former field boundary. Anomaly 4.6 is not depicted on available historical mapping and may be the remnants of a relic field system. Linears [403] and [405] were assigned GAT HER PRN 91521 and 91522 respectively.

4.3.1.5 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.43m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine a geophysical anomaly corresponding to natural. A possible pit [503] and linear [505] were uncovered close to the eastern end of the trench (Figure 24.1). The linear [505] was orientated north – south with an exposed length of 1.9m, width of 1.0m (Figure 24.2) and depth of 0.19m. The cut had an imperceptible break of slope at the top with very slight sides and imperceptible break of slope at the base which was uneven. It was a shallow scoop that stopped within the upper surface of the natural (502) which included concentrations of iron pan and bedrock. There was a single fill (506) a soft mid greyish brown sandy silty clay mixed with moderate small inclusions of orange clay and occasional small stones. It was not possible to excavate the adjacent pit [503] as it was too waterlogged with ground water.

The linear [505] does not appear on any of the available historic mapping but might have been a continuation of geophysical anomaly 4.6 and its presence may have been masked by the concentration of naturally occurring iron pan. It has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91523.

Field B (Figure 25)

4.3.1.6 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.77m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine a geophysical anomaly 4.8. The trench identified a probable linear [105] that was orientated roughly north – south and located close to the western end (Figure 26). It was not possible to excavate [105] as the trench flooded but its location was surveyed in using GPS. It has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91524.

4.3.1.7 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.69m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine a geophysical anomaly 4.8. The anomaly was not uncovered within the trench and nothing of archaeological significance was noted.

4.3.1.8 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.65m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine a geophysical anomaly 4.8. The trench confirmed the presence of a linear [304] positioned close to the centre (Figure 27.1), aligned north northeast – south southwest. The linear was exposed for a length of 2.32m, width of 0.75m (Figure 27.2) and depth of 0.16m. The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with near vertical sides and gradual break of slope at the base which was uneven. It was filled by (305) a friable midbrown silty clay mixed with moderate medium sized and frequent small subrounded and rounded pebbles. No artefacts were recovered during excavation.

The linear corresponds with the location of geophysical anomaly 4.8 and may represent the remains of a former field boundary. Anomaly 4.8 is not depicted on available historical mapping and may be the remnants of a relic field system. Linear [304] was assigned GAT HER PRN 91525.

4.3.1.9 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.41m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine a geophysical anomaly 4.8. The anomaly was not uncovered within the trench and nothing of archaeological significance was noted.

4.3.1.10 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.52m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.7 the possible remains of a field boundary. The trench confirmed the presence of a linear [505] that was aligned east – west

(Figure 28.1), with an exposed length of 2.50m, width of 1.25m (Figure 28.2) and depth of 0.36m. The cut had an abrupt break of slope at the top, with quite steep sides and a gentle break of slope at the base which was flat (Plate 11 and Figures 29.1 & 29.2). It was filled by (506) a loose mid-greyish brown silty sandy clay mixed with moderate small angular and subangular stones. The fill was hard to distinguish from the overlying subsoil (502) being very similar in colour and composition. No artefacts were recovered during the excavation. Anomaly 4.7 is not depicted on available historical mapping and may be the remnants of a relic field system. Linear [505] was assigned GAT HER PRN 91526.

4.3.1.11 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.84m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.12. The anomaly was not uncovered within the trench and nothing of archaeological significance was noted.

4.3.1.12 Trench 07

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.96m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine a geophysical anomaly 4.2, a large oval-shaped anomaly of possible archaeology. The anomaly proved to be an outcrop of natural bedrock supplemented by layer (702) and the topsoil (701) had frequent items of modern rubbish; the landowner confirmed that it had been used as an area to dump waste. Nothing of archaeological significance was noted within the trench.

4.3.1.13 Trench 08

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.48m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.13 the possible remnants of a field boundary. The trench confirmed the presence of a linear feature [804] positioned close to the northwest terminal and orientated east – west (Figure 30.1). It was exposed for a length of 2.0m with a width of 1.0m (Figure 30.2) and depth of 0.30m. The cut had a quite abrupt break of slope at the top with quite steep sides and a more gradual break of slope at the base which was flat. It was filled by (805) a loose, fine mid-greyish brown silty sandy clay mixed with moderate small angular stones and the occasional large sub-angular stone. The fill was hard to distinguish from the overlying subsoil (802). Anomaly 4.13 is not depicted on available historical mapping and may be the remnants of a relic field system. Linear [804] was assigned GAT HER PRN 91527.

4.3.1.14 Trench 09

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomalies 4.1 and 4.13 the possible remnants of a series field boundaries. The trench uncovered the remains of three linears, [903], [907] and [909] (Figure 31.1). The linear [903] was located at the southern terminal of the trench, aligned west northwest – east southeast. It had an exposed length of 1.90m, width of 1.85m (Figure 31.2) and depth of 0.80m. The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with steep sides and a more gradual break of slope at the base which was concave in section (Plate 12 & Figure 32.1). It was filled by (904) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with occasional small to medium sized subrounded stones and infrequent medium sized sub-angular stones. It was hard to distinguish fill (904) from the overlying topsoil (901) and it did not produce any artefacts.

To the north of [903], close to the centre of the trench was the linear [907] which was also aligned west northwest – east southeast. It had an exposed length of 1.90m, width of 2.30m (Figure 31.3) and approximate depth in section of 0.63m. The cut had a gentle break of slope at the top with gradually sloping sides that merged with an uneven base (Plate 13 & Figure 32.2). The edges of the cut were defined by large subrounded stones (measured 0.10 to 0.35m) set within the surface of the natural yellow sandy clay (902). It was filled by (908) a friable mid brown silty clay mixed with frequent small subrounded and rounded stones as well as the occasional large subrounded and subangular stones. Fill (908) was indistinguishable from the overlying topsoil (901). A single sherd of 20th century white glazed earthenware with a blue decorative design was recovered from (908) which was noted and discarded. Linear [907] is most likely the robbed out remnants of a clawdd, which is supported by the placement of large stones along the flanks and the composition of (908), in essence a variation of topsoil.

To the immediate north of [907] was the linear [909], orientated west northwest – east southeast with an exposed length of 1.90m, width of 0.95m (Figure 31.4) and approximate depth of 0.52m. The cut had gentle break of slope at the top with gradually sloping sides that merged with a relatively flat base. It was filled by (910) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with frequent subrounded and rounded small stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill and it was indistinguishable from the overlying topsoil (901).

The geophysical anomalies 4.1 and 4.13 and the linears identified within Trench 09, [903], [907] and [909], not depicted on available historical mapping. Given the lack of cartographic evidence and limited artefactual evidence it is difficult to date these features. The recovery of

a sherd of pottery from (908) would suggest the clawdd may be of 20th century date but this does not tie in with the known cartographic evidence and it is likely that this is a stray find from later disturbance and/or from the topsoil (901). The linears though do suggest the presence of earlier field systems within Field B. The linears [903], [907] and [909] have been allocated GAT HER PRN 91528, 91529 and 91530 respectively.

4.3.1.15 Trench 10

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.42m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.7 the possible remains of a field boundary. The trench uncovered a linear [1003] adjacent to the northeast terminal (Figure 33) but it was not investigated further as the trench flooded upon being opened. The location of [1003], that was orientated east – west, was surveyed in using GPS. It has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91531.

4.3.1.16 Trench 11

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.43m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.15 and an uncertain linear. The anomalies were not uncovered within the trench and nothing of archaeological significance was noted.

4.3.1.17 Trench 12

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.55m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.7 and an uncertain linear. The trench uncovered a linear [1203] adjacent to the northeast terminal (Figure 34) but it was not investigated further as the trench flooded upon being opened. The location of [1203], that was orientated north – south, was surveyed in using GPS. It has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91532.

4.3.1.18 Trench 13

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.47m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field B. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

Field C (Figure 35)

4.3.1.19 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.75m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.9 and an uncertain linear. The trench identified a palaeochannel [103] orientated east – west with an exposed width of 11.0m which corresponded with the approximate location of geophysical anomaly 4.9. The fill of the channel (104) was a soft mid-grey clayey silt alluvial deposit that was truncated by two stone filled land drains. Aside from this activity nothing of archaeological significance was noted.

4.3.1.20 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.9. The trench uncovered a linear [204] that was orientated roughly north – south (Figure 36) and was 0.45m wide. It was not possible to investigate [204] further as the trench flooded but the location of the feature was noted through GPS survey.

4.3.1.21 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine two small areas of ferrous disturbance. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.22 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.33m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.17. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance and the uncertain linear responses may coincide with natural seams of gravel through the yellow/orange sandy clay natural (402).

4.3.1.23 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.43m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field C. An apparent pit [503] was investigated but this proved to be a natural hollow concentrated around a small outcrop of bedrock (Figure 37).

4.3.1.24 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.35m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field C. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.25 Trench 07

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.45m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field C. Aside from two stone filled land drains [703] and [704] noting of archaeological significance was uncovered.

4.3.1.26 Trench 08

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field C. Trench 08 was moved 30m south southeast as its original location was inundated with surface water. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.27 Trench 09

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.45m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.16 a curvilinear enhanced response. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.28 Trench 10

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.70m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomalies 4.3 a possible discrete linear and 4.9 a possible former field boundary. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.29 Trench 11

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.70m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.9. The trench location was moved 5.0m east to avoid an area of standing water. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.30 Trench 12

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and the trench was originally positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.16 but this was not viable due to standing water so the trench was relocated. The new trench location uncovered the remains of a curvilinear feature [1204] that was roughly 'L'-shaped in plan (Figure 38), with an approximate length of 10.0m and maximum width of 0.50m. It was not possible to excavate the feature as the trench flooded. The location and layout of the feature was surveyed in using GPS. It has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91533.

4.3.1.31 Trench 13

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.38m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine an area of ferrous disturbance. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.32 Trench 14

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.32m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field C. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.33 Trench 15

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.30m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field C. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.34 Trench 16

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.42m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.10 and an uncertain linear. Two linears [1604] and [1605] were noted in the trench (Figure 39) but they were almost entirely confined to the topsoil (1601) and subsoil (1602) matrix. The location of the features was recorded through GPS.

Field D (Figure 40)

4.3.1.35 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.65m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field D as well as the close proximity of St Ulched's Church (site of) (PRN 2525). The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.36 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.75m below the ground surface and was excavated to test an uncertain discrete response. This corresponded with the leached out remnants of burnt mound spread material (204) located close to the north northeast terminal of the trench (Figure 41). The material was compact mid-greyish brown silty clay mixed with very frequent small to medium sized subrounded and subangular stones, approximately one third of which were heat affected. The spread covered an area 5.0m by 1.90m. Nothing else of archaeological significance was uncovered in Trench 02.

4.3.1.37 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.78m below the ground surface and was excavated to test a discrete possible archaeological feature associated with anomaly 4.5. The trench uncovered an alluvial (303) that consisted of a light greyish yellow clay mixed with frequent boulders. It may represent the remnants of a palaeochannel. The trench did not identify anything else of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.38 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.63m below the ground surface and was excavated to test discrete possible archaeological anomaly 4.5. The trench confirmed that the anomaly was present and that it was a significant burnt mound spread (403), the surface of which was just below the surface of the turf (depth of 0.07m). The spread (403) consisted of compact, dark brownish black silty clay mixed with frequent charcoal flecks and very frequent angular heat affected stones. It covered 70% of the trench and continued beyond the excavation limits (Figure 42). Spread (403) was allocated GAT HER PRN 91534.

4.3.1.39 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.35m below the ground surface and was excavated to test a large area of ferrous disturbance and was positioned adjacent to St Ulched's Church (site of) (PRN 2525). The ferrous disturbance was due to a concentration of

scrap metal piled up at the base of the hill. There was also a large stone filled sump at the centre of the trench. It quickly filled with water and flooded.

4.3.1.40 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.77m below the ground surface and was excavated to test square shaped anomaly 4.4. This proved to be a quarry hollow (604) excavated through an outcrop of shale bedrock and not of archaeological significance (Figure 43).

4.3.1.41 Trench 07

The natural substrate was a maximum of 1.02m below the ground surface and was excavated to test a discrete possible archaeological feature associated with anomaly 4.5. The trench uncovered an alluvial (703) that consisted of a light greyish yellow clay mixed with frequent boulders. It may represent the remnants of a palaeochannel. The trench did not identify anything else of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.42 Trench 08

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.48m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field D. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.43 Trench 09

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.52m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.11. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.44 Trench 10

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.81m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine an uncertain geophysical response. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.45 Trench 11

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.47m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field D. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

Field E (Figure 44)

4.3.1.46 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.11. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.47 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.60m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.11 and uncertain linear response. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.48 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.71m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine an intersection associated with geophysical anomaly 4.11 and an uncertain linear response. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.49 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.70m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.11 and uncertain linear response. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.50 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.75m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.11. The trench did not uncover any indication of the linear but it did identify a pit [504] within 5.0m of the northern terminal (Figure 45.1). The pit was roughly circular in plan with a maximum diameter of 1.10m and depth of 0.23m (Figure 45.2). It had had an imperceptible break of slope at the top with gradually sloping sides and quite abrupt break of slope at the base which was uneven. The pit was filled by (505) a loose mid-brown silty sandy clay mixed with very frequent small to medium sized subrounded stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill. The fill was similar in composition and colour as the subsoil (502) and the stones that were concentrated within the pit were quite distinct as they were like riverine or beach pebbles whereas the stones in the natural (503) were more angular and shale; this would suggest the pit may have been a sump. Pit [504] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91535.

4.3.1.51 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field E. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

Field F

4.3.1.52 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.42m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine a series of uncertain geophysical linear responses. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.3.1.53 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.51m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.11. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

Field G

4.3.1.54 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.35m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 4.11. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.4 Area 5 (Figure 46)

4.4.1.1 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.52m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.2 the probable remains of a former trackway. The trench confirmed the presence of the trackway [104] (Plate 15 & Figure 47.1) which had an exposed length of 2.82m, width of 1.80m and depth of 0.23m (Figure 47.2). The cut for the trackway had a moderate break of slope at the top with moderately sloping sides that merged with a base that raised in the centre but which was otherwise flat (Figure 48). It was evident within [104] that there were deeper ruts along the north northwestern and south southeastern sides, created by carts tracking across it. The base of the trackway still retained a metalled surface (106) comprised of mid-brown silty clay mixed with very frequent small stones and cobbles laid on top of the underlying natural sandy clay (103). The metalled surface was overlaid by (105) a friable light brown silty clay mixed with moderate subrounded stones, with a maximum depth of 0.15m. Layer (105) represents the trackway going out of use and silting up; no artefacts were recovered from this deposit. The trackway was orientated west southwest - east northeast in the trench and was aligned with former stone gate posts (now walled up) within the western boundary of the field. Trackway [104] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91536.

4.4.1.2 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.65m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.4 part of a possible field boundary. The trench uncovered a linear [203] 11.0m from the southwest terminal (Figure 49.1). The linear [203] was orientated northwest – southeast with an exposed length of 2.0m, width of 1.60m and depth of 0.22m (Figure 49.2). The cut had an imperceptible break of slope at the top with gradually sloping sides that merged with an uneven base. It was filled by (204) a soft, cohesive mid-brown sandy silty clay mixed with moderate small subrounded stones, no artefacts were recovered from it and the fill was very similar to the overlying topsoil (201). The linear [203] may be the remnants of a former field boundary ditch and was allocated GAT HER PRN 91537.

4.4.1.3 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.48m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.2 and the probable remains of a former trackway and 5.4 part of a possible field boundary. The trench confirmed the presence of the trackway [304] positioned close to the southern terminal and a linear [306] at the northern

terminal (Figure 50.1). The trackway [304] was orientated west southwest – east northeast, with an exposed length of 2.0m, width of 2.7m and depth of 0.24m (Figure 50.2). The cut had a fairly moderate break of slope at the top, with gradually sloping sides that merged with an uneven base which included infrequent small subrounded and subangular stones along with a couple of large subrounded stones embedded within the underlying natural (303). It was filled by (305) a loose mid-brown silty clay mixed with frequent small subrounded stones and cobbles; no artefacts were recovered from the fill. Cut [304] is part of the same trackway identified in Trench 01 and is part of the same GAT HER PRN 91536.

The linear [306] uncovered at the northern terminal of the trench, had an exposed length of 1.90m, width of 0.65m and depth of 0.80m, with an east southeastern – west northwestern alignment (Figure 50.3). The cut had an abrupt break of slope at the top with steep sides and abrupt break of slope at the base which was concave in section. It was filled by (307) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with frequent small to medium sized subrounded stones and occasional medium sized subangular stones. At the southern end of the cut, there was also a large subangular boulder that measured 0.58m by 0.48m within (307). No artefacts were recovered from the fill and it was very similar in colour and composition to the overlying subsoil (302). The linear may be the remnants of a field boundary as uncovered in Trench 02 and was allocated GAT HER PRN 91538.

4.4.1.4 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.70m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.4 part of a possible field boundary. The trench was also along the alignment of the former trackway (geophysical anomaly 5.2) but this was not identified. It did though uncover a linear [404] that corresponded with geophysical anomaly 5.4 (Figure 51.1). Linear [404] was orientated northeast – southwest with an exposed length of 4.80m, width of 0.85m and depth of 0.28m (Figure 51.2). The cut had quite a gentle break of slope at the top with quite steep sides and quite gradual break of slope at the base which was flat. It was filled by (405) a soft, cohesive mid-brown silty clay mixed with moderate small angular stones. No artefacts were retrieved from the fill and it was very similar in colour and composition as the overlying topsoil (401). The linear may be the remnants of a field boundary as uncovered in Trenches 02 and 03 and was allocated GAT HER PRN 91539.

4.4.1.5 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.70m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.4 part of a possible field boundary and

anomaly 5.3 a probable field boundary. The trench identified the remains of anomaly 5.3 as linear [504] that was aligned northwest – southeast with an exposed length of 2.70m and width of 1.90m (Figure 52). It was filled by (505) a cohesive mid-brown silty clay mixed with occasional small to medium sized subrounded stones. The feature was not sectioned as the trench flooded but its location was surveyed in with GPS. Linear [504] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91540.

4.4.1.6 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.36m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Area 5. The trench uncovered the remains of a linear [603] adjacent to the northern terminal (Figure 53.1). It was orientated east northeast - west southwest, with an exposed length of 2.0m, width of 1.38m and depth of 0.56m (Figure 53.2). The cut had a sharp break of slope on the south southeast side with a gradual break of slope on the north northwest side. The sides of the cut were steep on the south southeast side and moderately steep on the north northwest side. The break of slope at the base of the cut was gradual and the base was flat. It contained two fills (604) and (605). The basal fill (604) was a soft, cohesive light brown silty clay mixed with moderate small lumps of orange clay. It was overlaid by (605) a cohesive dark brown silty clay mixed with occasional small subrounded stones and the occasional small lump of orange clay. Cut [603] was sealed by layer (606) a friable mid greyish brown silty clay mixed with occasional small subrounded stones and had a depth of 0.25m. No artefacts were recovered from these deposits. Linear [603] was probably a field boundary or drainage ditch that appears to have been dug by a machine given the profile of the cut. The feature does not appear on available historical mapping. Linear [603] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91541.

4.4.1.7 Trench 07

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.6. Other than a stone filled land drain [703] that had an exposed length of 18.0m and width of 0.45m, there was nothing of archaeological significance uncovered within this trench. The geophysical anomaly may relate to attempts to drain this section of the field.

4.4.1.8 Trench 08

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.6. There was nothing of archaeological

significance uncovered within this trench and the geophysical anomaly may relate to attempts to drain this section of the field.

4.4.1.9 Trench 09

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.38m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Area 5. The trench identified a series of modern drains at the western and eastern terminals along with areas of bioturbation (confirmed upon investigation) at the centre of the trench that were bulbous, irregular in nature and had loamy/peat fills; the result of land improvement works to remove reeds. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered within Trench 09.

4.4.1.10 Trench 10

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.53m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Area 5. A curvilinear ditch [1003] (Plate 16) was identified at the western edge of the trench and evidence for ridge and furrow [1004] was uncovered to the east of this feature (Figure 54.1). Neither [1003] nor [1004] had been picked up by the geophysical survey.

The curvilinear ditch [1003] had an exposed length of approximately 4.40m, with a maximum width of 1.0m and depth of 0.31m; the area enclosed by the ditch was 2.50m wide (Figure 54.2). The cut had an abrupt break of slope at the top with steep sides and a more gradual break of slope at the base which was concave (Plate 17 and Figures 55.1, 55.2 & 55.3). It was filled by (1005) a friable dark brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded stones and occasional medium sized subrounded stones. Despite the dark colouration of (1005) there were no obvious flecks of charcoal within the fill. A sample though was taken of (1005) for closer inspection for ecofacts and possible radiocarbon dating. No artefacts were recovered from (1005) during the excavation. It is highly likely that [1003] is a small ring ditch and as such is a prehistoric feature; it was allocated GAT HER PRN 91542.

To the immediate east of [1003] there were a series of ridge of furrow marks, collectively number [1004]. The linears were aligned northeast – southwest, with an approximate exposed length of 3.0m and width of 0.40m. The fill was almost indistinguishable from the topsoil (1001) being a mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small stones. The ridge and furrow [1004] were allocated GAT HER PRN 91543.

4.4.1.11 Trench 11

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.47m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.5 the possible remnants of a former field boundary. There was no indication of this feature and nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered in this trench.

4.4.1.12 Trench 12

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.47m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.5 the possible remnants of a former field boundary. The trench confirmed the presence of a linear [1204], that was orientated east northeast – west southwest (Figure 56.1), with an exposed length of 1.90m, width of 1.0m and depth of 0.72m Figure 56.2). The cut had a gradual break of slope at the top with vertical sides and a sharp break of slope at the base, which was flat. It was filled by (1205) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with frequent subrounded and round small stones; it was almost indistinguishable from the overlying subsoil (1202). It was a sterile fill with no artefacts. Linear [1204] may have been the base of a former field boundary ditch does not appear on available historical mapping. Linear [1204] has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91544.

4.4.1.13 Trench 13

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.60m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomalies 5.4 and 5.5 the possible remnants of former field boundaries. The trench uncovered the anomaly 5.4 as a linear [1304] and in the approximate location of 5.5 there was a pit [1306] with a standing stone (Figure 57.1).

The linear [1304] was orientated north northwest – south southeast, with an exposed length of 1.90m, width of 0.87m and depth of 0.65m (Figure 57.2). The cut had a gradual break of slope at the top with concave sides and a gradual break of slope at the base which was concave. It was filled by (1305) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with frequent small to medium sized subrounded stones. It was sterile fill with no artefacts and it was almost indistinguishable from the overlying subsoil (1302). Linear [1304] may have been the base of a former field boundary ditch does not appear on available historical mapping. Linear [1304] has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91545.

Adjacent to the eastern terminal of the trench, positioned along the southern baulk, was [1306] a subrounded in plan pit that extended 0.35m into the trench (Plate 18), with an exposed length of 1.52m and maximum depth of 0.47m (Figure 57.3). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top, with relatively steep sides and a more gradual break of slope at the base which was uneven (Figure 58). It was filled by (1307) a friable mid-brown silty clay

mixed with frequent small to medium sized subrounded stones; a sample was taken of (1307) for closer inspection for ecofacts and possible radiocarbon dating. No artefacts were recovered from fill (1307).

At the centre of pit [1306] there was a large stone, deliberately set upright in a vertical position. The stone tapered towards the top, with a relatively bulbous body that also tapered toward the base (Figure 58). In section the stone had a height of 0.75m and maximum width (in the centre) of 0.35m. The stone was supported at the base by a mixture of redeposited yellow sandy clay natural and packing stones. Most of the stone was placed within cut [1306] and further supported by fill (1307), with approximately 0.25m proud of this fill. In effect two thirds of the standing stone was submerged within [1306] with the tapered top protruding into the subsoil (1302) and base of the topsoil (1301) (Plate 19). Cut [1306] could be the terminal of the linear geophysical anomaly 5.5 and thus a former gate post or it could be a prehistoric standing stone, which given its stature and composition would be of Later Bronze Age date (1500 – 650 BC). Pit [1306] and associated standing stone have been allocated GAT HER PRN 91546.

4.4.1.14 Trench 14

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.52m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Area 5. The trench uncovered two parallel linears [1404] and [1405] at the northwestern terminal, aligned north – south (Figure 59). It was not possible to excavate the linears as the trench flooded but their location was surveyed in using GPS. Linears [1404] and [1405] were allocated GAT HER PRN 91547.

4.4.1.15 Trench 15

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.35m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine uncertain geophysical anomalies. The trench identified a linear [1503] that was aligned north northeast – south southwest with an exposed length of 2.10m, width of 0.45m and depth of 0.03m. The cut was very shallow and may represent the bottom of a ditch or drain. The position of [1503] was surveyed in with GPS (Figure 60).

4.4.1.16 Trench 16

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.32m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 5.7. The trench identified two ephemeral linears [1603] and [1604]; the former was almost solely within the topsoil (1601). The trench quickly flooded and the features were surveyed in with GPS (Figure 61).

4.4.1.17 Trench 17

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.35m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine ridge and furrow and uncertain linear geophysical anomaly. There was no physical evidence for the ridge and furrow but a linear [1703] was identified. It was an ephemeral feature that was almost solely within the topsoil (1701) and it was surveyed in with GPS (Figure 62).

4.4.1.18 Trench 18

Trench 18 was an additional trench requested by GAPS further to the discovery of the standing stone in Trench 13 to determine if it was an isolated feature or if there was additional activity located nearby. Trench 18 was positioned to the immediate north of Trench 13. The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.51m below the ground surface but no archaeological activity was noted within the trench. It is worth noting though that the yellow/orange sandy clay natural (1803) included numerous earthfast boulders.

4.4.1.19 Trench 19

Trench 19 was an additional trench requested by GAPS further to the discovery of the standing stone in Trench 13 to determine if it was an isolated feature or if there was additional activity located nearby. Trench 19 was positioned to the immediate east of Trench 13 and set on a diagonal line. The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.45m below the ground surface but no archaeological activity was noted within the trench.

4.5 Area 6

Field A (Figure 63)

4.5.1.1 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.31m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field A. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.5.1.2 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.49m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 6.2. The trench identified a linear [203] positioned close to the eastern terminal (Figure 64). It was not possible to investigate [203] as the trench flooded but the feature was surveyed in with GPS. It was allocated GAT HER PRN 91548.

4.5.1.3 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.37m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field A. The trench uncovered the remnants of three linears, [303], [304] and [307] concentrated close to the eastern terminal (Figure 65.1 and 65.2).

Linear [303] was orientated east southeast – west northwest with an exposed length of 0.40m, width of 0.57m and depth of 0.09m. The cut had a gradual break of slope at the top with concave sides and a gradual break of slope at the base which was flat. It was filled by (305) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with occasional medium sized subrounded and subangular stones. The fill was practically indistinguishable from the topsoil (301) and fill (306) of linear [304]. No artefacts were recovered from fill (305).

Linear [304] was 90° to the east side of [303]. It was aligned east northeast – west southwest with an exposed length of 4.48m, width of 0.80m and depth of 0.14m. The cut had a gentle break of slope at the top with gently sloping sides that merged with a flat base. It was filled by (306) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with occasional medium sized subrounded and subangular stones. The fill was practically indistinguishable from the topsoil (301) and fill (305) of linear [303]. No artefacts were recovered from fill (306).

To the immediate west of and parallel with [303] was linear [307]. It was orientated east southeast – west northwest and was very ephemeral with a maximum depth of 0.04m. The fill (308) was identical to (305) and (306).

The linears [303], [304] and [307] were ephemeral features that barely scratched the surface of the underlying clay natural (302) and may represent the bases of former filed boundaries, possibly former hedgerows given their shallowness. They are not depicted on available historic mapping. The linears were assigned group number GAT HER PRN 91549.

4.5.1.4 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.52m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 6.1 a probable former field boundary. The trench uncovered the remains of a linear [403] that corresponded with the location of anomaly 6.1 and it was adjacent to a natural outcrop of bedrock (Figure 66). It was not possible to investigate [403] further due to groundwater flooding but the location of the linear was surveyed in with GPS. Linear [403]/geophysical anomaly 6.1 is depicted on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1888 and as such is a field boundary of 19th century origin. It has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91550.

4.5.1.5 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine an area of ferrous disturbance. The trench identified a linear [503] close to the northeastern terminal (Figure 67). It was not possible to investigate [503] further due to groundwater flooding but the location of the linear was surveyed in with GPS. Linear [503] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91551.

4.5.1.6 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.42m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field A. The trench uncovered the remnants of a linear [603] that was orientated north – south (Figure 68). It was an ephemeral feature that only survived as a stain on the interface between the topsoil (601) and natural sandy clay (602). There was no discernible cut within the baulk and the fill (604) was indistinguishable from the topsoil a mid-brown silty clay. The location of [603] was GPS surveyed and is was allocated GAT HER PRN 91552.

4.5.1.7 Trench 07

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.32m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field A. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.5.1.8 Trench 08

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.43m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field A. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.5.1.9 Trench 09

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.43m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate a large uncertain enhanced geophysical response. The trench uncovered a linear [903] aligned northeast – southwest (Figure 69.1) with an exposed length of 1.94m, width of 0.77m and depth of 0.53 (Figure 69.2). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with vertical sides and a more gradual break of slope at the base which was tapered. It was filled by (904) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with frequent small to medium sized subrounded and subangular stones. Linear [903] may be the remnants of a former field boundary, as one is depicted at this location on the First Edition Ordnance Survey Map of 1888 and as such is a field boundary of 19th century origin. It has been allocated GAT HER PRN 91553.

Field B (Figure 70)

4.5.1.10 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.47m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 6.4. The trench uncovered the remains of two linears [104] and [106] as well as a possible posthole [108] (Figure 71.1).

Linear [104] was orientated northwest – southeast with an exposed length of 3.10m, width of 0.70m and depth of 0.12m (Figure 71.2). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with vertical sides and a more gradual break of slope at the base which was irregular. It was filled by (105) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

To the immediate north of [104] was the linear [106] which was also aligned northwest – southeast with an exposed length of 3.50m, width of 0.48m and depth of 0.31m (Figure 71.3). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with vertical sides and a more gradual break of slope at the base which was concave. It was filled by (107) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

To the immediate south of [104] was the possible small posthole [108] which had a diameter of 0.27m and depth of 0.13m (Figure 71.4). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with concave sides, break of slope at the base and base. It was filled by (109) a friable midbrown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

The linears may be the remnants of former field boundaries or were former drainage ditches as Field B is positioned on marginal ground. No field boundaries are depicted on available historic maps for this portion of Field B. Linears [104] and [106] were allocated GAT HER PRN 91554 and 91555 respectively and post hole [108] GAT HER PRN 91556.

4.5.1.11 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.45m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field B. The trench identified two possible linears [204] and [205] (Figure 72.1).

Linear [204] was orientated north – south with an exposed length of 2.90m, width of 0.72m and depth of 0.03m (Figure 72.2). The cut had a gradual break of slope at the top with vertical sides and gradual break of slope at the base which was irregular. It was filled by

(206) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

To the southwest of [204] was the possible ditch terminal [205], which emerged from the southeast baulk of the trench (Figure 72.3). It extended 0.90m into the trench, with a width of 0.50m and depth of 0.06m. The cut had an imperceptible break of slope at the top with gently sloping sides that merged with an uneven base. It was filled by (207) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

The linears may be the remnants of former field boundaries or were former drainage ditches as Field B is positioned on marginal ground. No field boundaries are depicted on available historic maps for this portion of Field B. Linears [104] and [106] were allocated GAT HER PRN 91557 and 91558 respectively.

4.5.1.12 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.55m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field B. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

4.5.1.13 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and the trench was positioned to examine geophysical anomaly 6.4. The trench uncovered the remnants of three linear features [404], [408] and [409] as well as a posthole [406] (Figure 73.1).

The linear [404] was orientated north – south with an exposed length of 2.64m, width of 0.64m and depth of 0.38m (Figure 73.2). The cut had a gradual break of slope at the top with concave sides and a gradual break of slope at the base which was flat. It was filled by (405) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

Immediately adjacent to [404] was the post hole [406] which was 0.56m in diameter with a depth of 0.32m (Figure 73.3). The cut had an abrupt break of slope at the top with steep sides and more gradual concave break of slope at the base which was concave. It was filled by (407) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

Adjacent to the northeast terminal of the trench were the two linears [408] and [409] that were parallel with each other (Figures 73.4 and 73.5). Linear [408] was orientated east –

west with an exposed length of 2.51m, width of 0.85m and depth 0.07m. The cut had an imperceptible break of slope at the top and very gradual sides that merged with an uneven base. It was filled by (410) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

Linear [409] was orientated east – west with an exposed length of 2.15m, width of 0.70m and depth 0.07m. The cut had a gradual break of slope at the top and very gradual sides that merged with an uneven base. It was filled by (411) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from the fill.

The linears may be the remnants of former field boundaries or were former drainage ditches as Field B is positioned on marginal ground. No field boundaries are depicted on available historic maps for this portion of Field B. Linears [404], [408] and [409] were allocated GAT HER PRN 91559, 91561 and 91562 respectively and post hole [406] was assigned GAT HER PRN 91560.

4.5.1.14 Trench 05

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate a large uncertain enhanced geophysical response 6.3. The trench did not uncover any archaeological remains.

4.5.1.15 Trench 06

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate a small ferrous disturbance. The trench identified a linear [604] and pit [606] concentrated at the southwestern terminal (Figure 74). It was not possible to excavate these features as the trench flooded but their locations were surveyed in with GPS. Linear [604] and pit [606] were assigned GAT HER PRN 91563 and 91564 respectively.

4.5.1.16 Trench 07

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate a small ferrous disturbance and random uncertain discrete responses. The trench did not identify any archaeological activity.

Field C (Figure 75)

4.5.1.17 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.50m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field C. The trench uncovered a pit [104] that was circular in plan with a diameter of 0.95m and depth of 0.23m (Figure 76.1 and 76.2). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with concave sides and a gradual break of slope at the base which was concave. It was filled by (106) and (107) (Figure 76.3). The basal fill (106) consisted of a friable dark brown silty clay mixed with occasional flecks of charcoal and infrequent small subrounded and round stones. No artefacts were recovered from (106) but a sample was taken. It was overlaid by (107) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with occasional small subrounded and round stones; it was very similar to the subsoil (102). Pit [104] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91565.

4.5.1.18 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.32m below the ground surface and was excavated to test the apparently blank area of the geophysical survey in Field C. The trench did not identify anything of archaeological significance.

Field D (Figure 77)

4.5.1.19 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.32m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate geophysical response 6.6, discreet high magnitude subcircular anomalies that may represent the remains of hearths or perhaps more likely large modern ferrous objects in the topsoil. The trench uncovered two possible archaeological features [103] and [105] (Figure 78.1). The possible pit [103] was investigated but [105] a possible pit at the southeastern end of the trench flooded but its location was surveyed using GPS.

Feature [103] was aligned northeast – southwest with an exposed length of 1.40m, width of 1.86m and depth of 0.20m. It was linear in plan, with a rounded northern terminal (Figure 78.2). The cut had a gradual break of slope at the top with quite sharp sides and quite steep break of slope at the base which was uneven. It was filled by (104) a soft mid-brown silty clay mixed with moderate medium to large sized angular stones concentrated at the centre of the cut. Two small sherds of black glazed earthenware was recovered from the fill, examined, noted and discarded. It is likely that [103] was a land drain due to the concentration of stone within (104) and the marginal nature of Field D which had frequent wet patches with reeds. Linear [103] and feature [105] were allocated GAT HER PRN 91566 and 91567 respectively.

4.5.1.20 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate geophysical response 6.6 and two uncertain linear trends. The trench identified a probable linear [203] that emerged from the northwest terminal and a possible pit [205]. Feature [205] was investigated but determined to be a natural hollow at the base of two earthfast glacial boulders (Figure 79.1).

The linear [203] had an exposed length of 2.15m, width of 0.78m and depth of 0.10m. It was aligned northwest – southeast, with a rounded terminal at the southeast (Figure 79.2). The cut had a sharp break of slope at the top with vertical sides and abrupt break of slope at the base which was flat. It was filled by (204) a friable mid-brown silty clay mixed with moderate large sized subrounded stones and subangular schist stone fragments. The fill was similar in colour and consistency to the topsoil (201) and given the concentration of stone within (204) it is highly likely that it was a drainage ditch/land drain. Linear [203] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91568.

4.5.1.21 Trench 03

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.44m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate geophysical response 6.6 and uncertain enhanced response. It uncovered [303] a linear at the centre of the trench (Figure 80.1). The linear was orientated north northeast – south southwest with an exposed length of 1.90m, width of 1.30m and depth of 0.08m (Figure 80.2). The cut had an imperceptible break of slope at the top with very gradual sides and imperceptible break of slope at the base which was flat. It was filled by (304) a soft mid-brown silty clay mixed with occasional small pieces of yellow clay. The fill was sterile with no artefacts and was almost indistinguishable from the overlying topsoil (301). The cut was very shallow and was barely perceptible in the baulk section. The linear does not correspond with field boundaries depicted on the available historic mapping. This combined with the nature and fill of [303] would suggest it is a fairly recent, possibly late 20th century, activity in an attempt to improve the field. Linear [303] was allocated GAT HER PRN 91569.

4.5.1.22 Trench 04

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.38m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate an uncertain linear trend. The trench was excavated either side of a small outcrop of bedrock (Plate 21) and did not uncover anything of archaeological significance.

Field F

4.5.1.23 Trench 01

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.40m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate geophysical response 6.7. The anomaly was not identified within the trench but it was noted that the natural light greyish yellow clay had been disturbed by frequent amorphous shaped areas of bioturbation the result of recent attempts by the landowner to improve or maintain this rough field of pasture by removing rushes and white thorn.

4.5.1.24 Trench 02

The natural substrate was a maximum of 0.30m below the ground surface and was excavated to investigate geophysical response 6.7. Nothing of archaeological significance was uncovered within this trench which was cut across very wet, marginal ground.

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 Discussion

This stage of the archaeological evaluation consisted of 131 trial trenches excavated across the four proposed areas of the solar farm at Parc Solar Traffwll. Most of these trenches had been positioned to investigate geophysical anomalies, with some intended to investigate areas blank on the geophysical survey. Approximately 58% of the trial trenches did not identify archaeological features, primarily the location of possible former field boundaries identified through a geophysical survey and cartographic evidence or discrete yet uncertain features. The comparative lack of corroborative physical evidence for these field boundaries in the trial trenches may relate to them being relatively shallow features that did not leave a physical trace within the underlying natural.

In addition, a high percentage of the linears that were confirmed within trial trenches proved to be very shallow, ephemeral features that barely scratched the surface of the underlying natural and their fills were almost indistinguishable from the overlying subsoil or topsoil. This was noted, for example, for geophysical anomaly 3.7 in Area 3, Field A as well as almost uniformly the linears uncovered throughout Area 6. The GAT field team were told by the landowner (pers. comm.) that Field A had been divided into smaller fields and that these had been grubbed out in the 1980s. This would correspond with the available map evidence and the geophysical survey results. The shallow nature of the remnants of these linears would arguably be because they were once hedgerows or a drystone wall that would not leave as substantial an imprint on the ground as a field boundary ditch.

Several of the linear features investigated during the evaluation do not correspond with known field systems as depicted on the available historical map evidence. Some of this can be explained insofar as the linears may be other forms of agricultural activity, such as land drains, like the linears investigated in Trenches 01 and 02 in Field D, Area 6 or they may relate to attempts to improve the pasture by turning over heavy clay soils to air rate it, such as the shallow linears noted in Fields A and B, in Area 6.

There were though other more substantial or distinct linear features that are most likely former field boundaries and yet they do not correspond with field layouts depicted on available historical maps. This was notably the case, for example, with the linears investigated in Fields A and B in Area 4 as well as the linears uncovered in the western half of Area 5. The ditches that corresponded with geophysical anomalies 4.6, 4.7, 4.8 and 5.4 were quite substantial which makes it highly probable that they were field boundary ditches

but no artefacts were retrieved from the fills and ecofacts were not recovered as they were sterile and almost indistinguishable from the overlying topsoil. Aspects of geophysical anomaly 4.1 would also appear to correspond with the remnants of a clawdd. Due to the lack of artefactual/ecofactual and cartographic evidence (the latter dating from from the 19th century) it may be supposed that these linears are the remnants of field boundaries that predate the 19th century.

The trial trenches also confirmed the presence of limited prehistoric activity, in the form of burnt mound spreads and associated features in Trenches 02, 03, 04 and 07 in Field D, Area 4, Trench 01, Field D Area 3 and Trenches 02 and 08 in Field E, Area 3. These features are concentrated around a natural spring and/or former water courses, as noted with the palaeochannels in Trenches 03 and 07 in Field D, Area 4 or beside small streams such as Trench 01, Field D Area 3. This would have provided a ready source of water for use in troughs and cooking. While troughs were not readily identified within the evaluation trenches, they may exist beneath some of the larger spreads, notably (403) in Trench 04, Field D, Area 4.

In addition, a small ring ditch [1003] in Trench 10 and a possible standing stone [1306] in Trench 13, both in Area 5 along with stray pit with charcoal rich fill in Trench 01, Field C, Area 6 were other probable prehistoric features uncovered by the trial trenches. No artefacts were recovered from any of these features but the fills were sampled for ecofactual evidence and possible radiocarbon dating.

There is known prehistoric activity in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development (see Rovira I. G. & Sinnot S, 2019) notably Castellor Hut Settlement (Scheduled Monument AN088), located to the immediate northwest of Area 3. Despite the close proximity nothing was identified within the trial trenches in Area 3 that would directly correlate with this later prehistoric/Roman settlement.

Standing stones are distributed across Ynys Môn and burnt mounds are a common later prehistoric feature in northwest Wales. Set within the Castellor Hut Settlement, there is the Castellor burial chamber (PRN 1539), a monument defined by two standing stones (Rovira I. G. & Sinnot S, 2019, 24). A series of burnt mounds were uncovered and investigated as part of the groundworks for the A55, located to the immediate north of the development. The closest to the development were the burnt mounds PRN31812-4) that were 770m north of Area 6 (Rovira I. G. & Sinnot S, 2019, 108). In addition, a Bronze Age site (PRN 61578) located approximately 600m north of Area 6 included a number of pits which may have been

the remnants of ovens (Rovira I. G. & Sinnot S, 2019, 108). This level of activity may have some bearing on pit [104] in Trench 01, Field C, Area 6.

The research framework for later prehistory in north-west Wales (https://archaeoleg.org.uk/areanorthwest.html) includes settlement, burial and economy as priorities for further research. Although none of the features identified during the trial trenching could be dated it is possible that the majority of the burnt mound spreads as well as the ring ditch, standing stone and pit may date from the Later Bronze Age (1500 – 800 BC).

5.2 Recommendations

The archaeological evaluation trenching has identified and confirmed the presence of field boundaries that may well pre-date the 19th century as well as limited prehistoric activity in the form of burnt mound spreads, a ring ditch, possible standing stone and pit that were not identified in the geophysical survey.

Based on these results it is recommended that a programme of archaeological mitigation be carried out if the solar farm development proceeds. This might take the form of a controlled strip of the topsoil/subsoil in the vicinity of:

- 1. The burnt mound spread (403) in Trench 04, Field D, Area 4 that would include the associated palaeochannels. This appears to be a well-preserved, large example of a burnt mound spread which is within 0.10m of the existing ground surface;
- 2. The burnt mound spread activity in Trench 01, Field D Area 3 and Trenches 02 and 08 in Field E, Area 3 to better determine their extent and level of preservation. While these features may not directly relate to the nearby Castellor Hut Settlement, they are sufficiently close to warrant further investigation especially if they will be negatively impacted upon by the development;
- 3. The small ring ditch [1003] in Trench 10, Area 5 to better determine its extent and confirm if there are associated features or burials within it or immediately adjacent to the monument;
- 4. The possible standing stone [1306] in Trench 13, Area 5 better determine its extent and confirm if there are associated features immediately adjacent to the monument. Also to better determine if it is a prehistoric monument or a gate post at the terminal of a field boundary;

The field boundaries that may pre-date the 19th century in Fields A and B, Area 4 may be sufficiently covered by an archaeological watching brief. This will be dependent on the confirmed layout of the solar panels and associated infrastructure of this area of the site.

It is also recommended that post-excavation assessment and analysis of recovered soil samples is completed to better understand the date and range of prehistoric activity within the development boundary.

6 SOURCES CONSULTED

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- 7) Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) (Version 1.1);
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- 9) McGuinness, N., 2020, Parc Solar Traffwll, Archaeological Evaluation (Geophysical Survey). Gwynedd Archaeological Trust Report 1560;
- 10) Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales, 2015, Guidelines for digital archives;
- 11) The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018, Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) (Version 1.1).



Plate 1: Post-ex shot of Trench 3; scale 1x1m; view from W (archive reference: G2658_243).



Plate 2: Flooded access between fields 6B and 6C; scale Not used; view from W (archive reference: G2658_001).



Plate 3: Pre commencement shot of Trench 3; scale Not used; view from E (archive reference: G2658_1216).



Plate 4: Pre commencement shot of Trench 6; scale Not used; view from NNE (archive reference: G2658_1240).



Plate 5: Post-ex shot of Trench 5; scale 1x1m; view from E (archive reference: G2658_246).



Plate 6: Post-ex shot of Trench 3; scale 1x1m; view from SSW (archive reference: G2658_1079).



Plate 7: Post-ex shot of feature [203] in Trench 2; scale 1x1m; view from NW (archive reference: G2658_187).



Plate 8: North-east facing section shot of linear [604] in Trench 6; scale 1x1m; view from NE (archive reference: G2658_2272).



Plate 9: Shot of burnt mound material at Southern terminal of Trench 1; scale 1x1m; view from N (archive reference: G2658_224).



Plate 10: Shot of burnt mound (803); scale 1x1m; view from SW (archive reference: G2658_1263).



Plate 11: W Facing section through ditch [505]; scale 1x1m; view from W (archive reference: G2658_112).



Plate 12: WNW facing section of linear [903] against baulk; scale 1x1m; view from WNW (archive reference: G2658_2190).



Plate 13: Plan shot of possible clawdd [907]; scale 2x1m; view from WNW (archive reference: G2658_2196).



Plate 14: Shot of burnt mound (403); scale 1x1m; view from NNW (archive reference: G2658_1056).



Plate 15: Plan shot of [104]; scale 1x1m; view from ENE (archive reference: G2658_1188).



Plate 16: Pre-ex plan shot of curvilinear/ring ditch [1003] in Trench 10; scale 2x1m; view from W (archive reference: G2658_2241).



Plate 17: Post-ex plan shot of slot through [1003]; scale 1x1m; view from SE (archive reference: G2658_2245).



Plate 18: West facing section through pit [1306] in Trench 13; scale 1x0.3m; view from W (archive reference: G2658_2259).



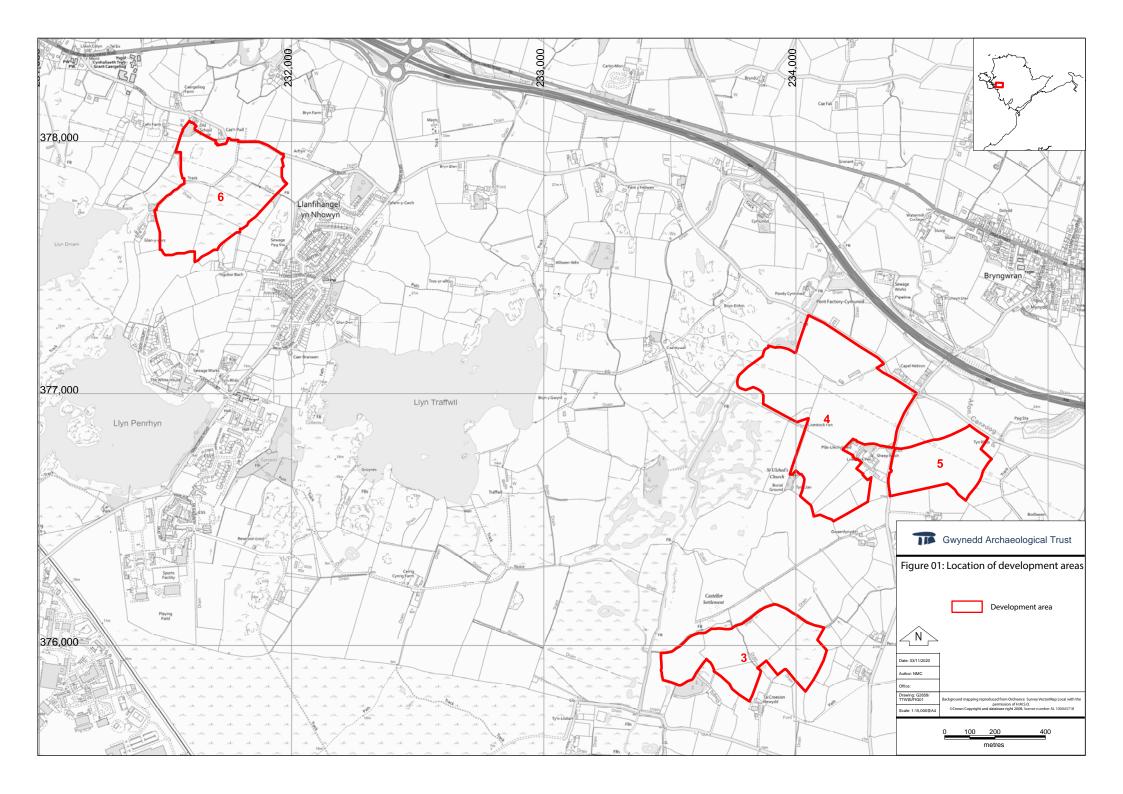
Plate 19: North facing section through pit [1306] in Trench 13 (full excavated); scale 1x1m; view from N (archive reference: G2658_2260).

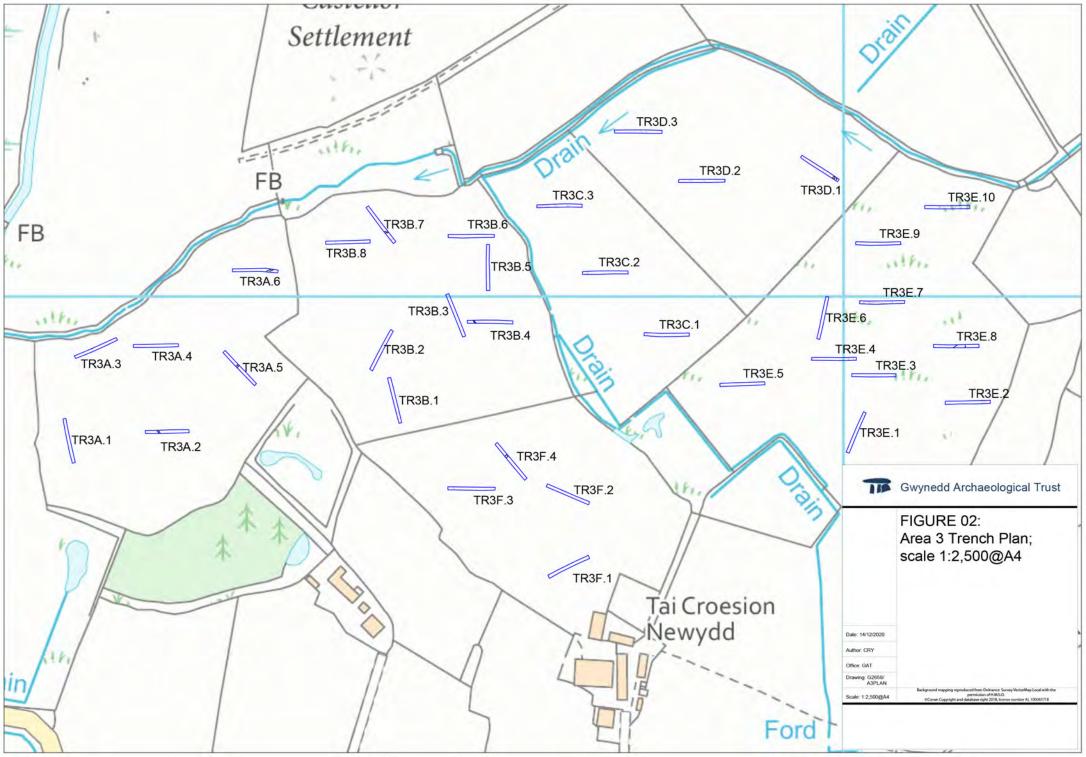


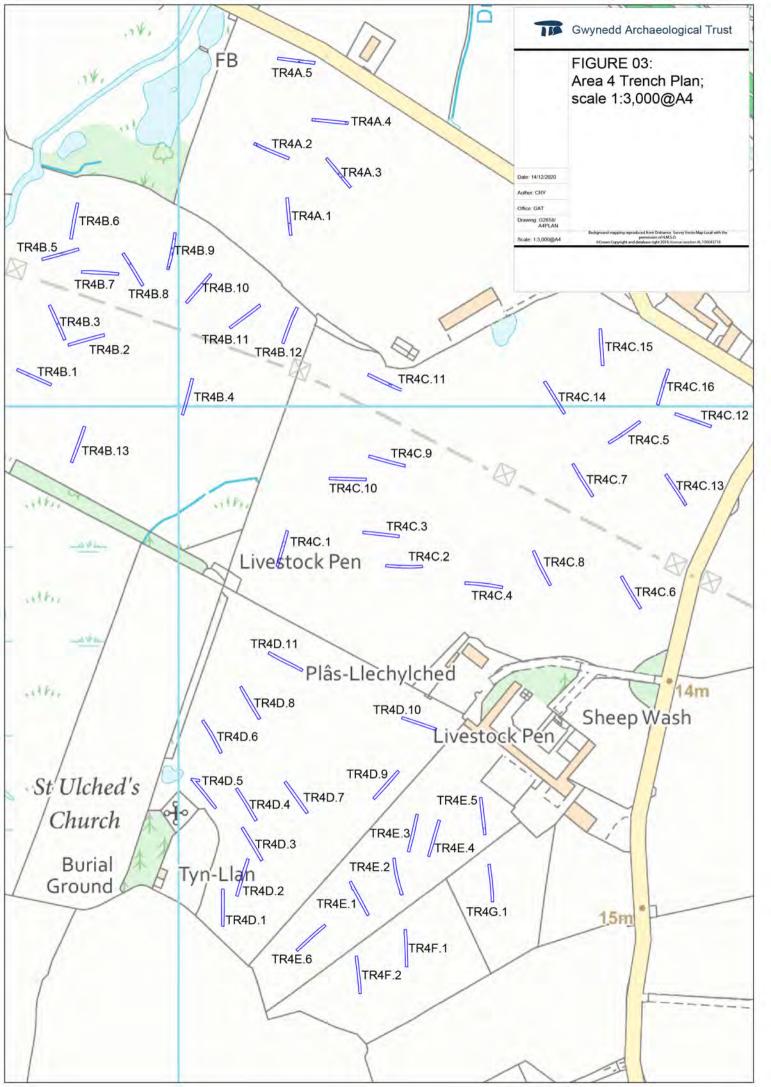
Plate 20: Post-ex plan shot of pit [104]; scale 1x1m; view from NNE (archive reference: G2658_2034).

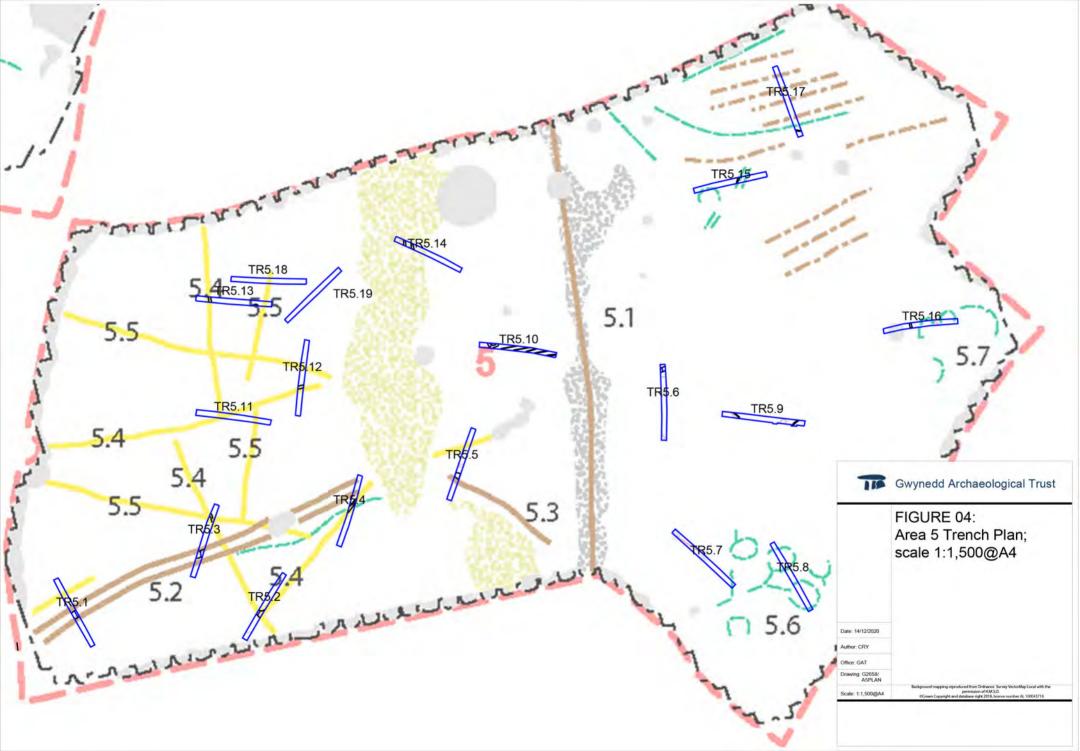


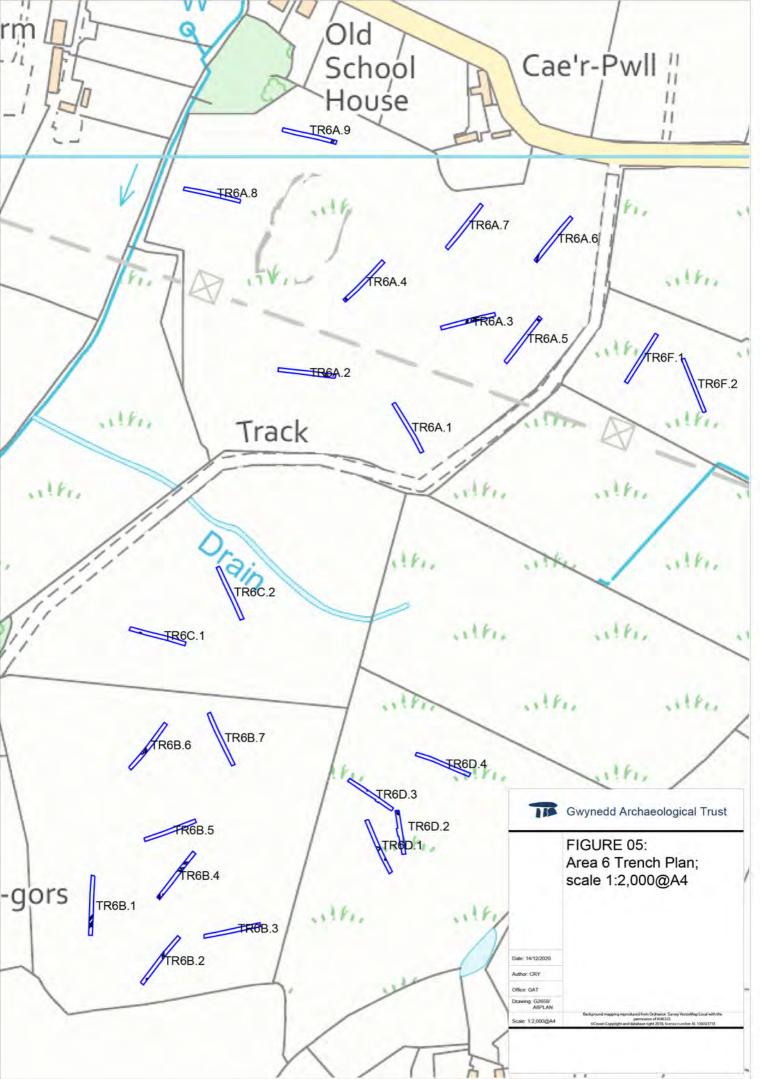
Plate 21: Post-ex shot of Trench 4 (eastern end); scale 1x1m; view from E (archive reference: G2658_013).

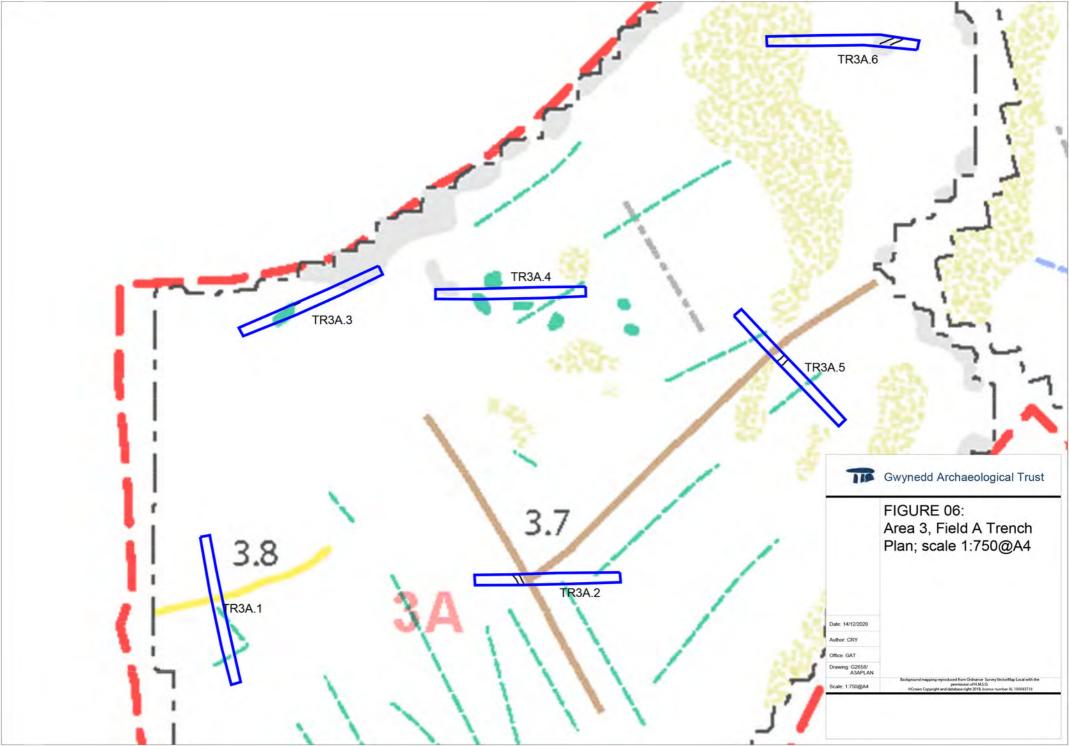




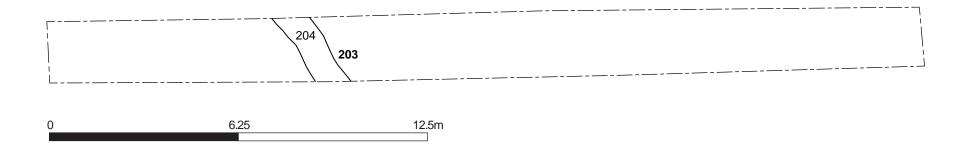


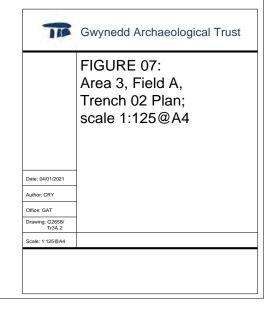


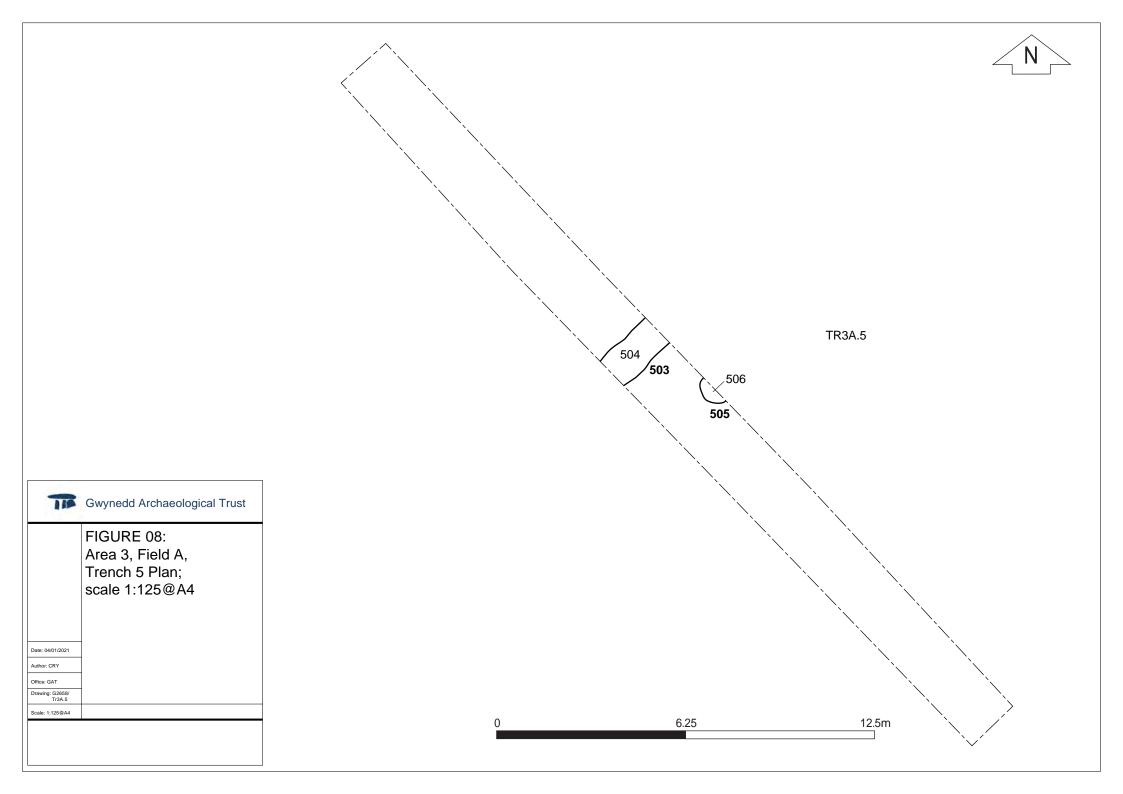


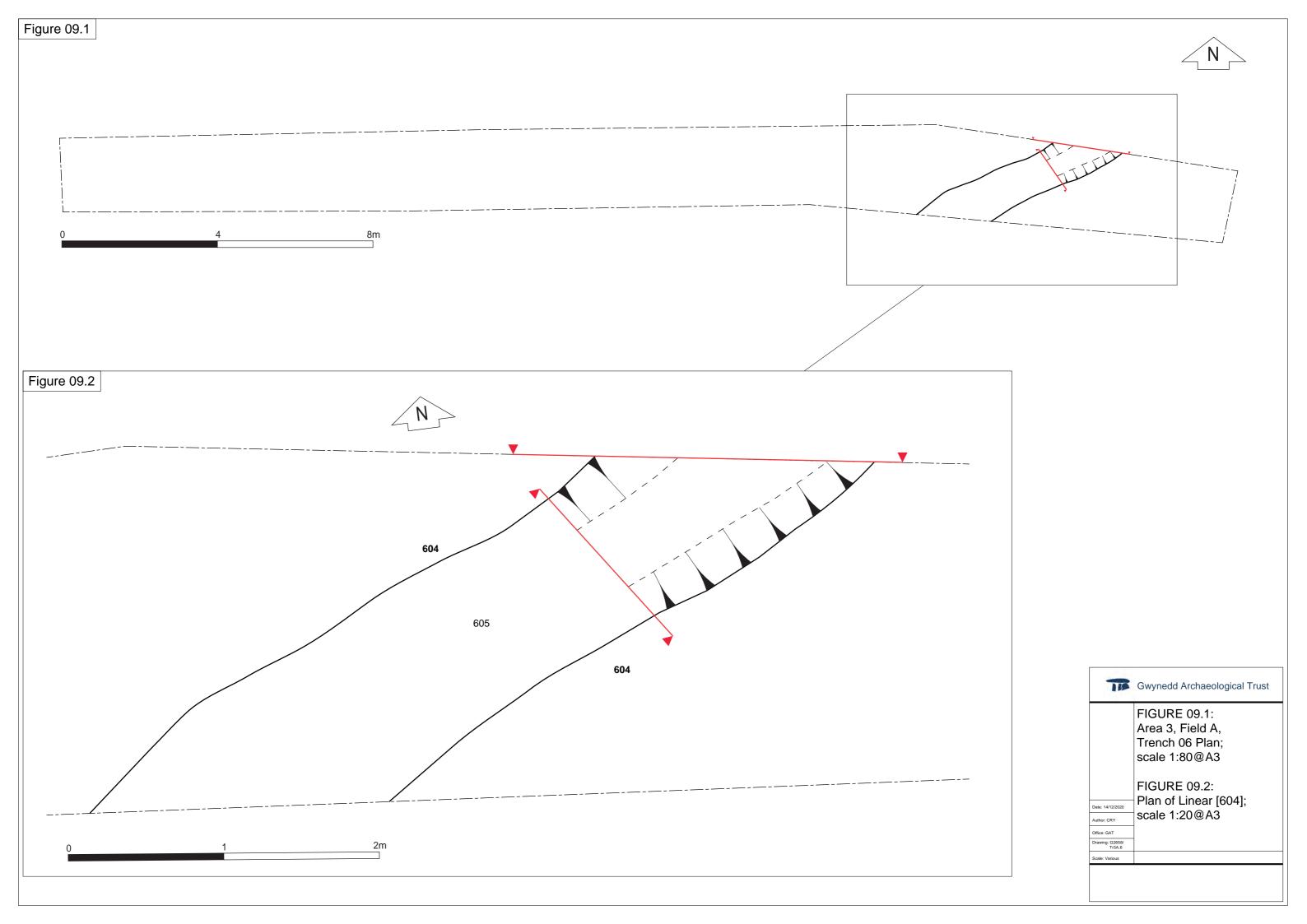


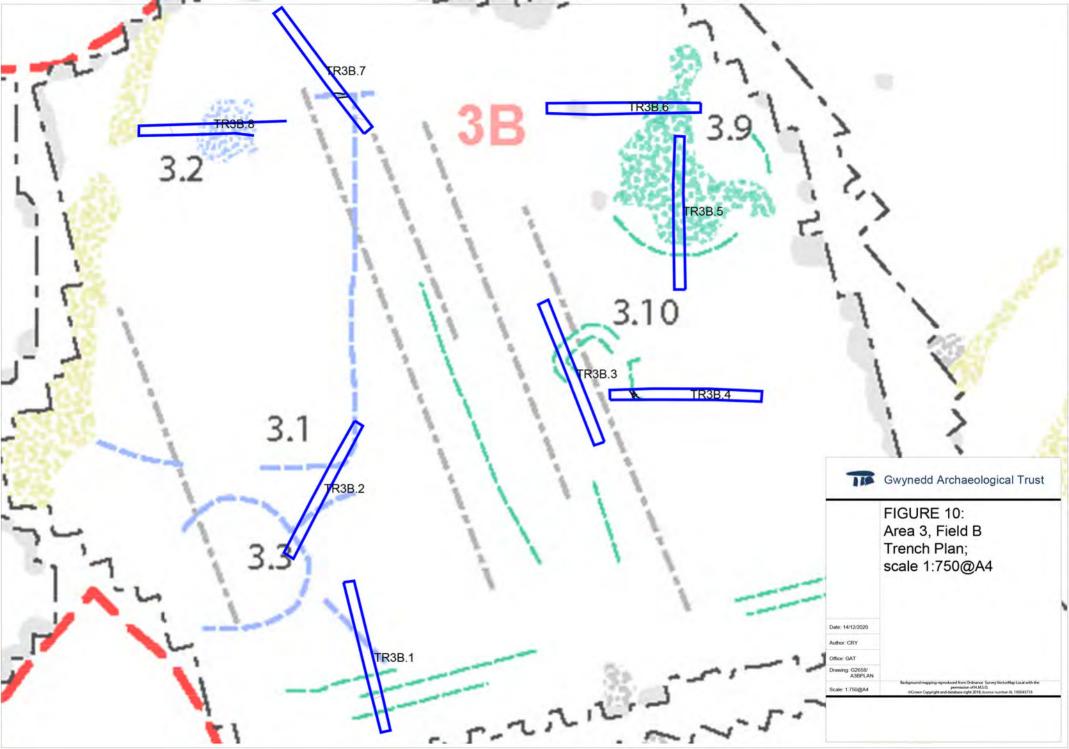


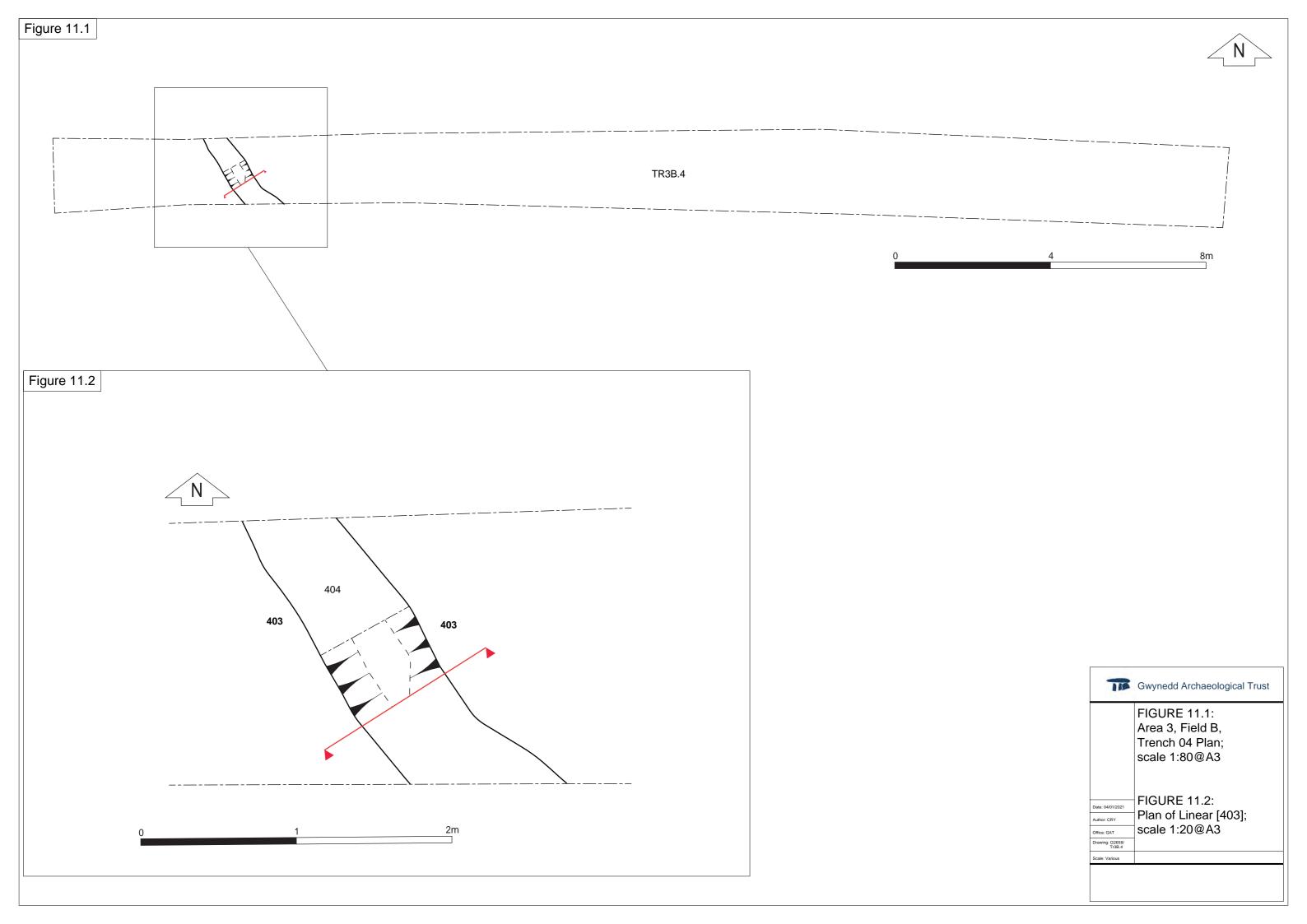


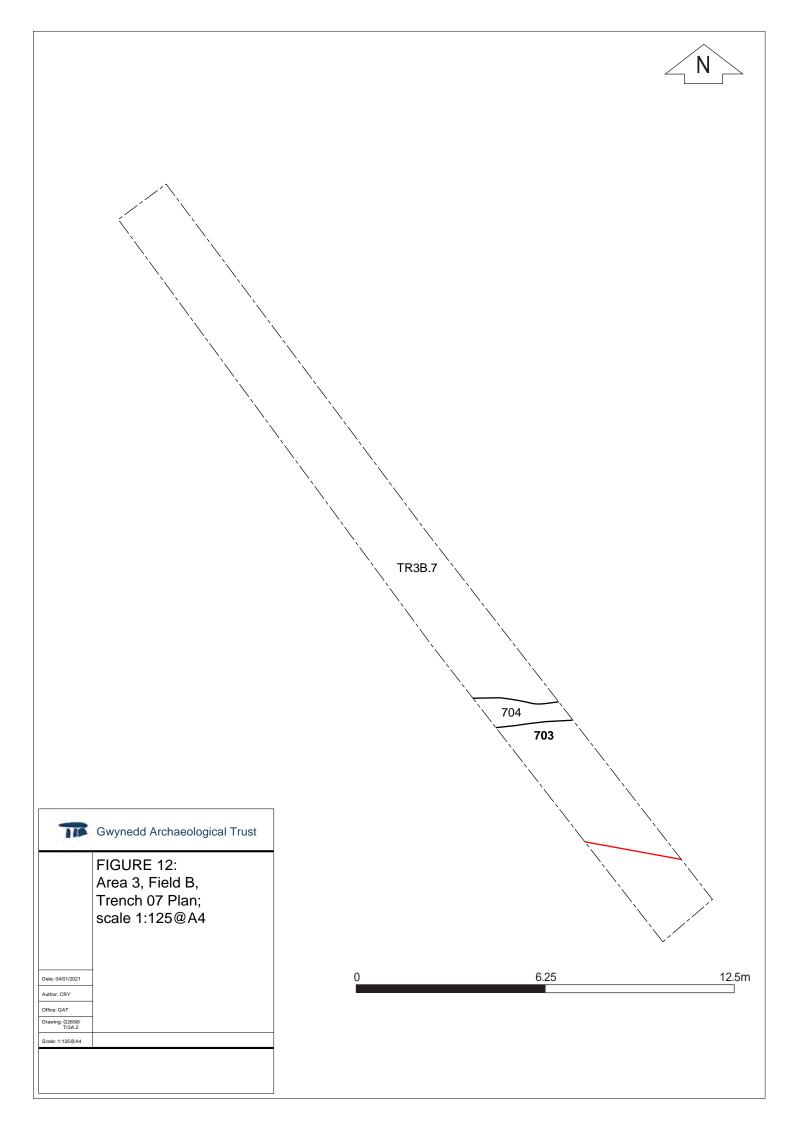


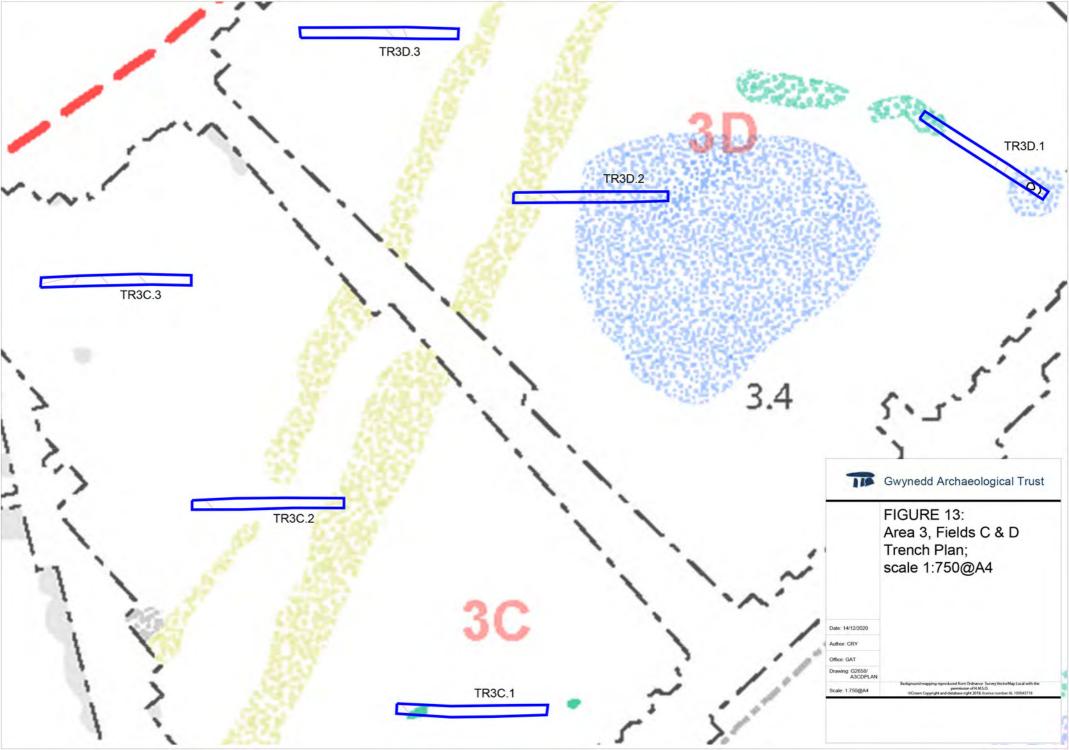


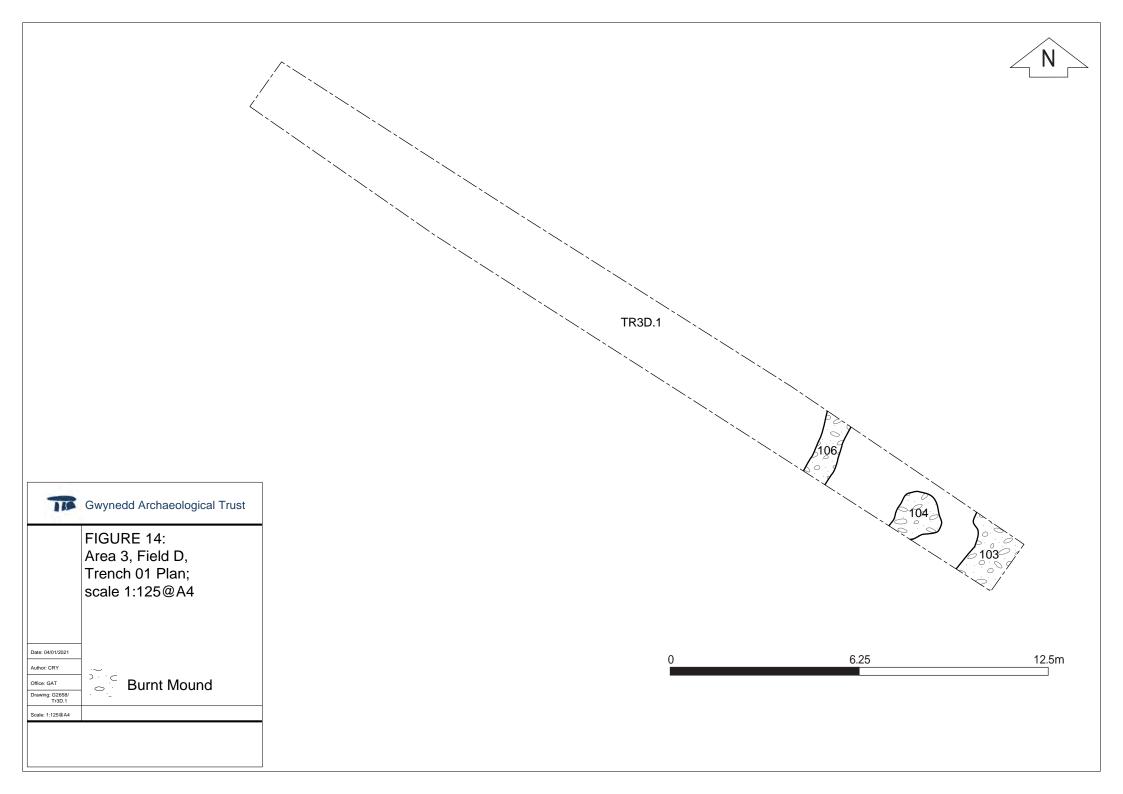


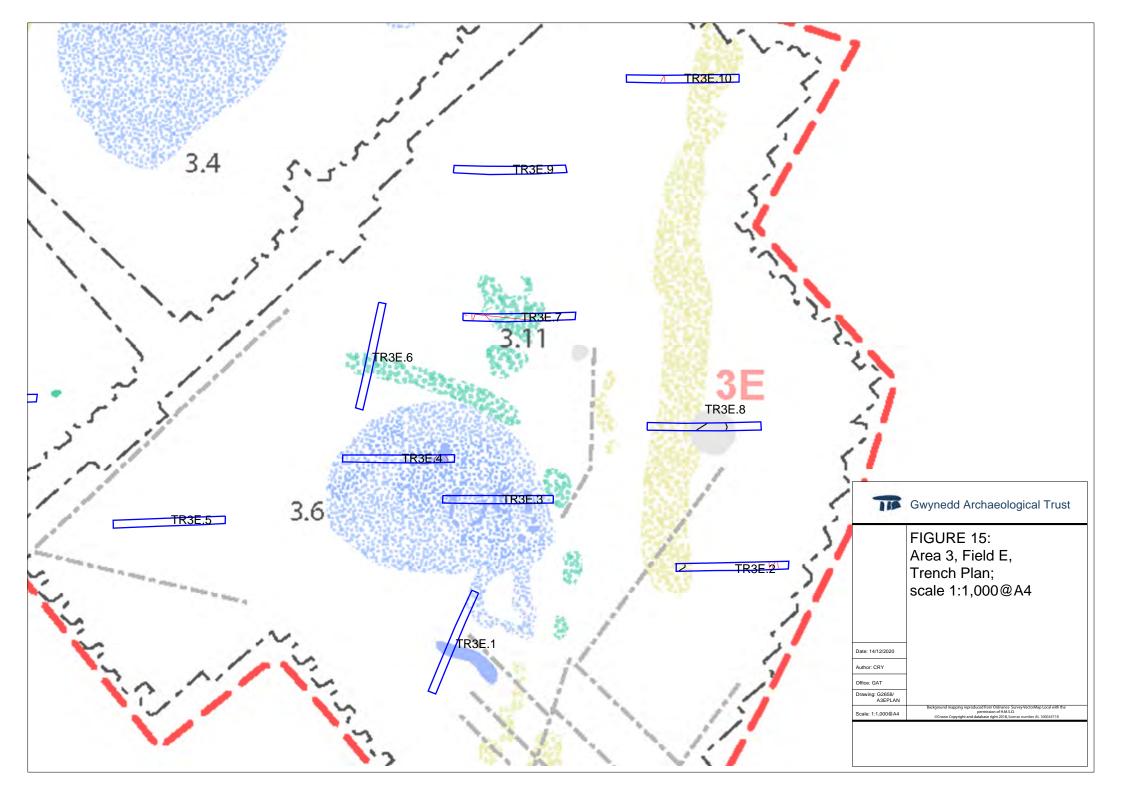








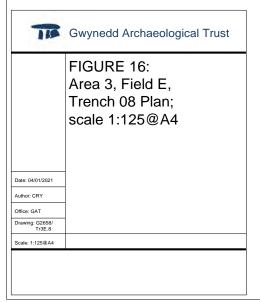






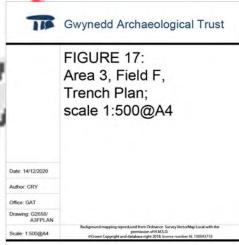
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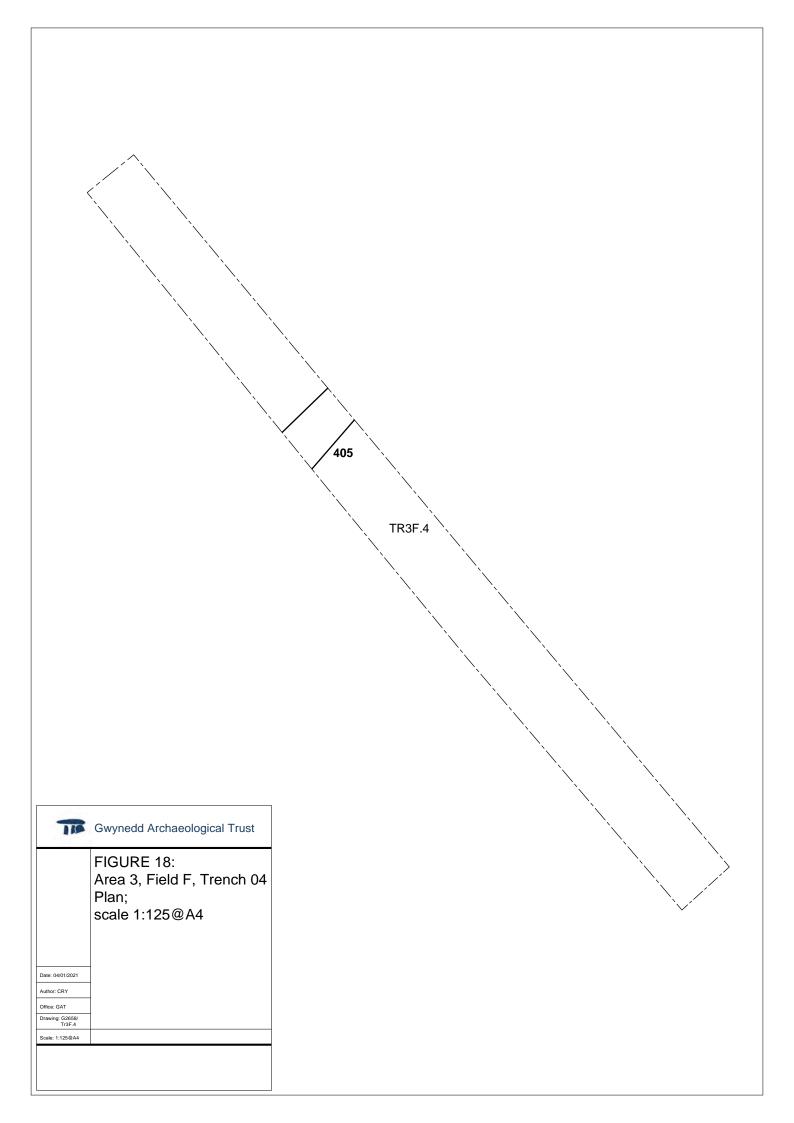


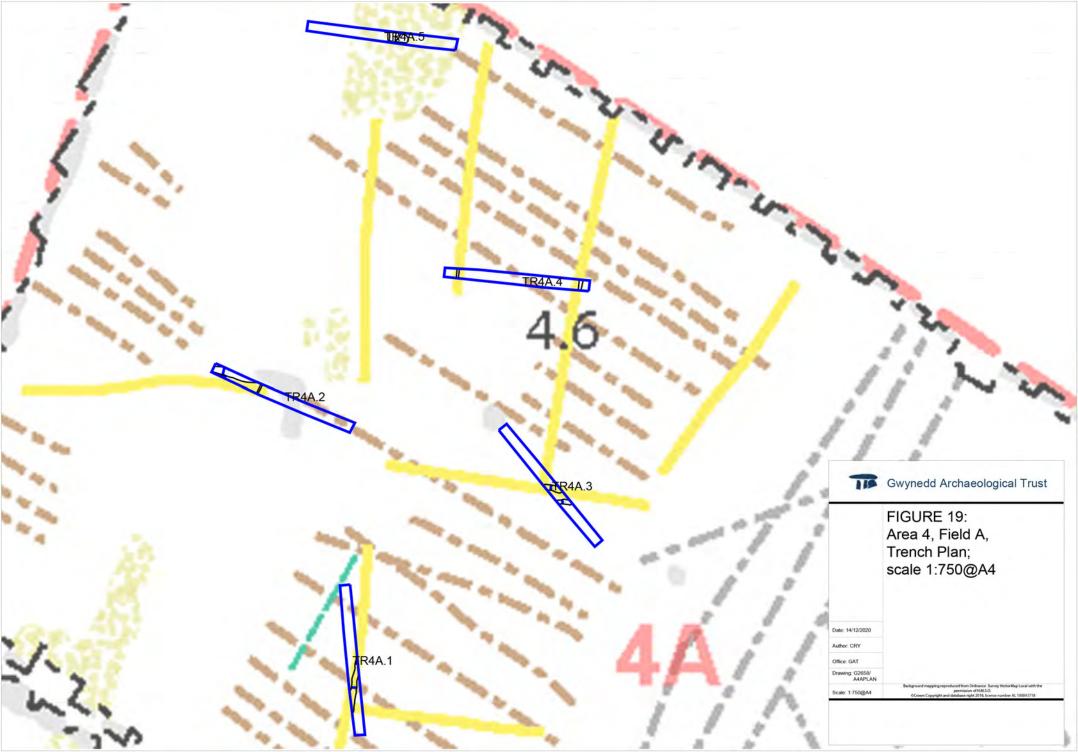


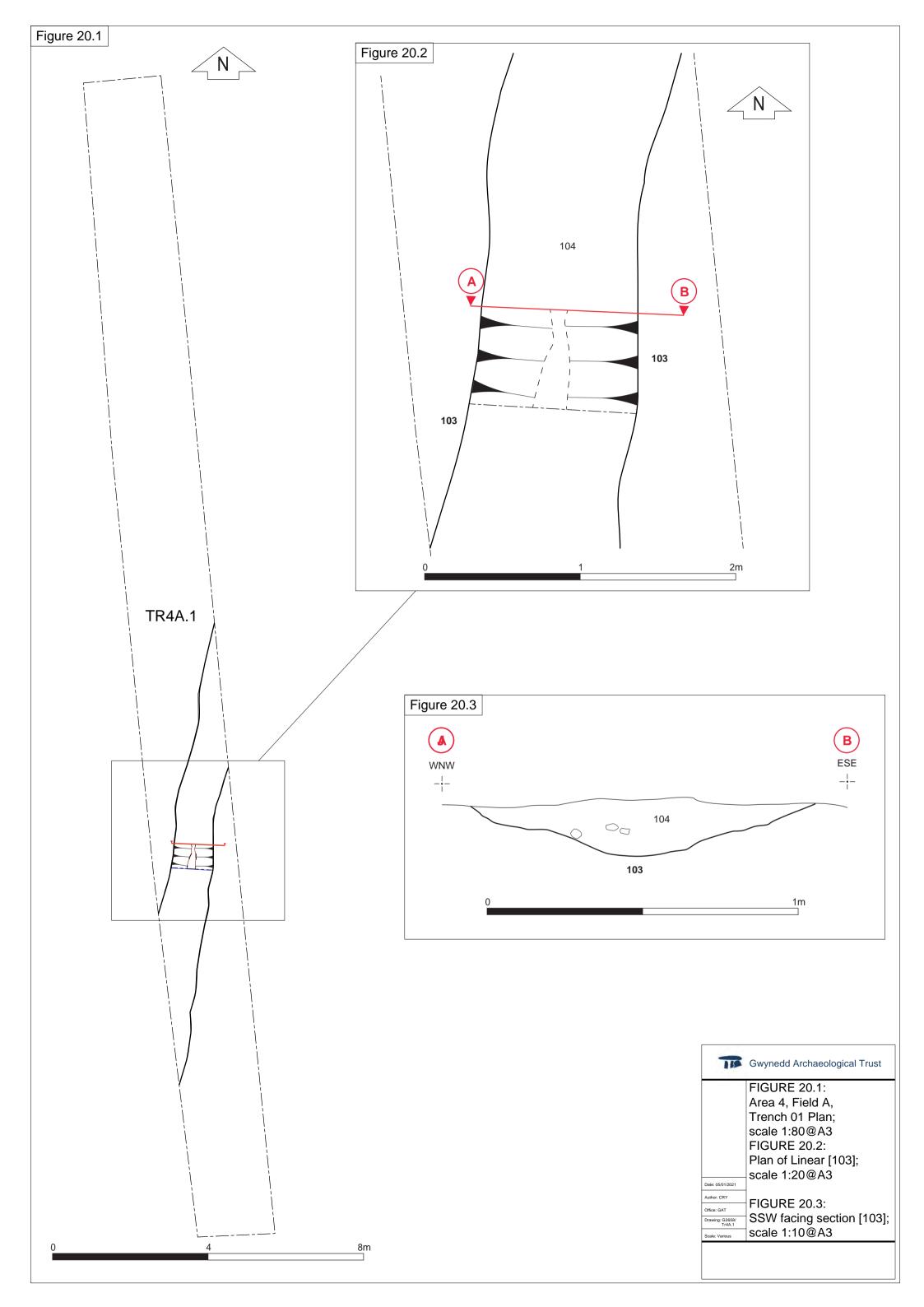
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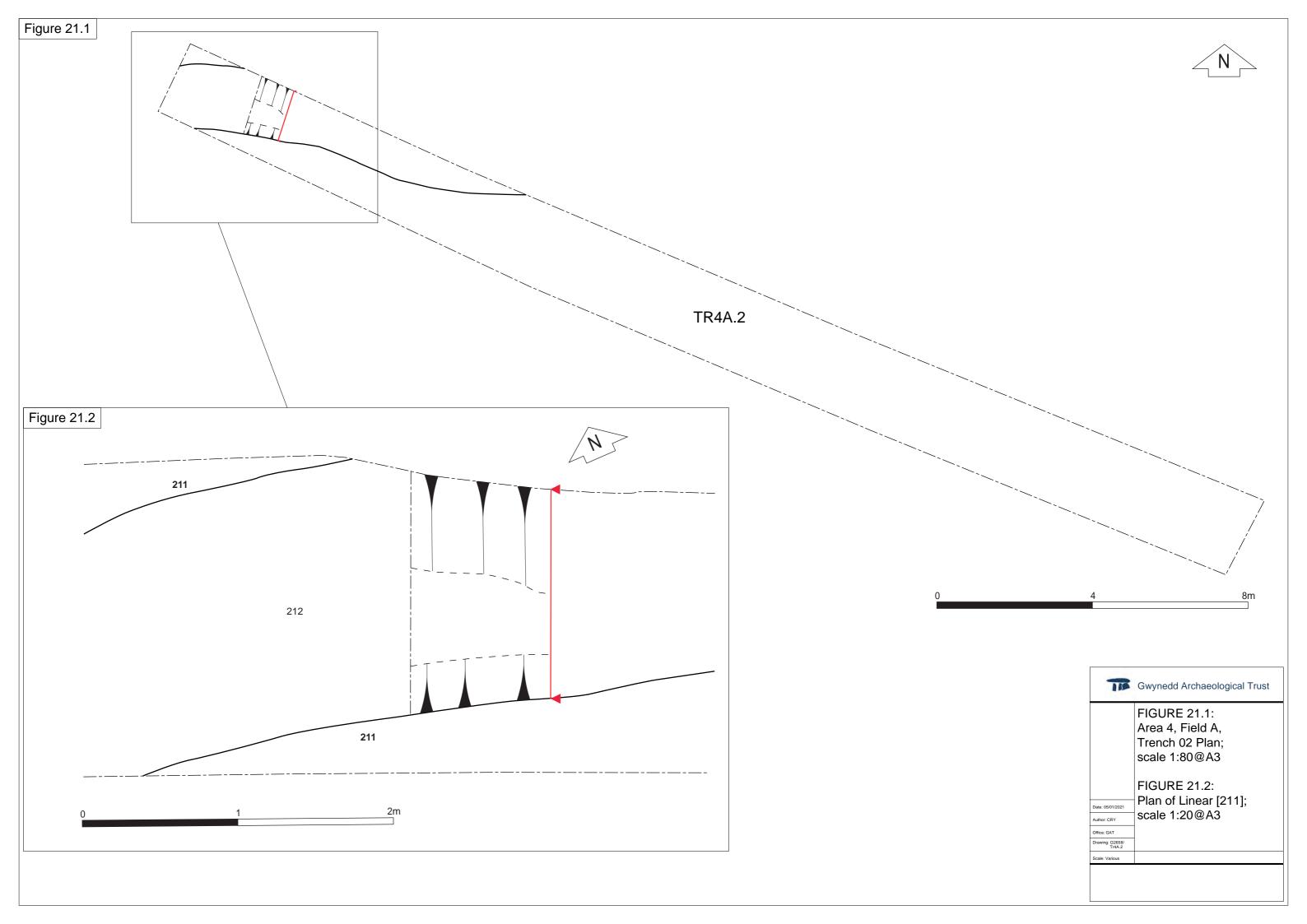


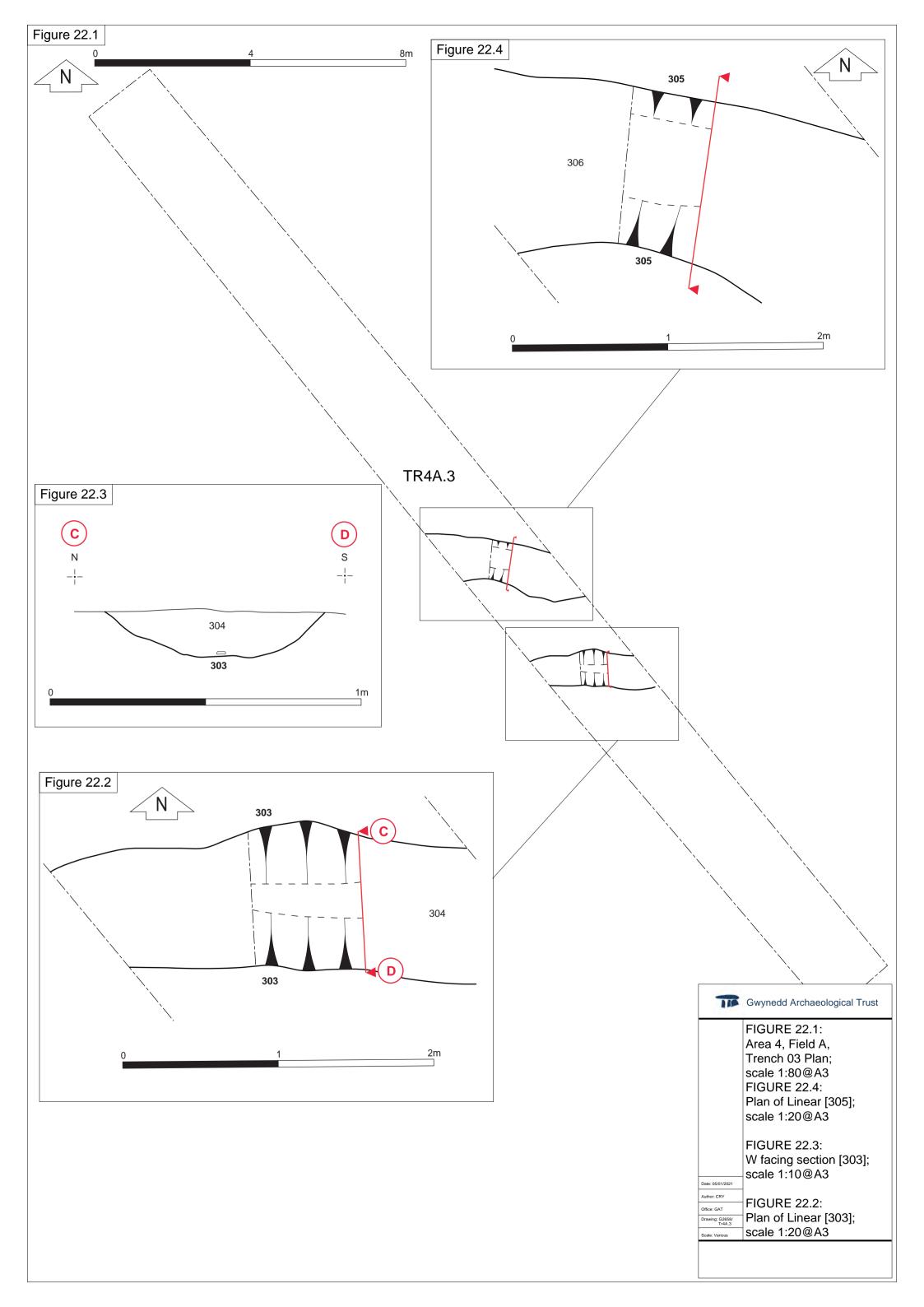
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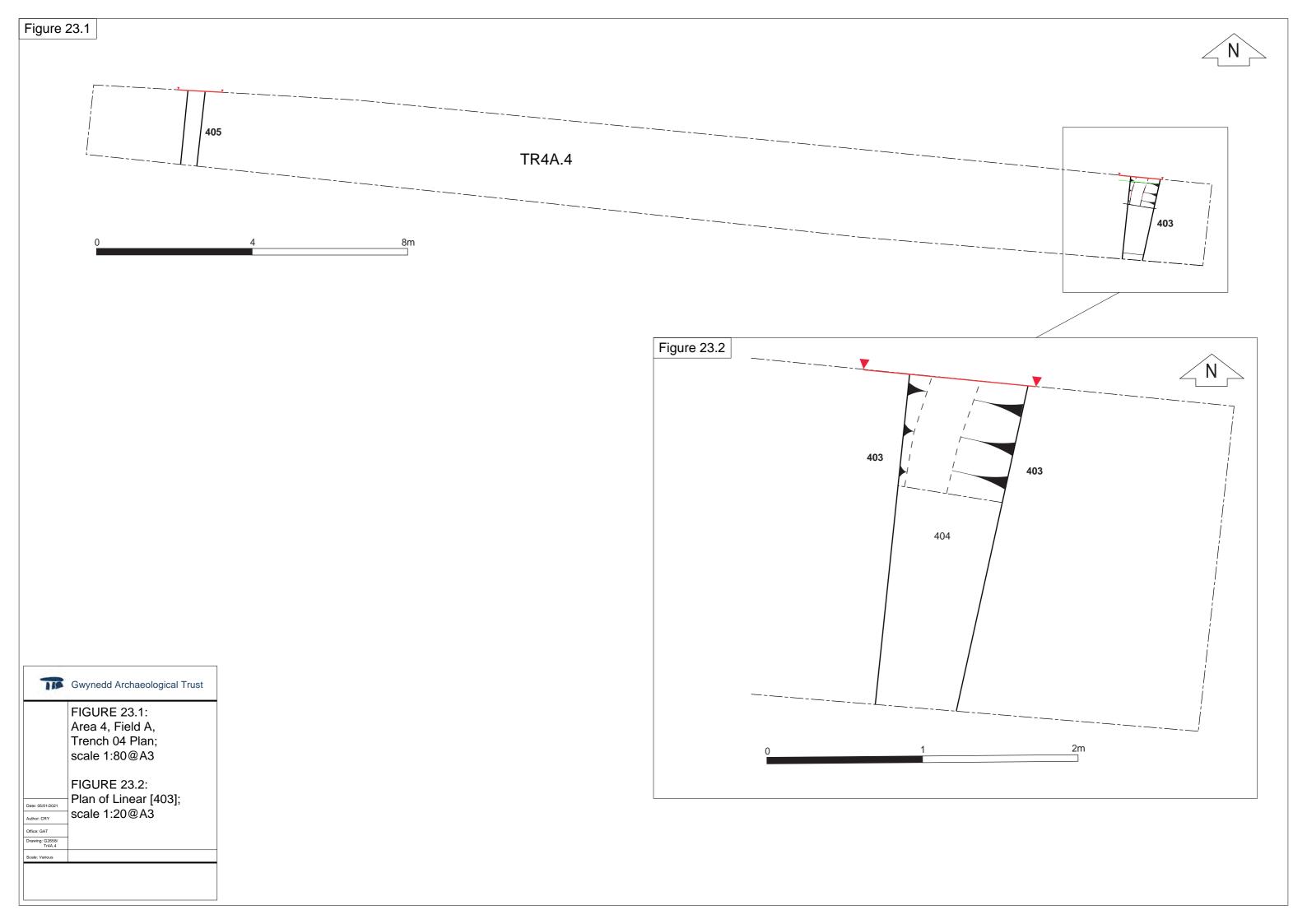


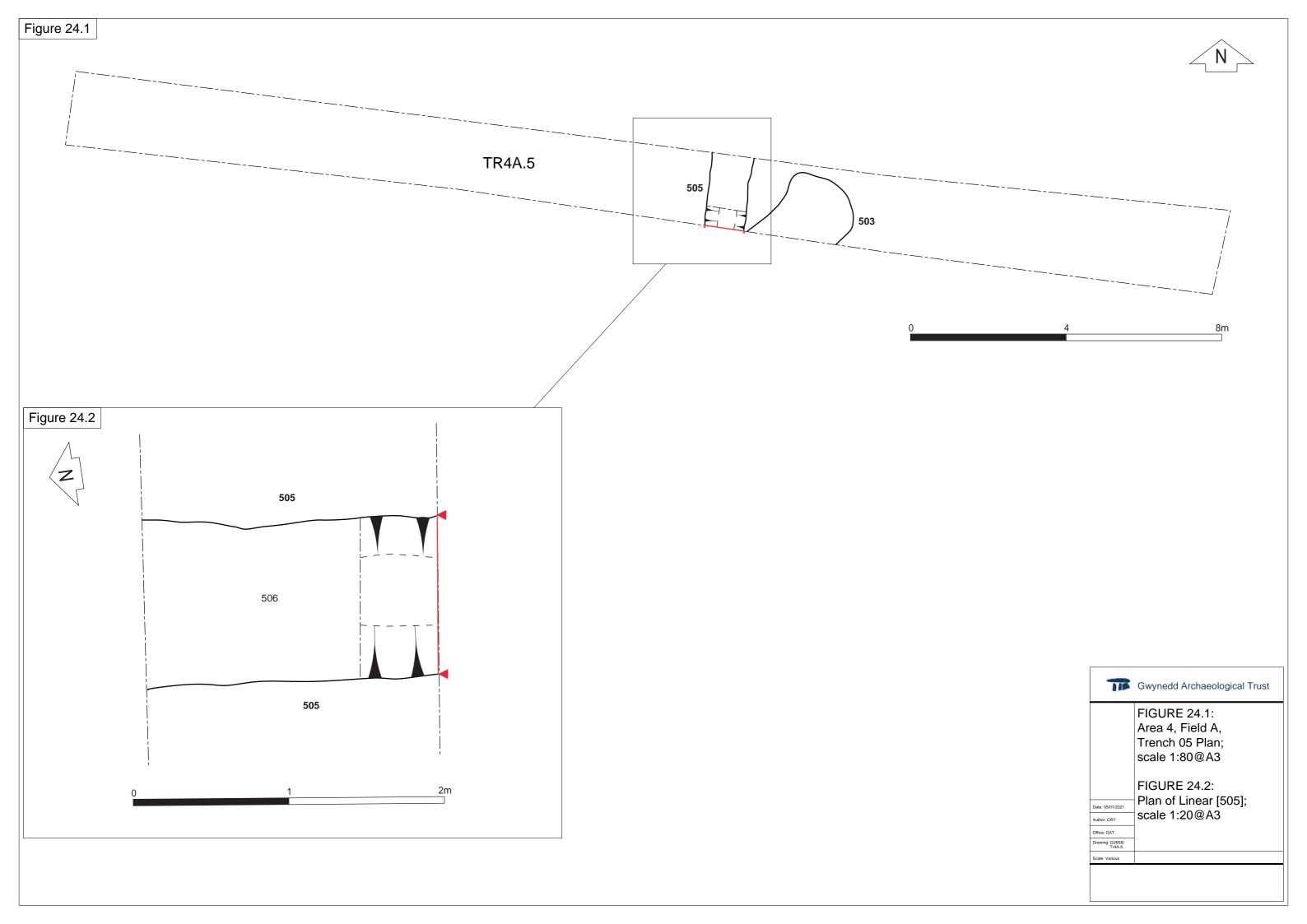


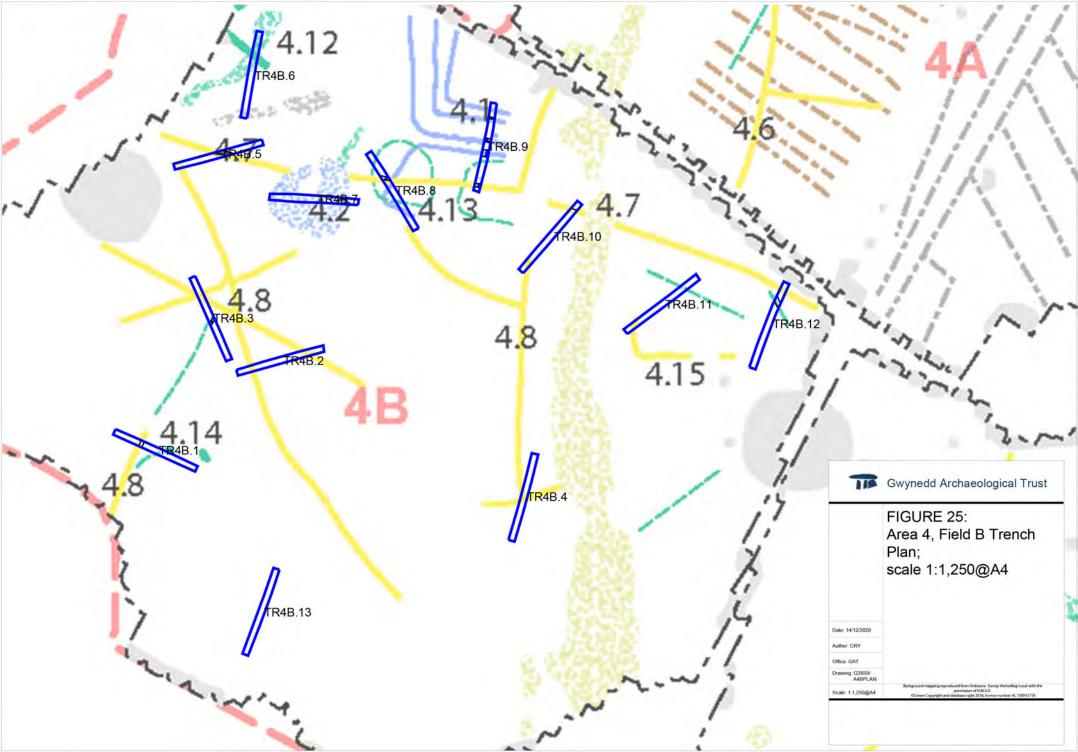


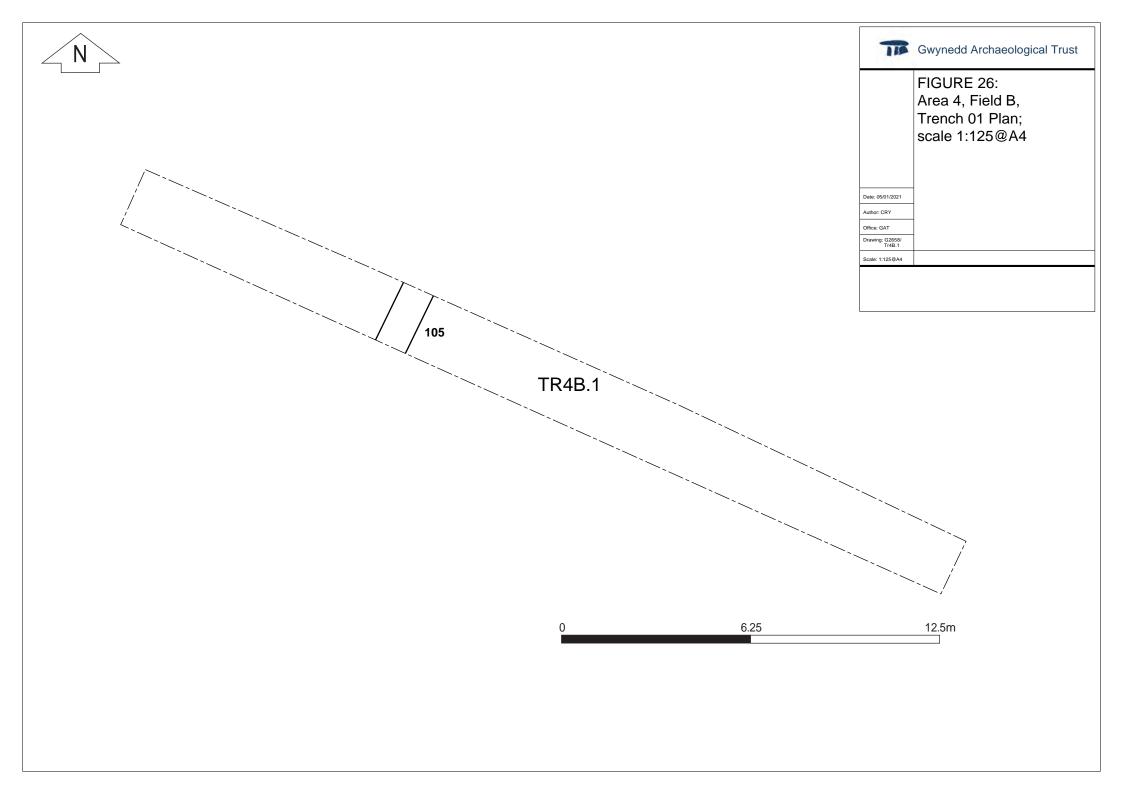


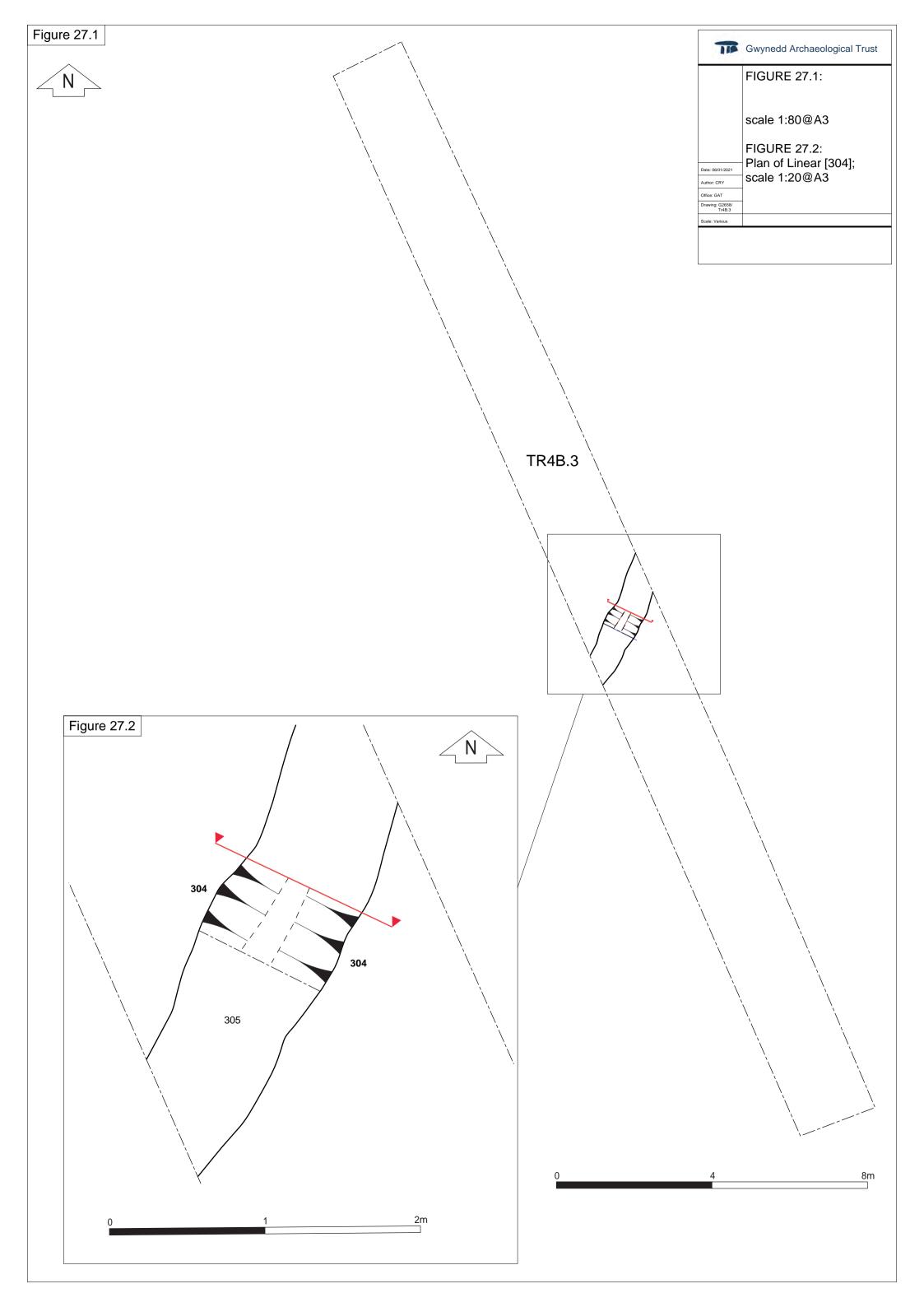


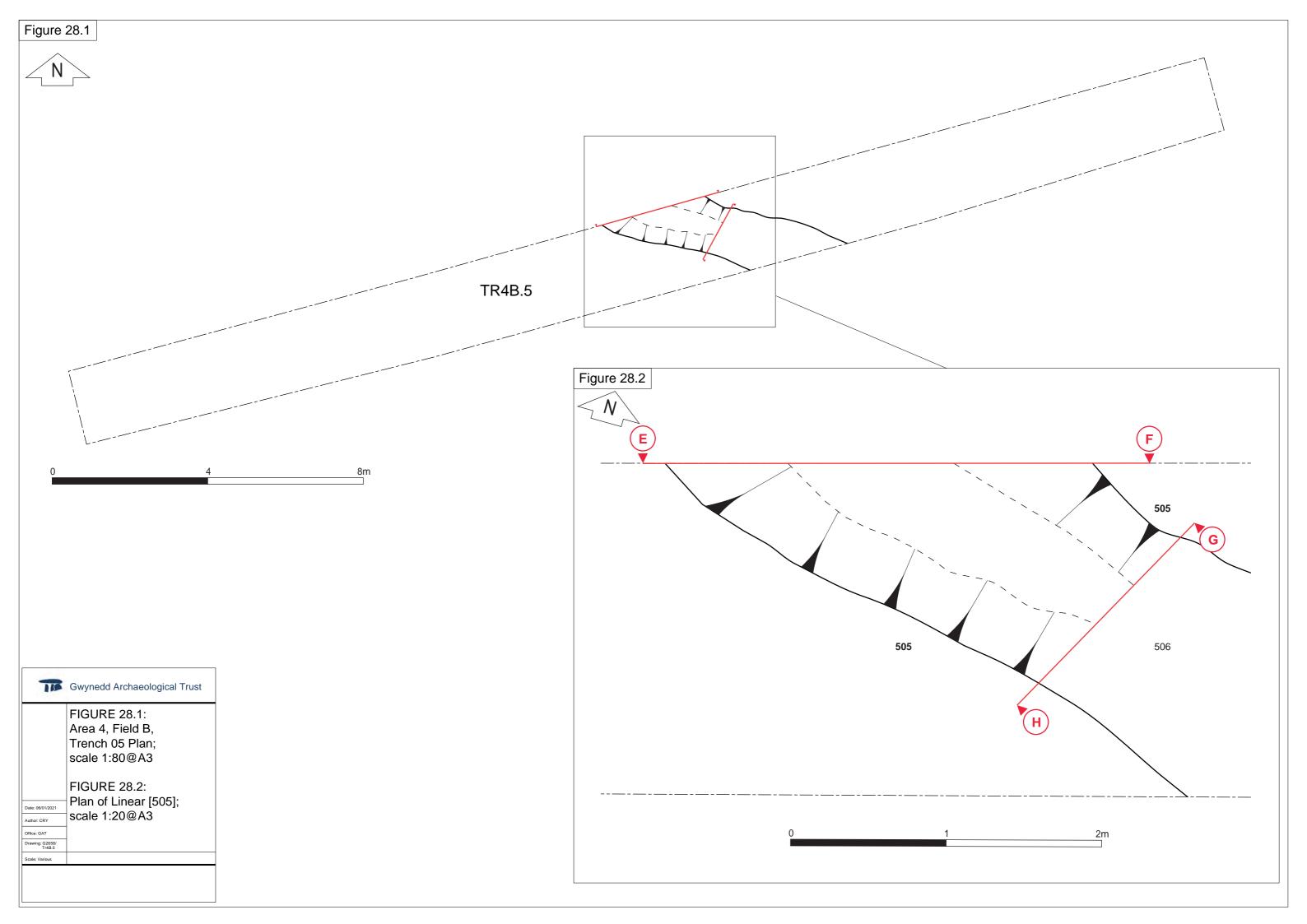


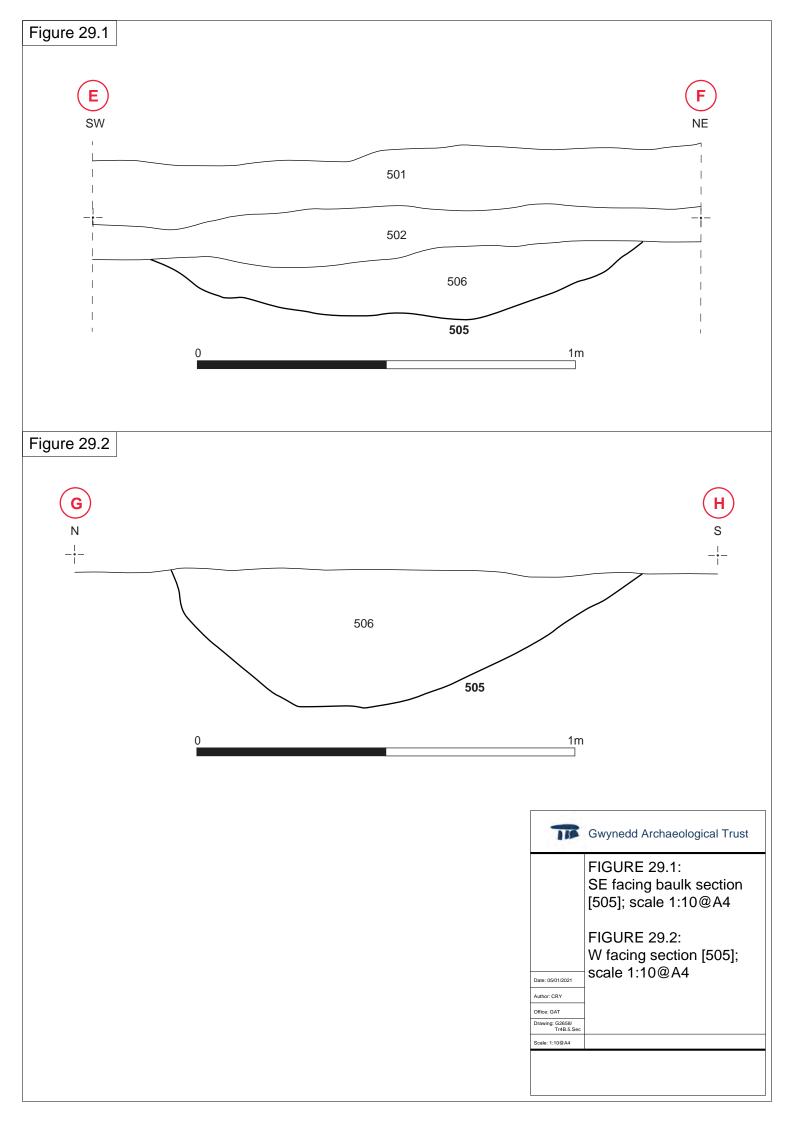


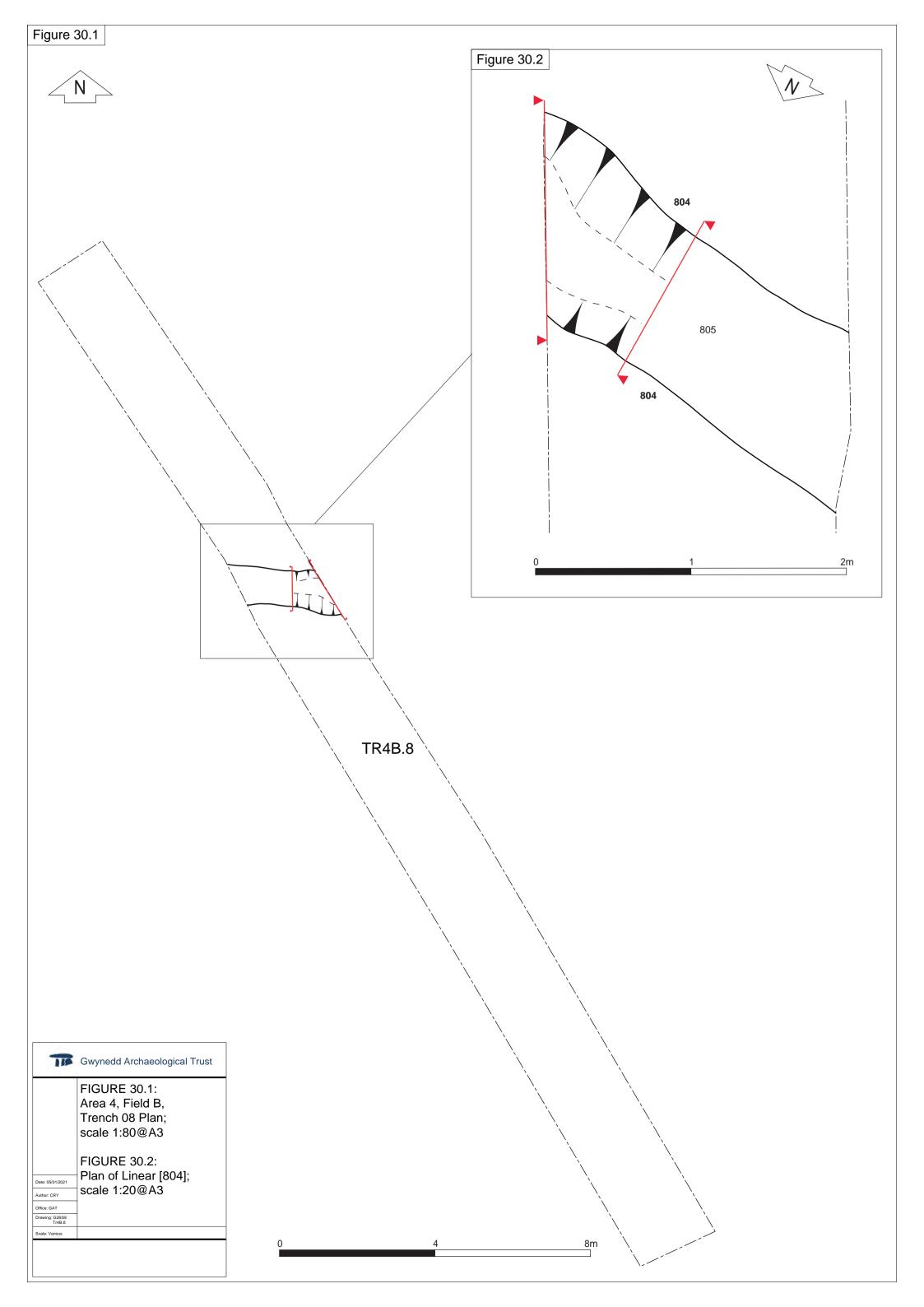


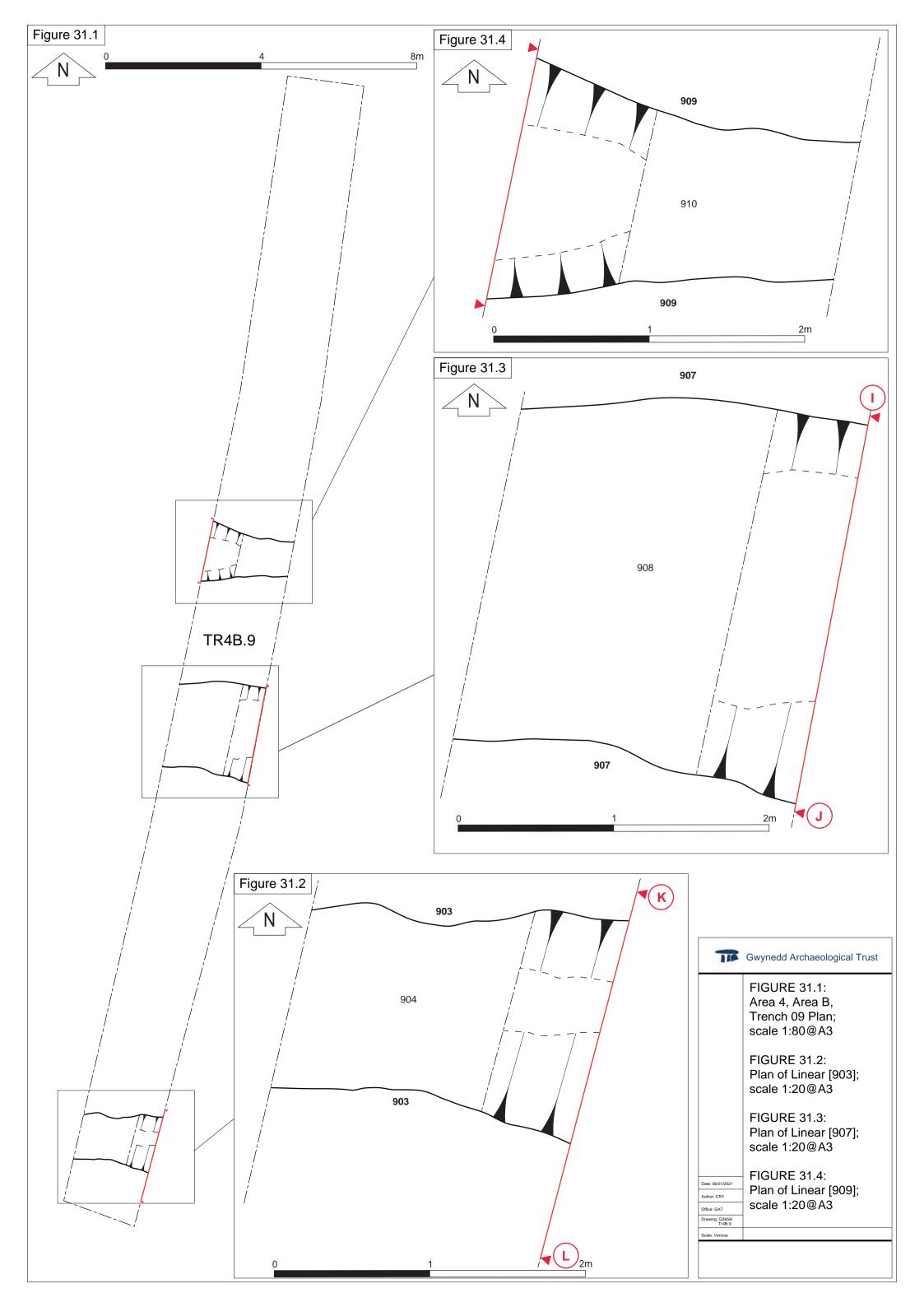


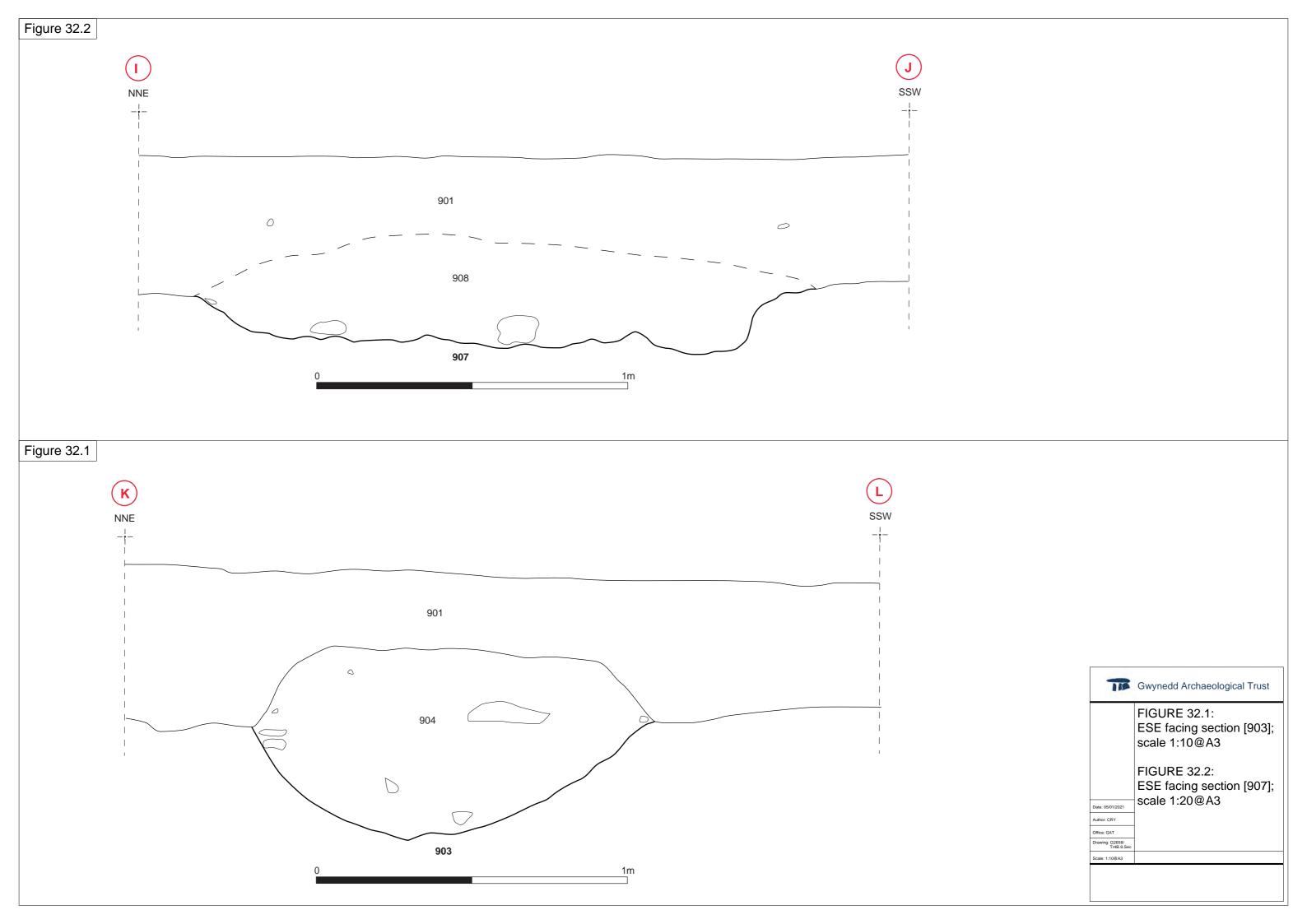


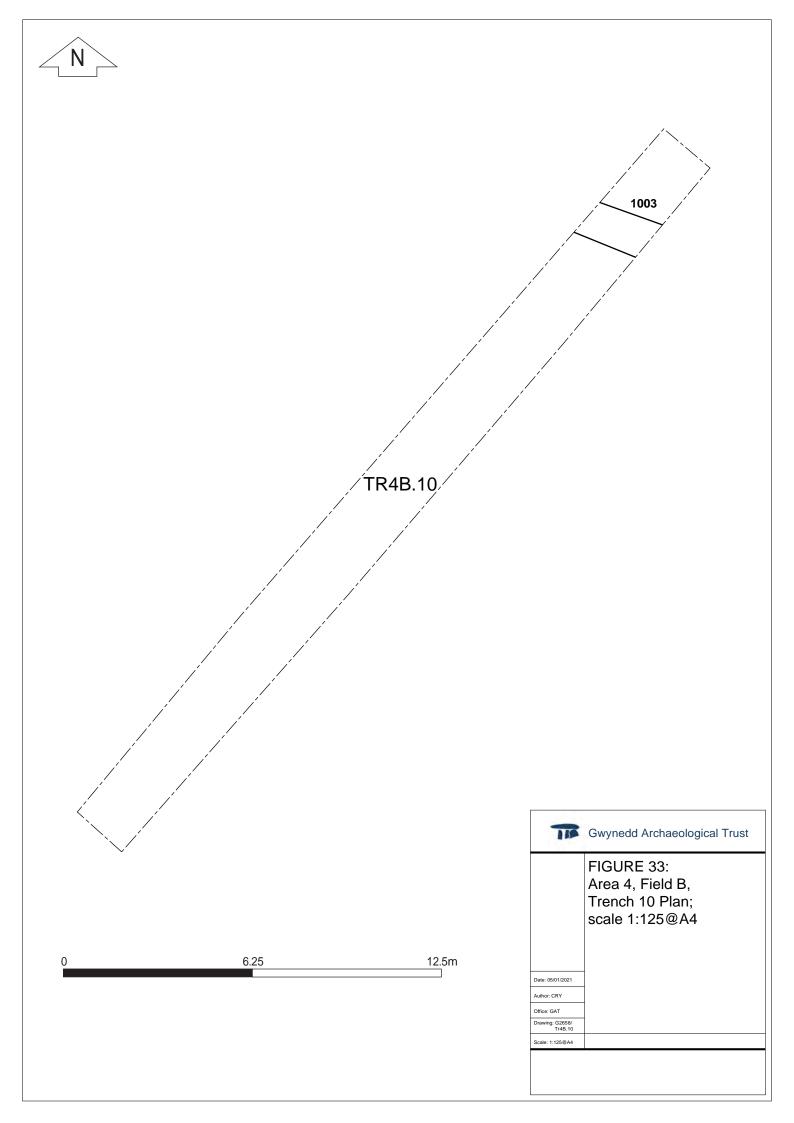


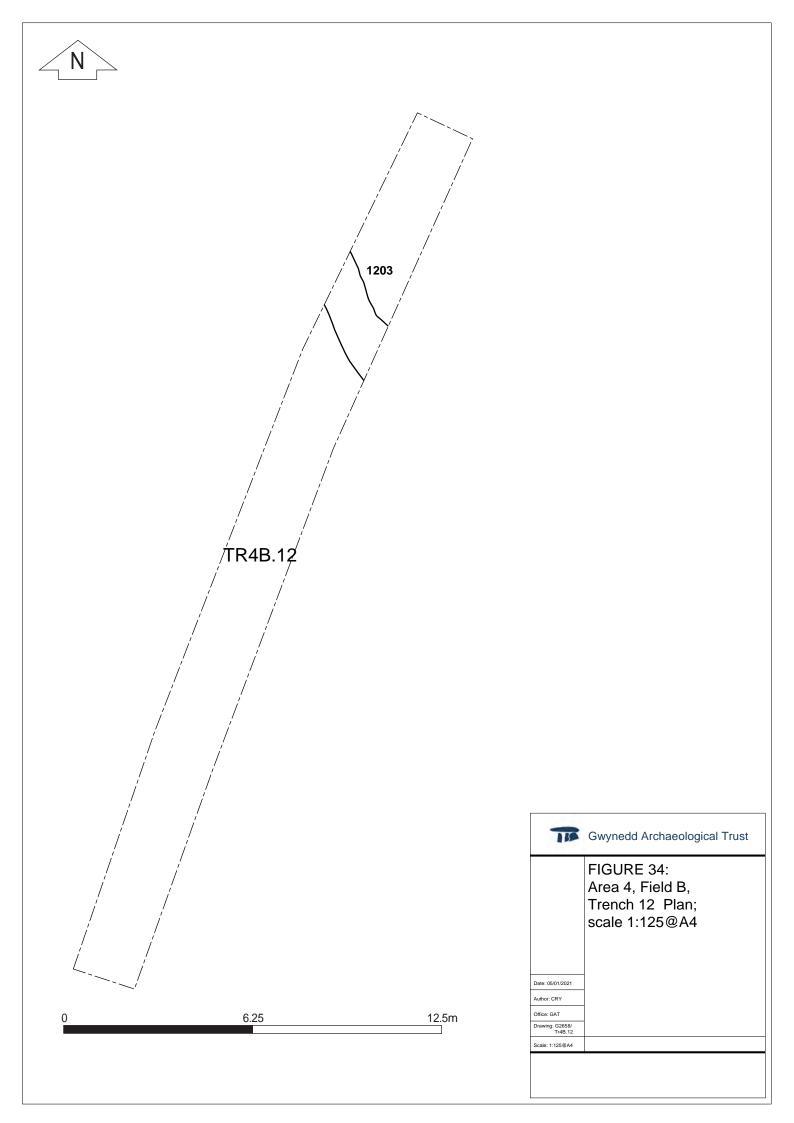


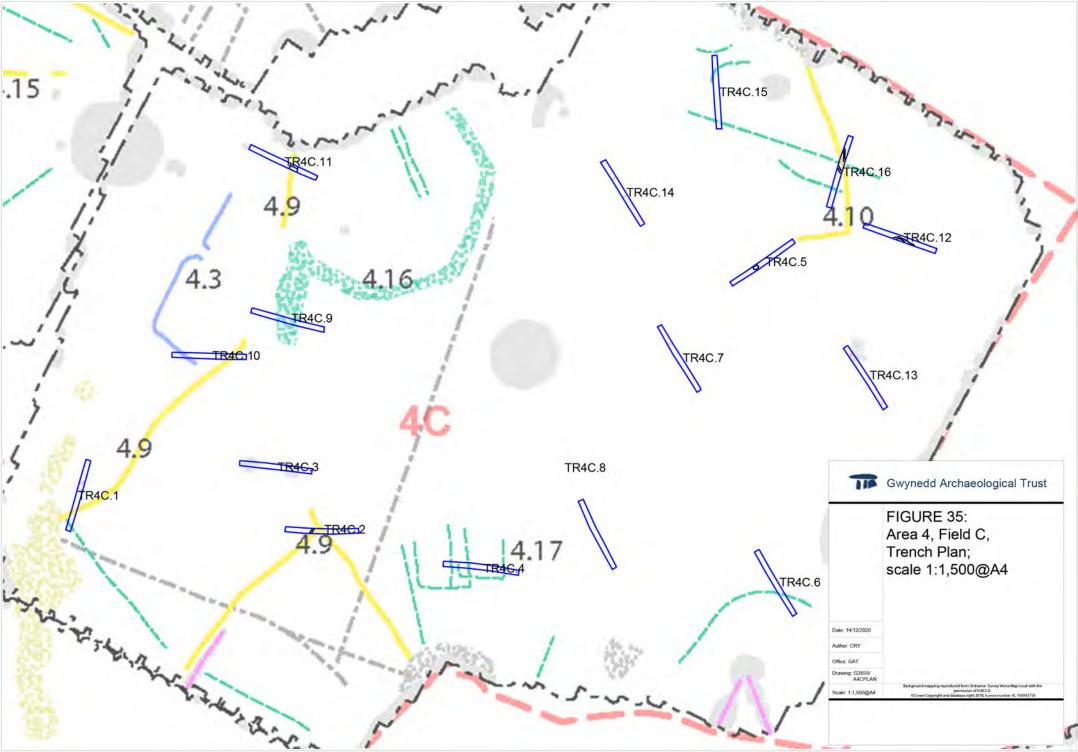










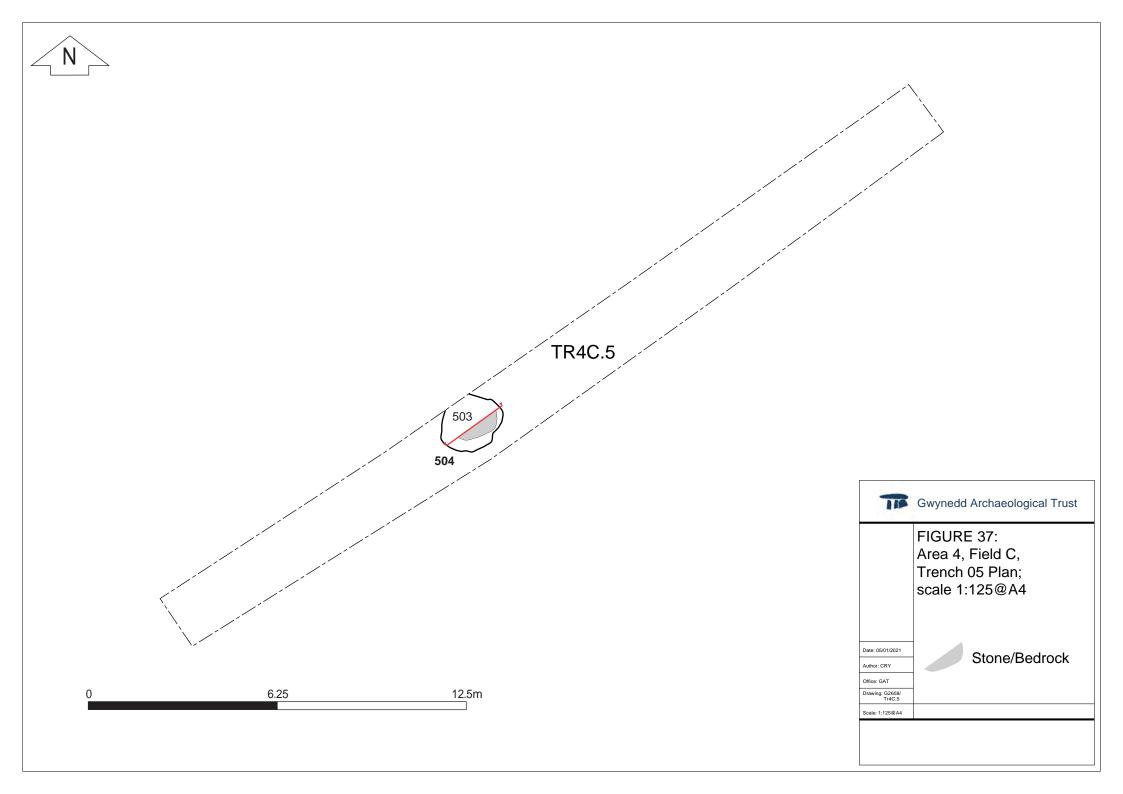


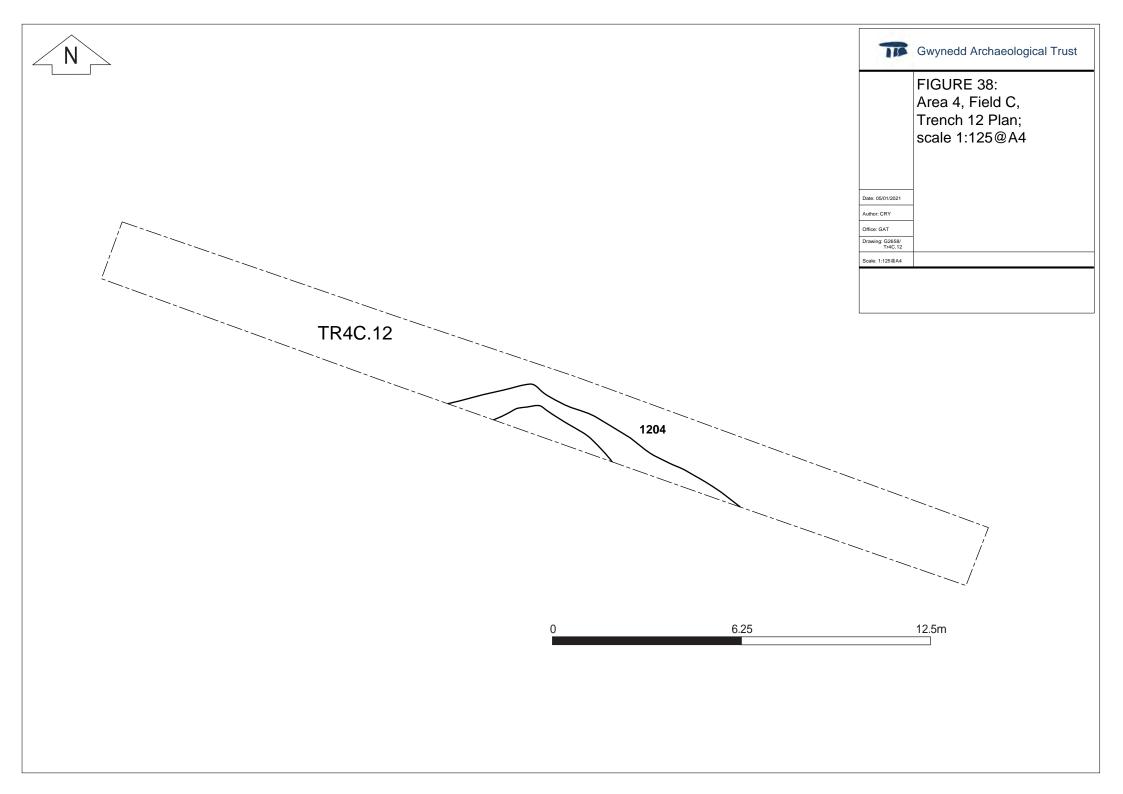


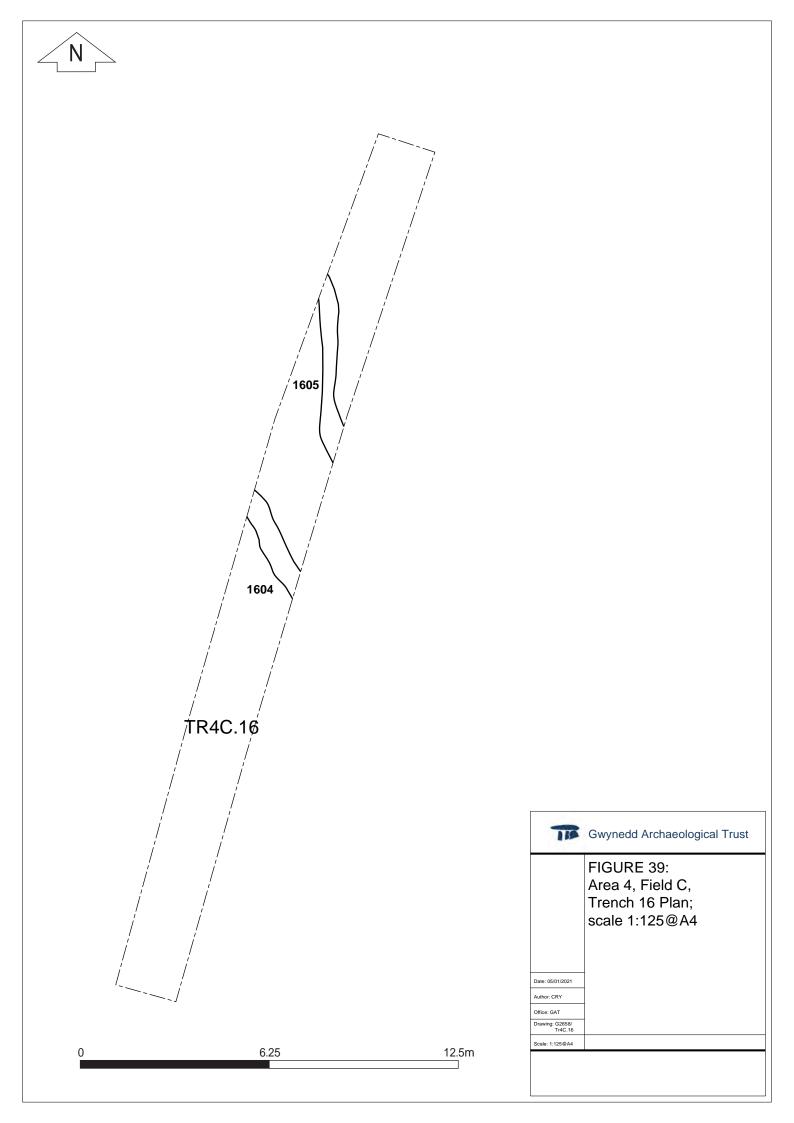
118	Gwynedd Archaeological Trust
	FIGURE 36: Area 4, Field C, Trench 02 Plan; scale 1:125@A4
Date: 06/01/2021	-
Author: CRY	
Office: GAT	
Drawing: G2658/ Tr4C.2	
Scale: 1:125@A4	

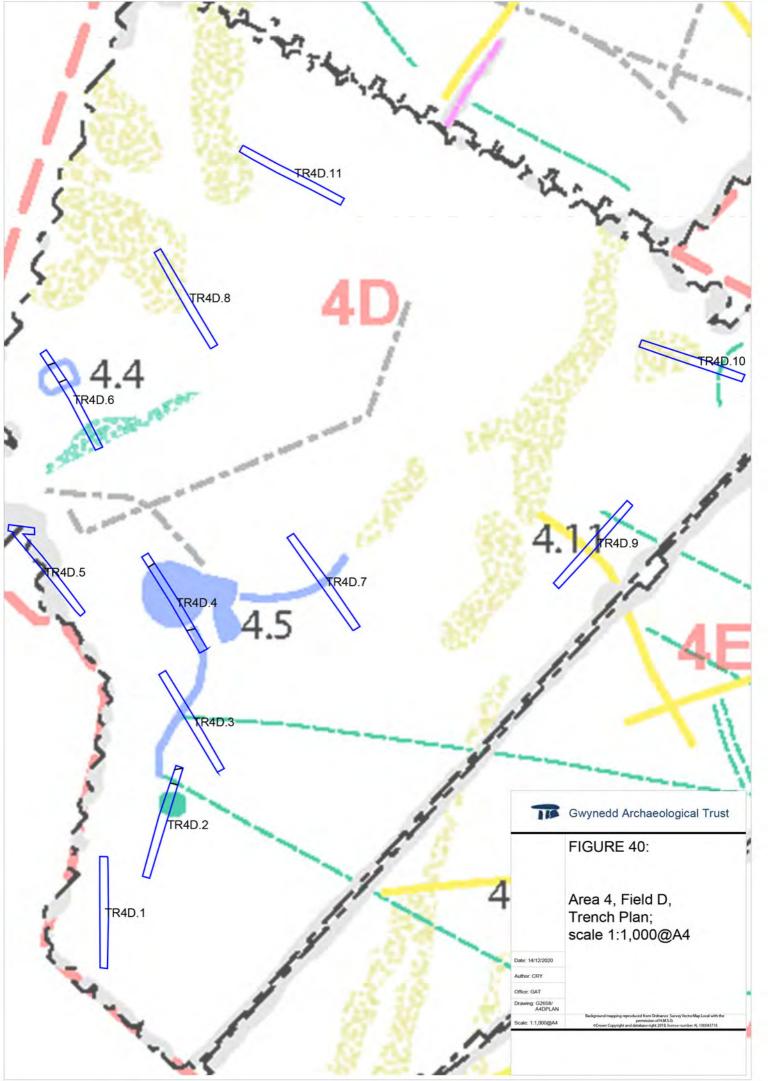
204 TR4C.2

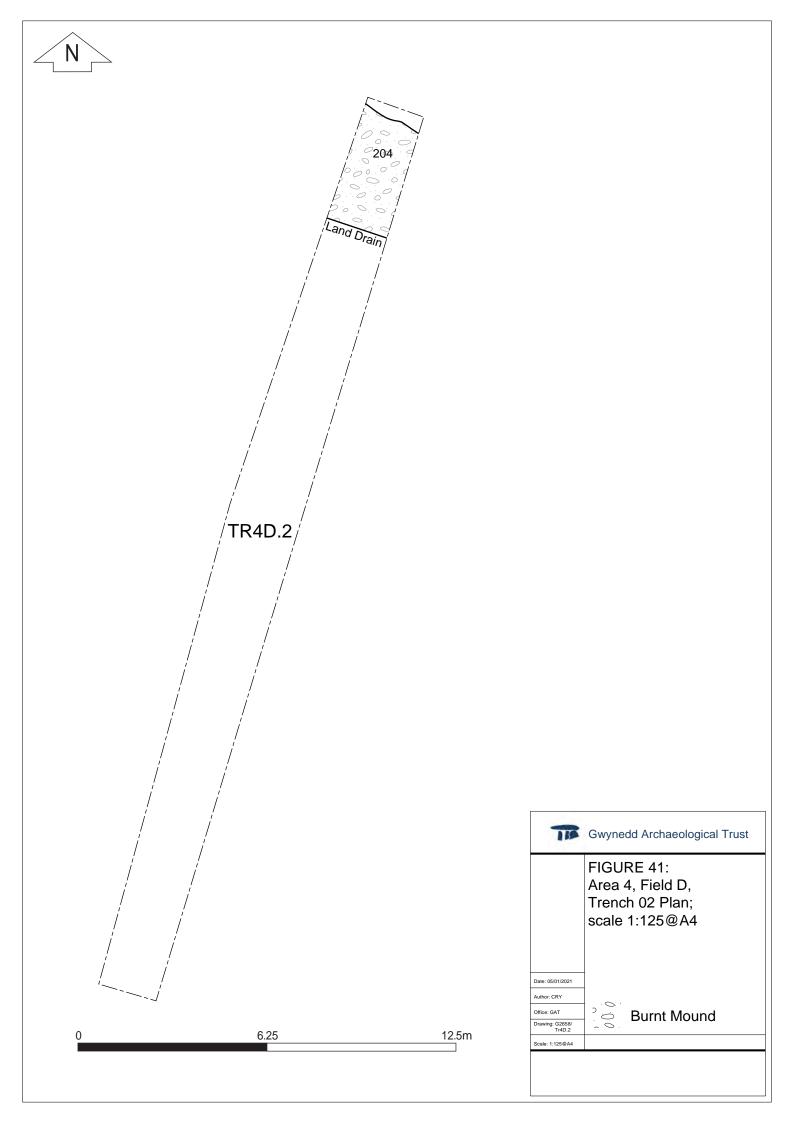
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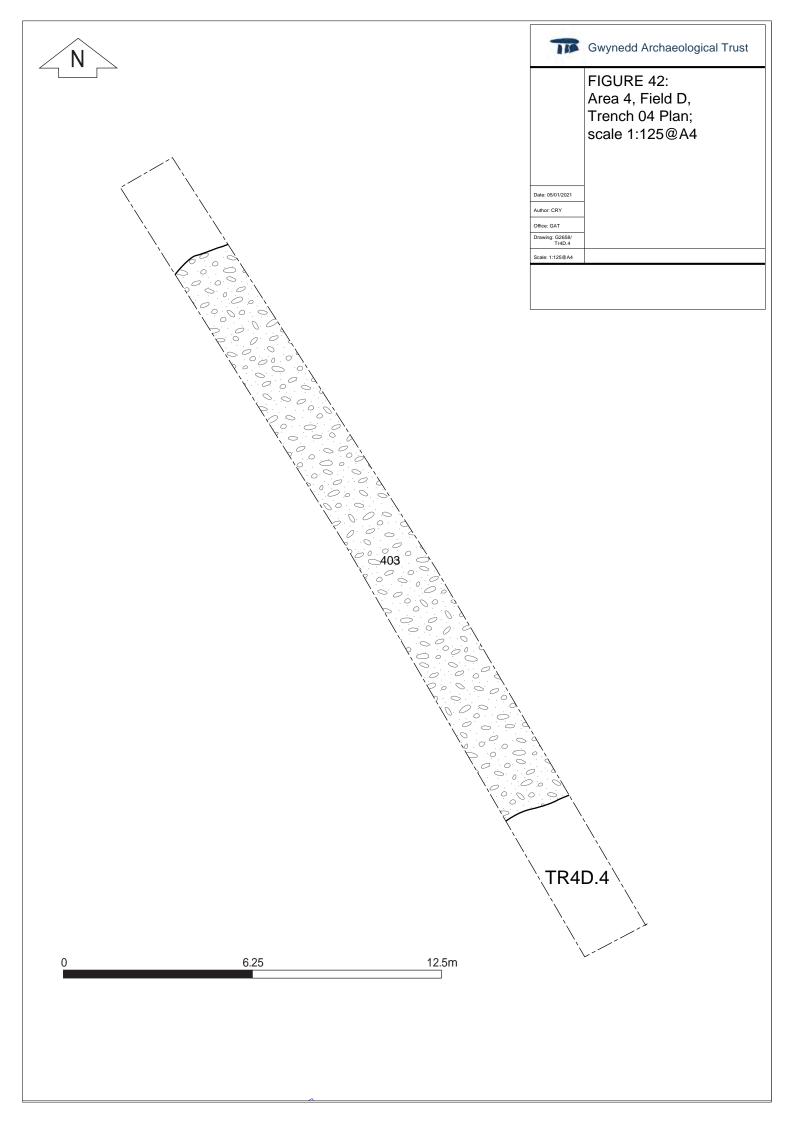




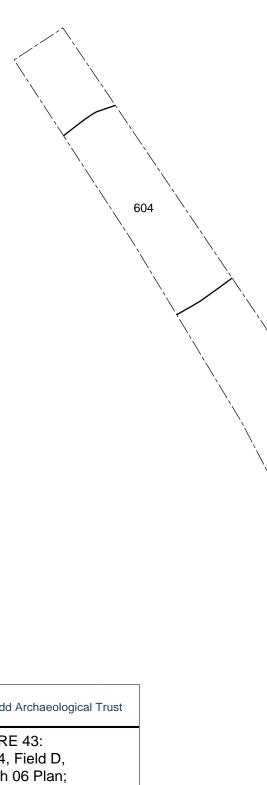


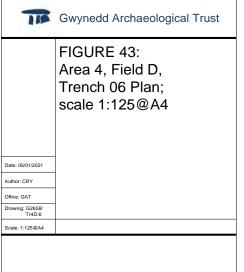






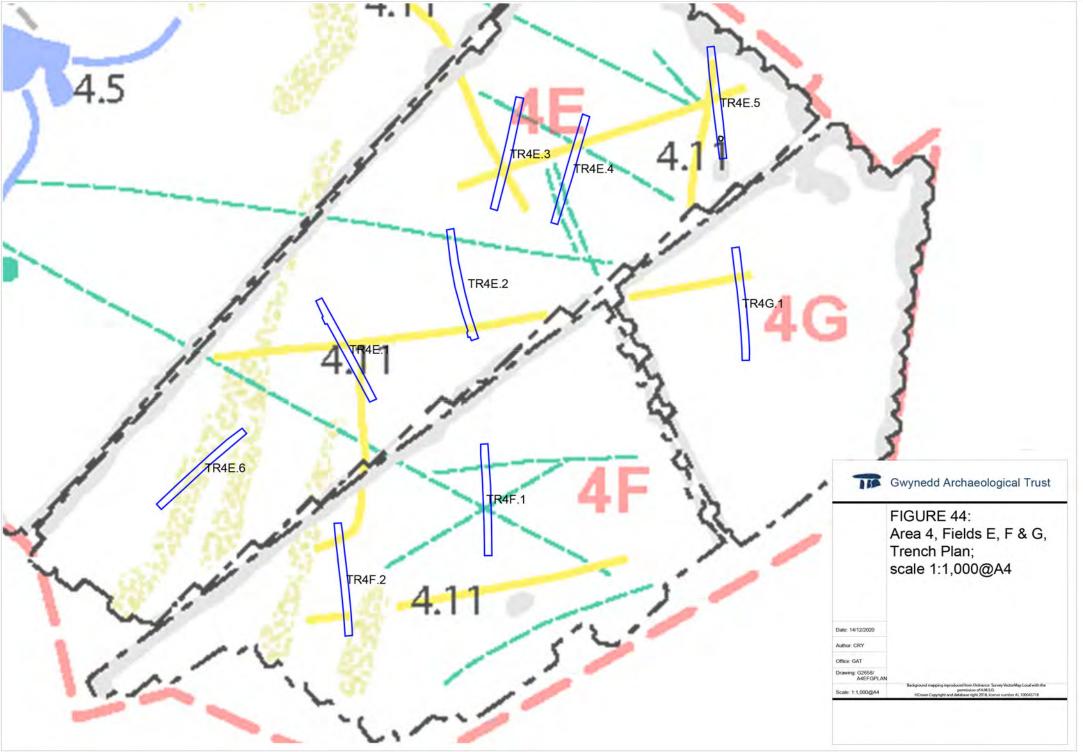


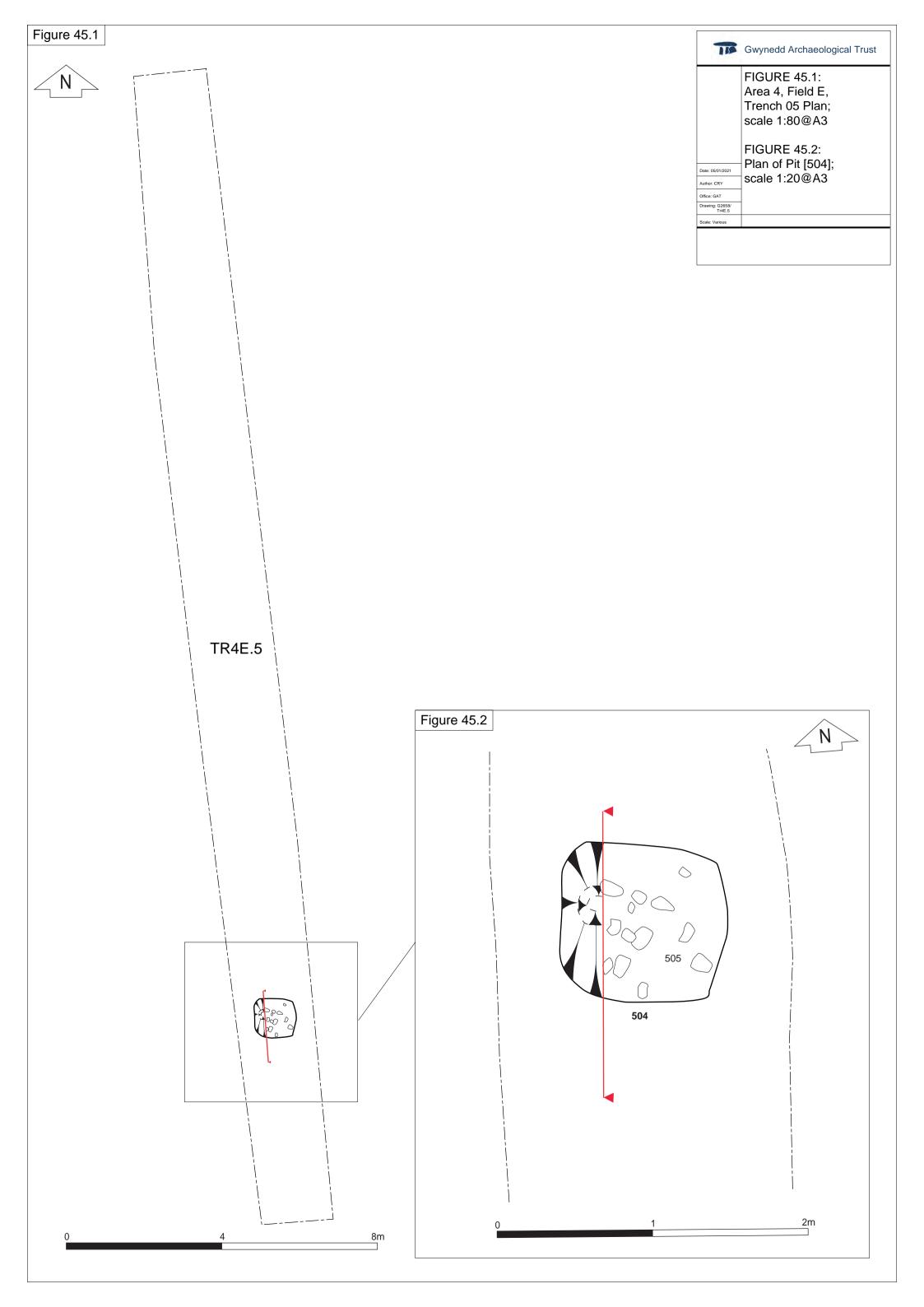


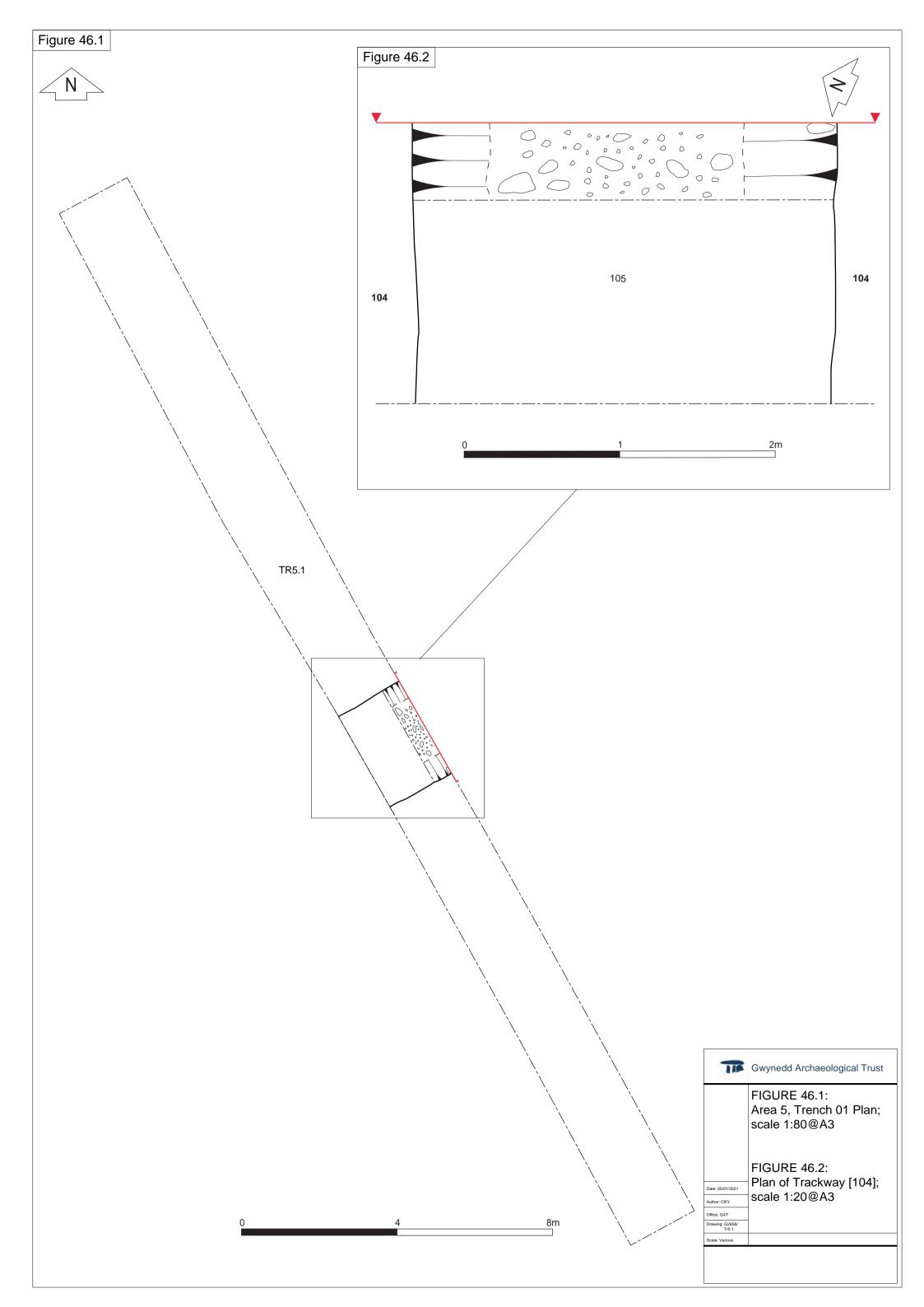


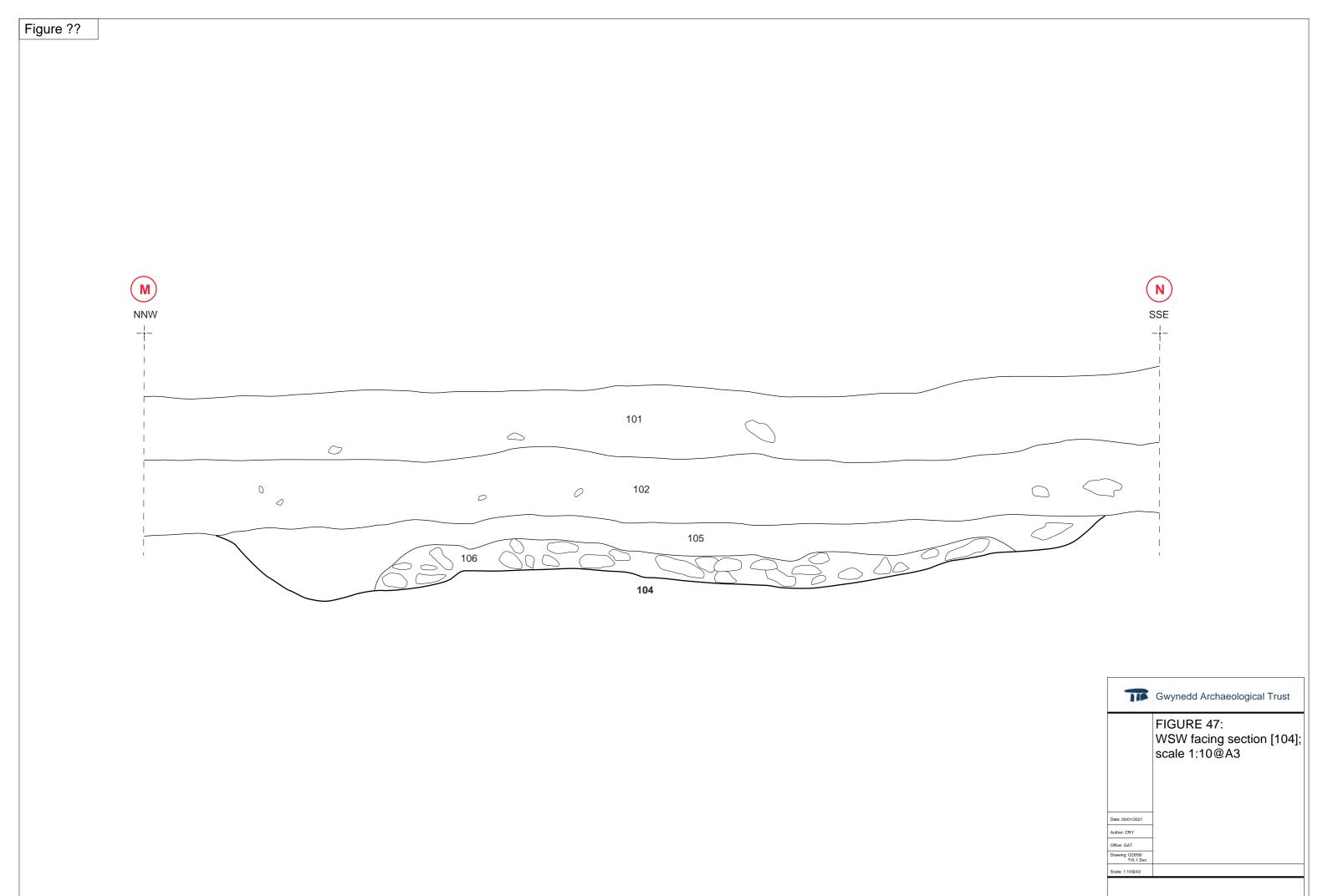


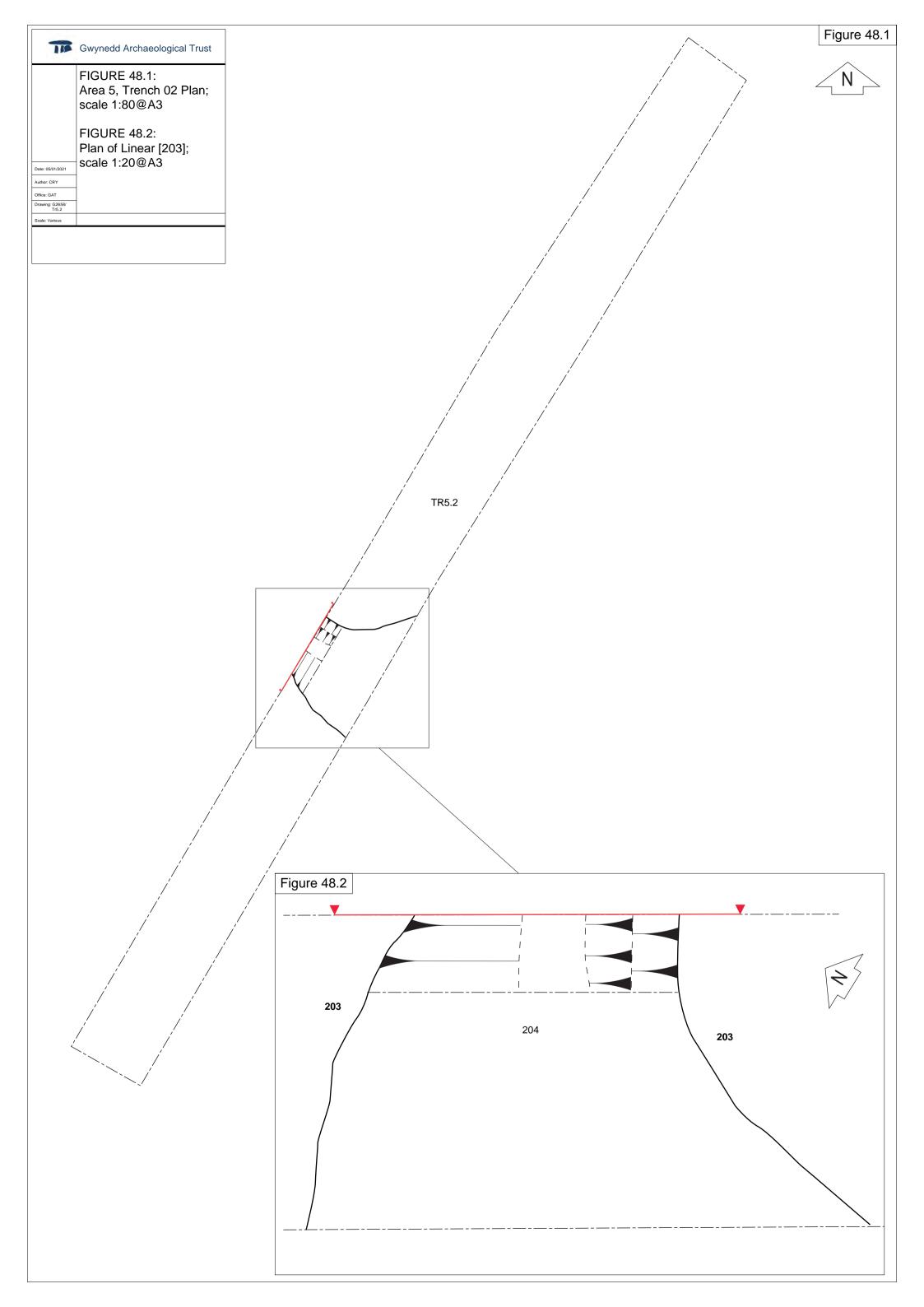
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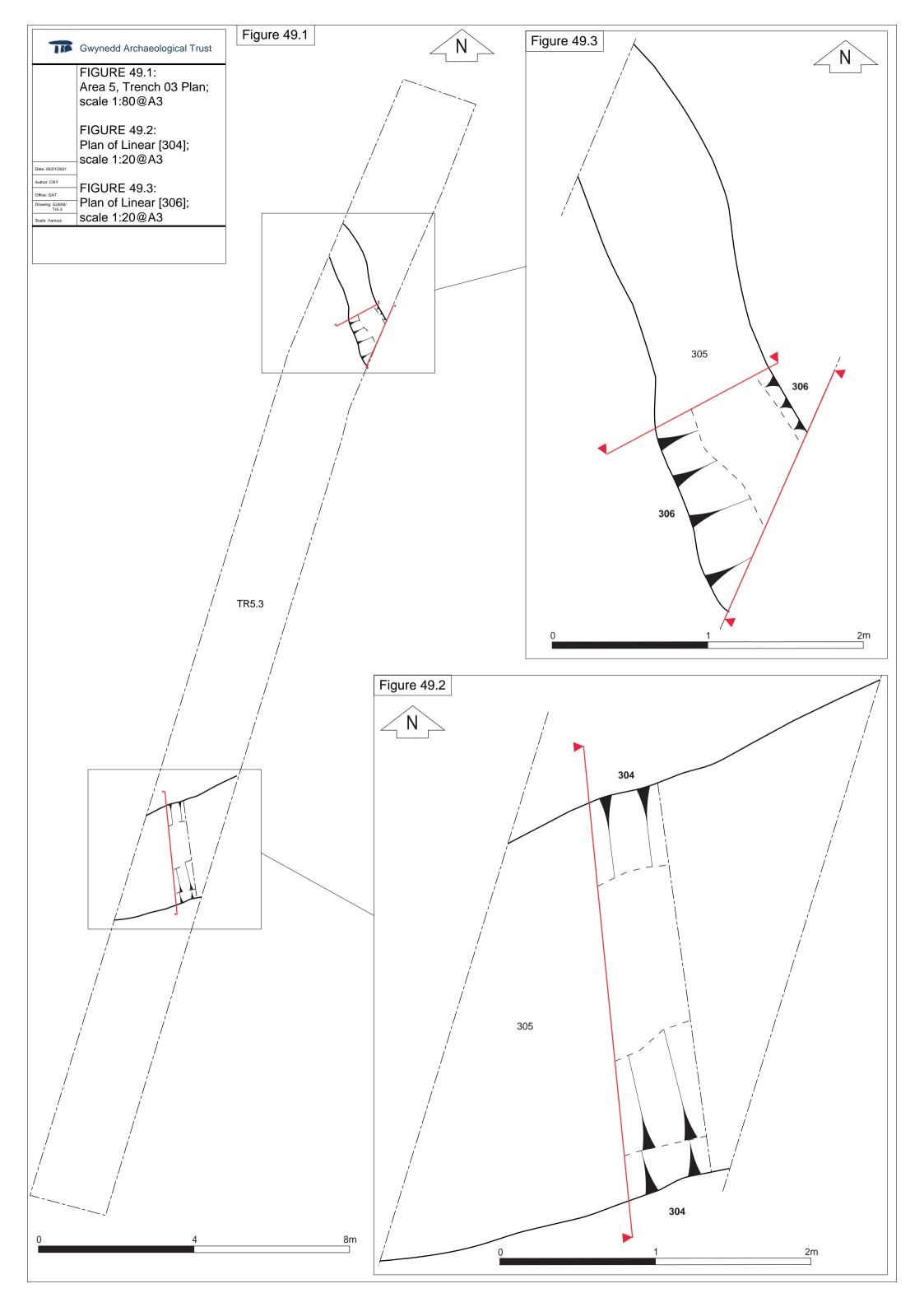


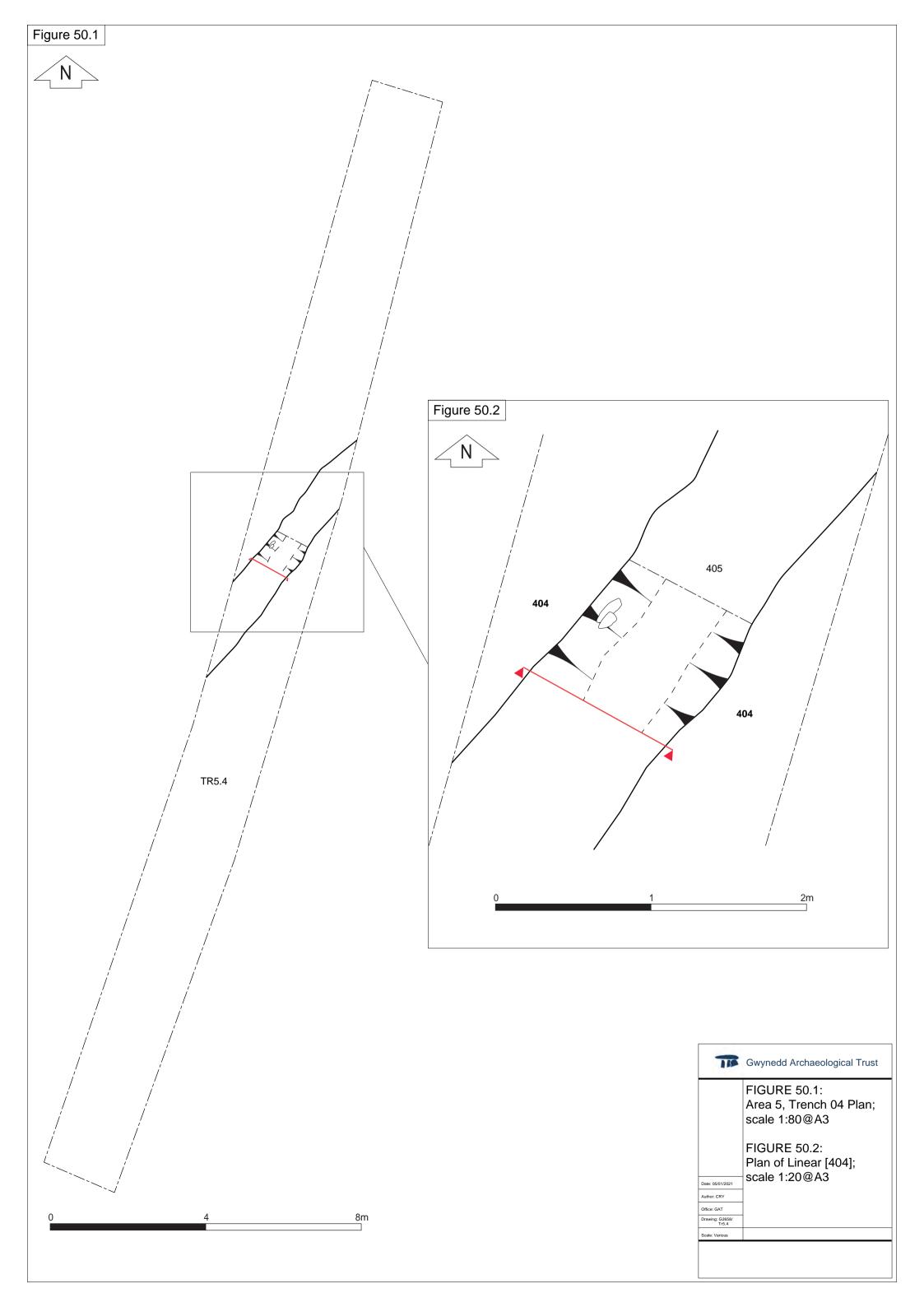


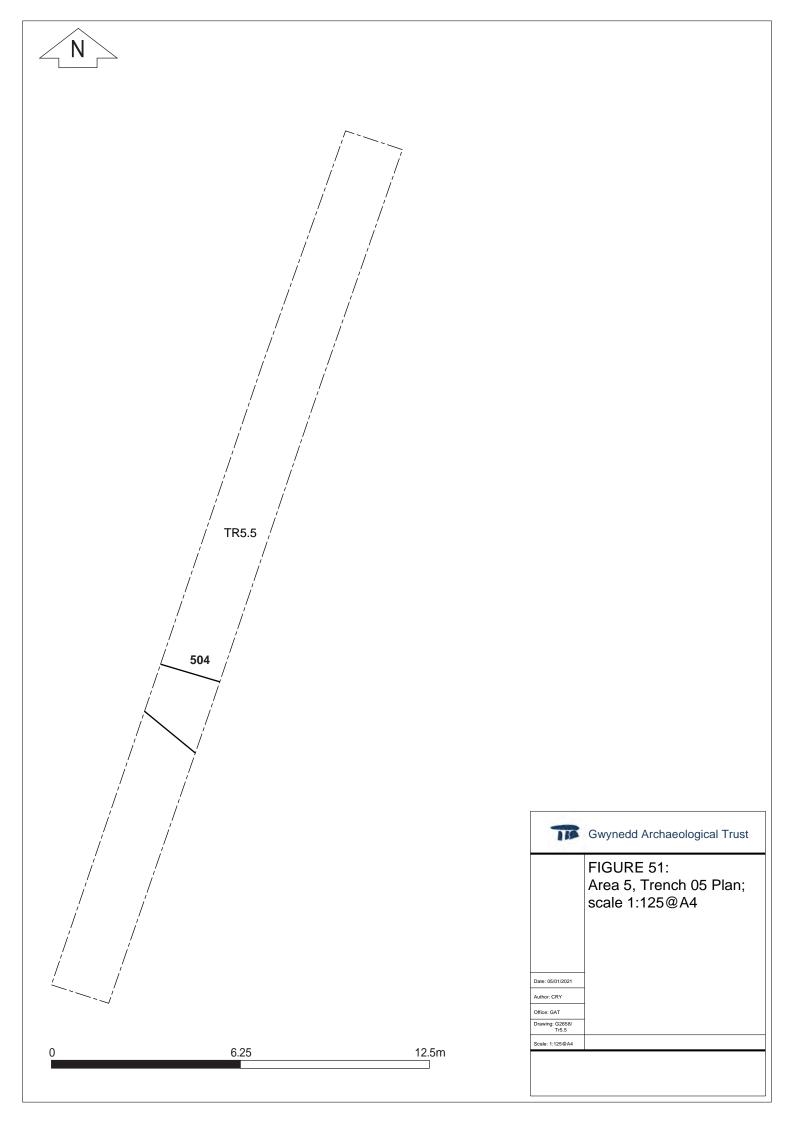


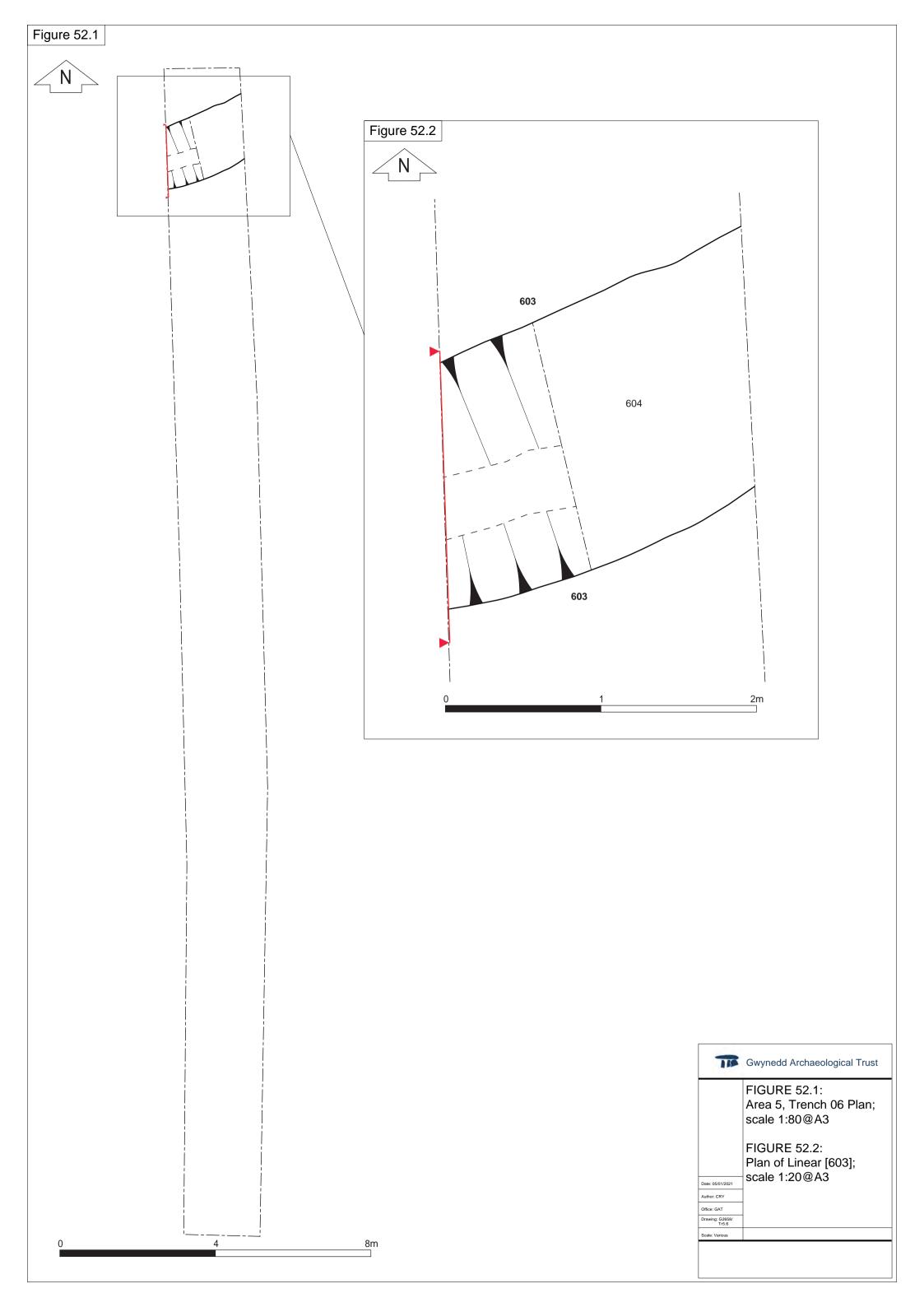


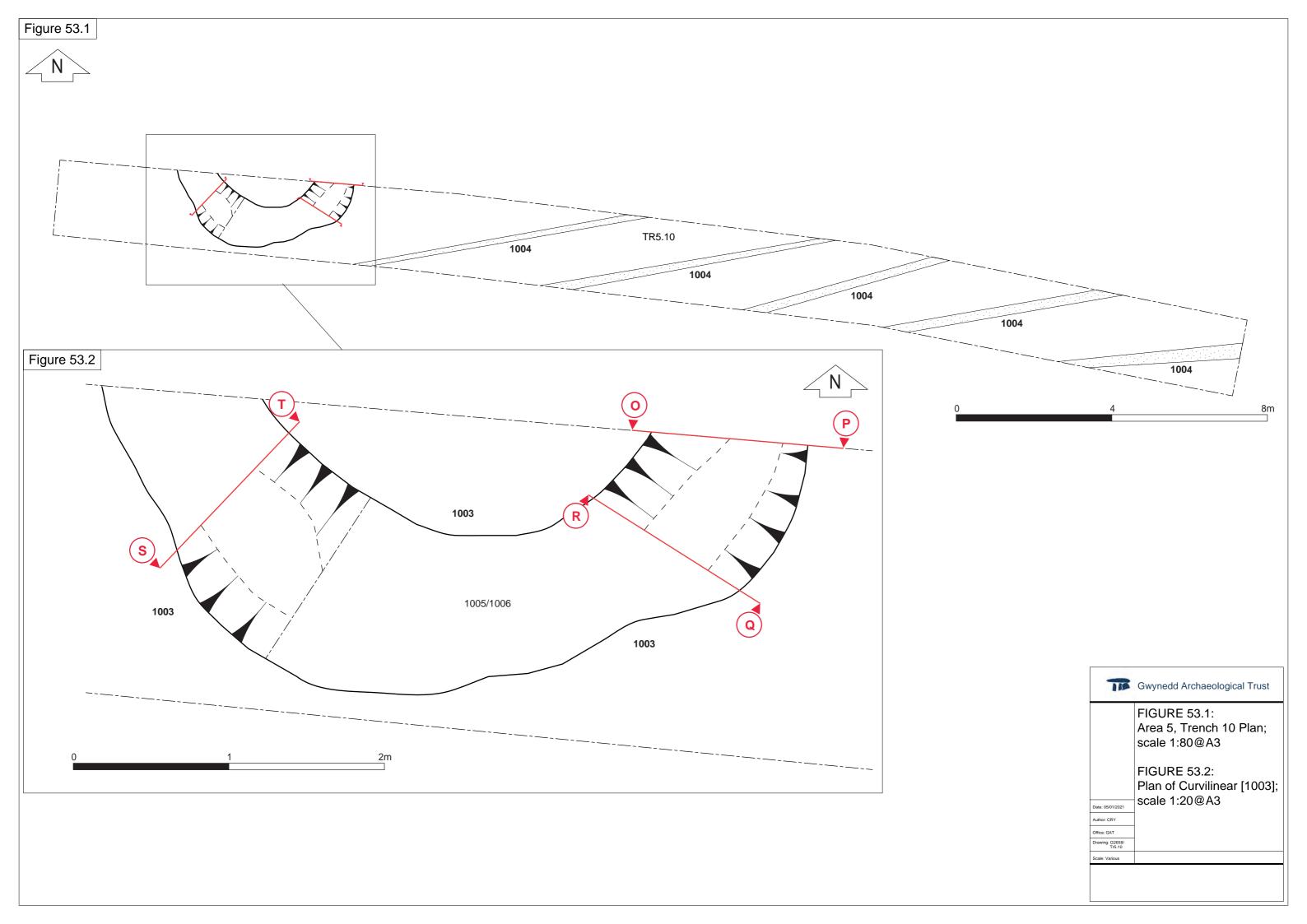


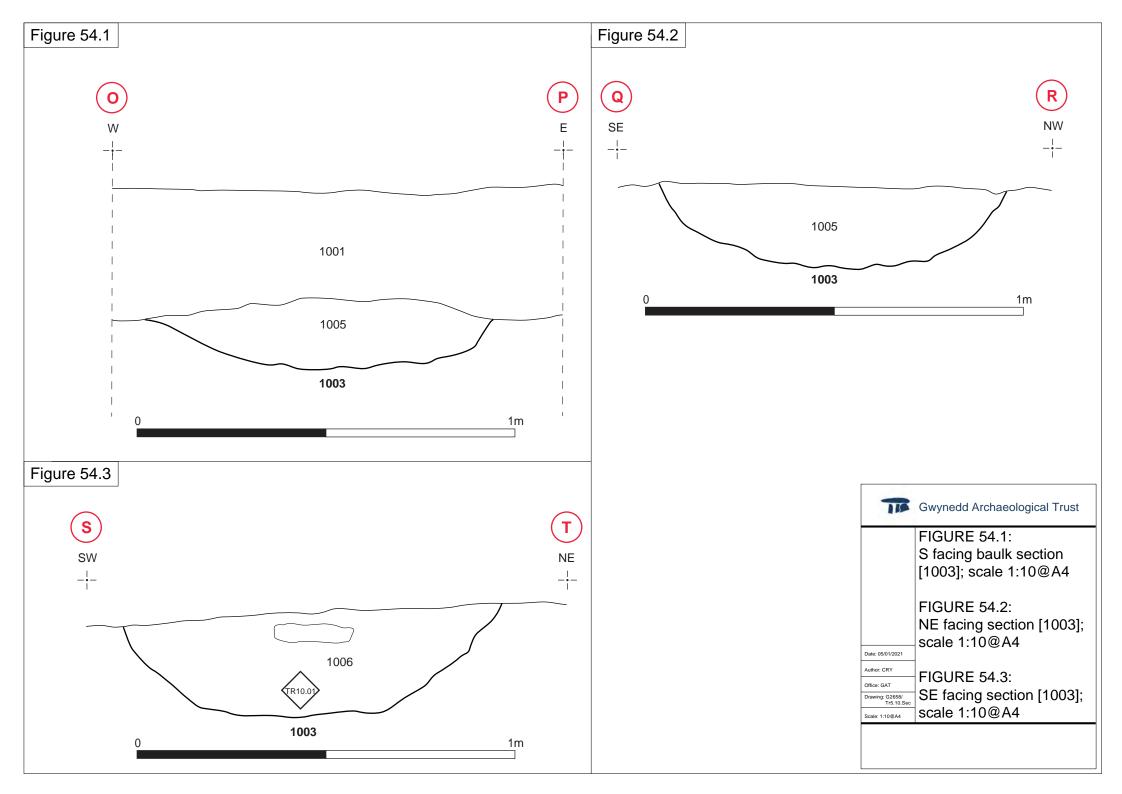


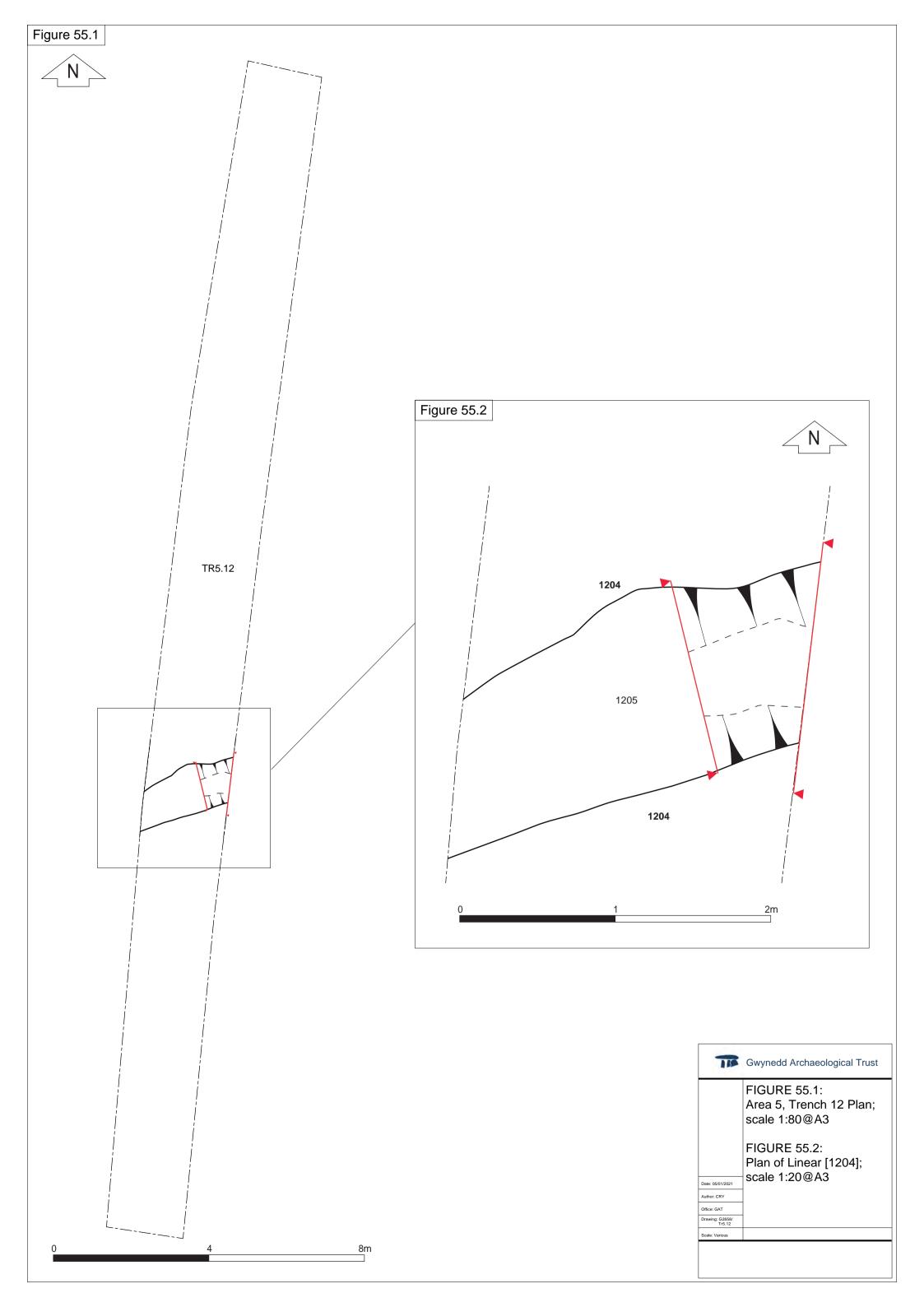


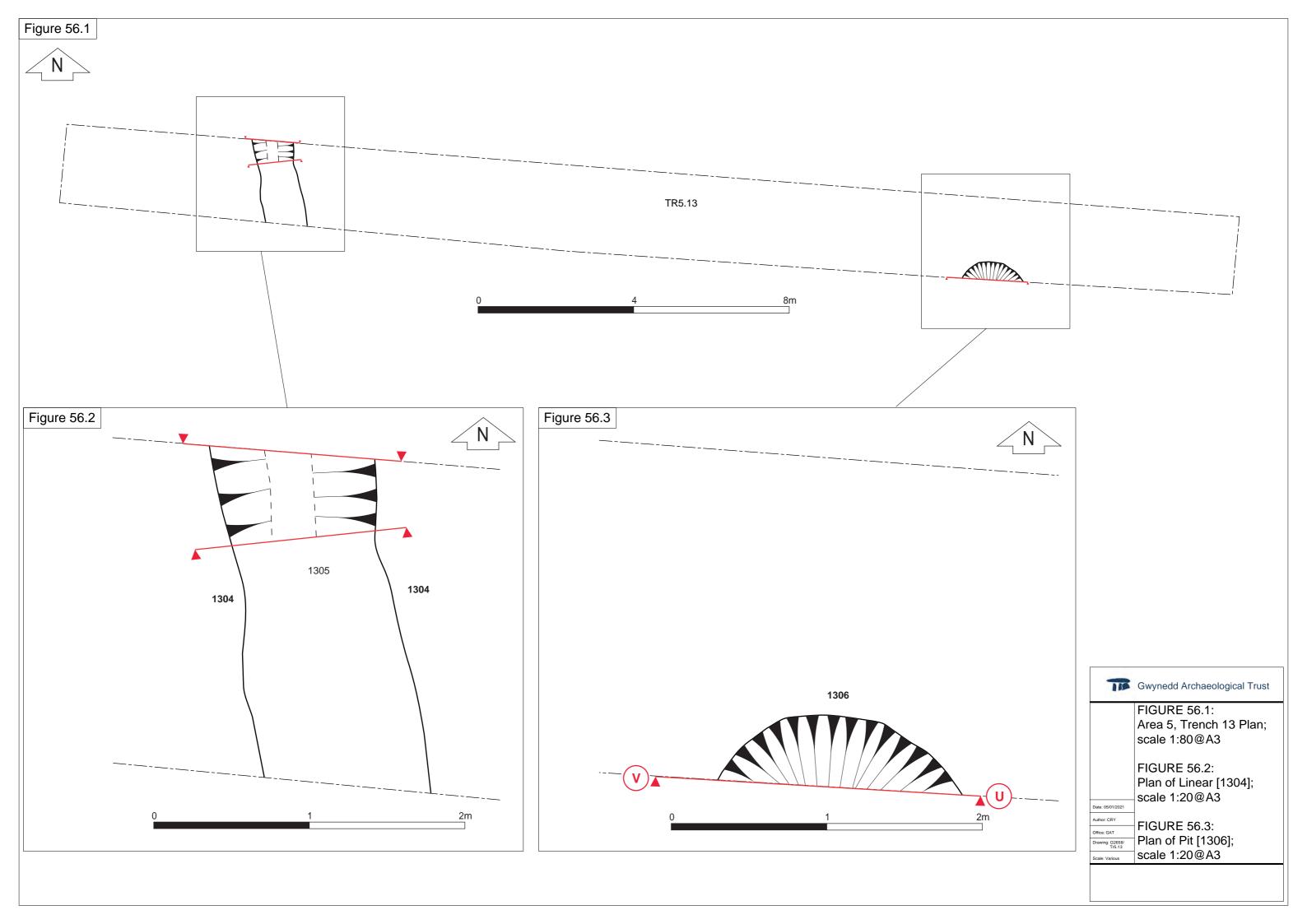


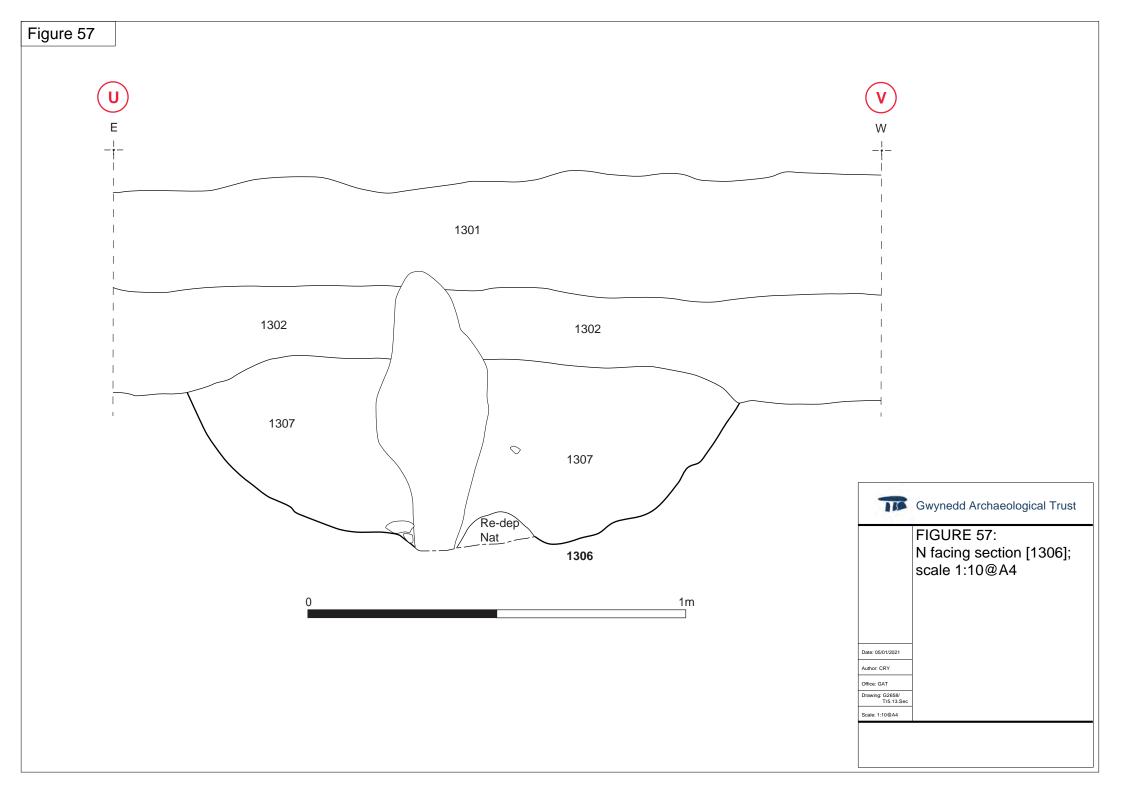


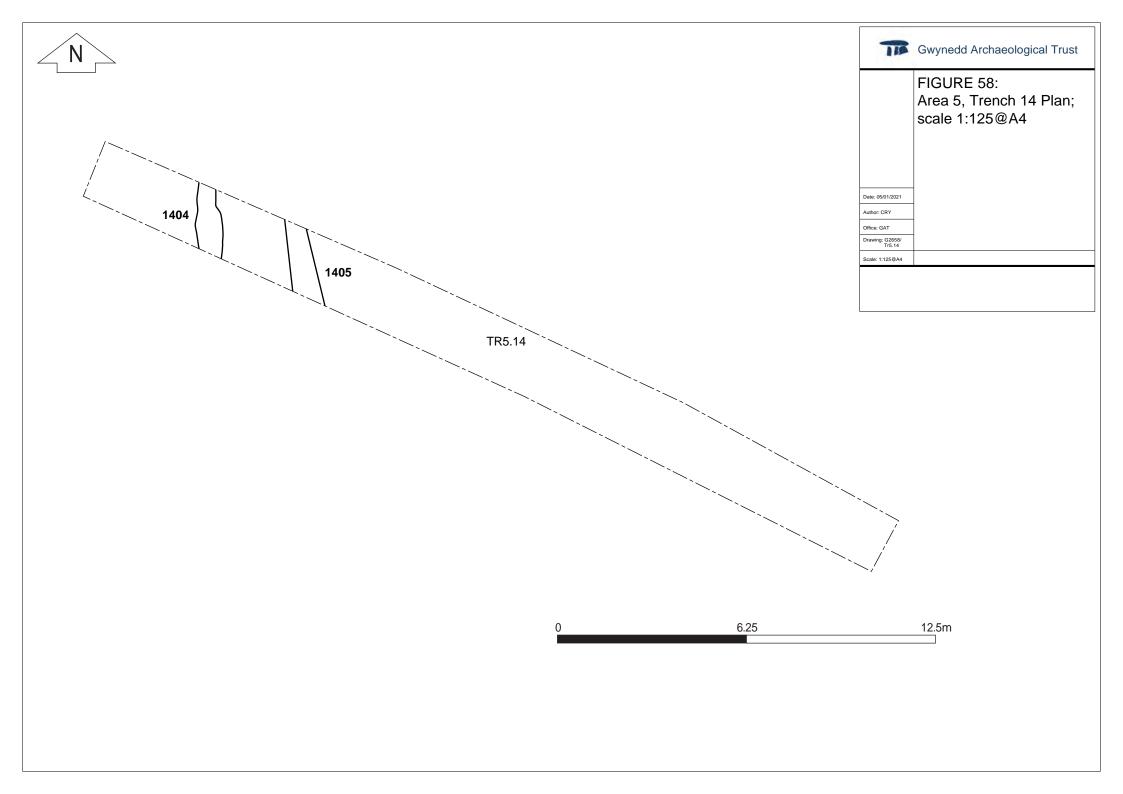


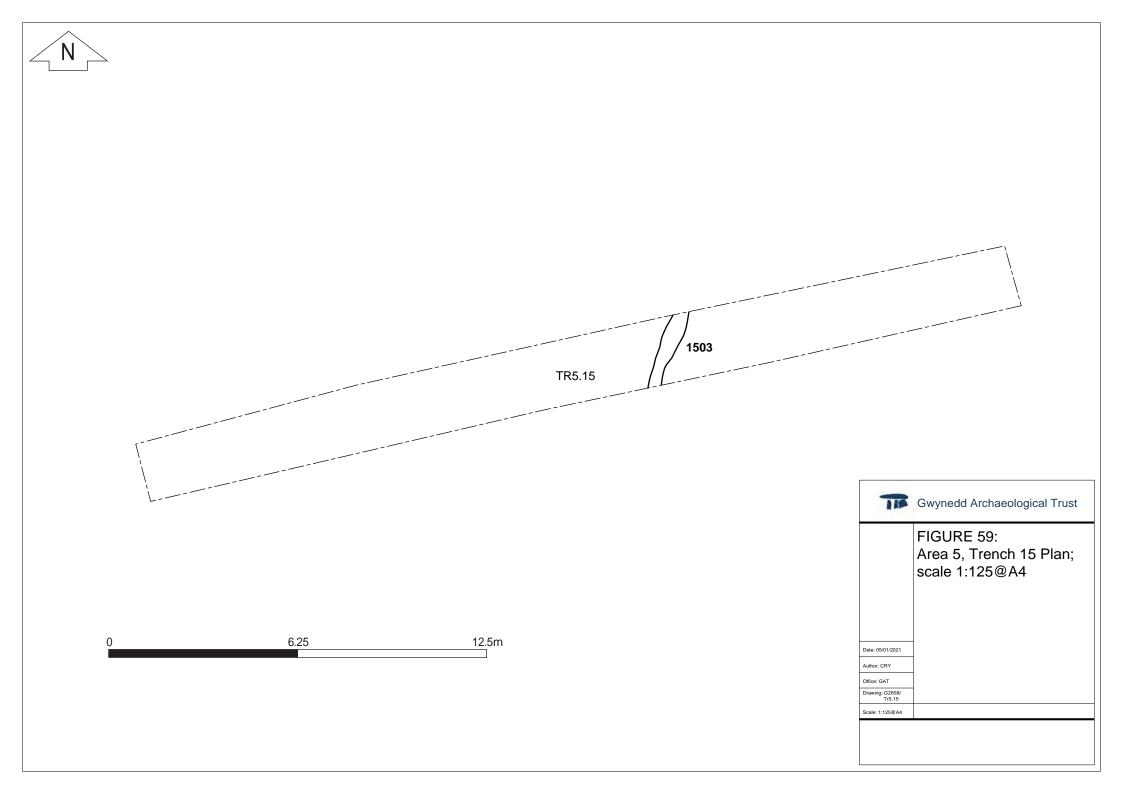


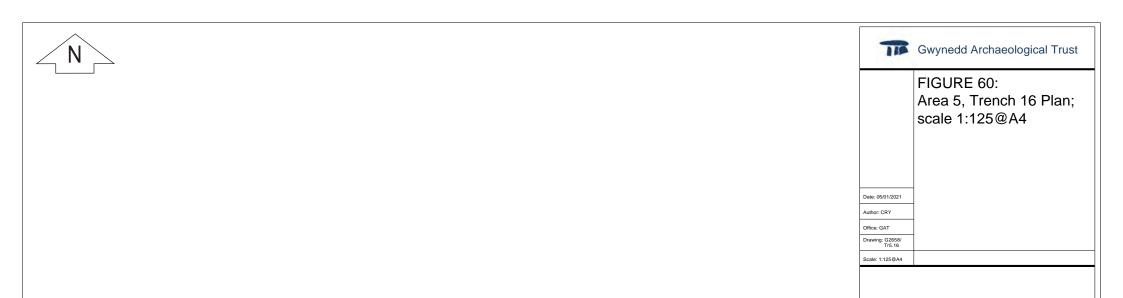


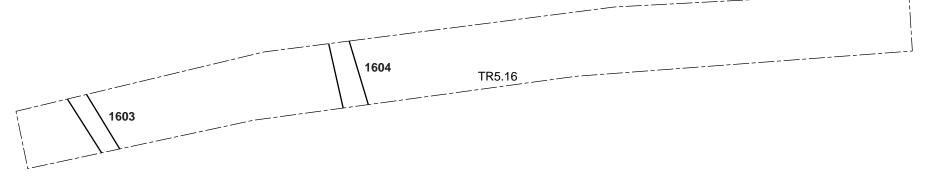




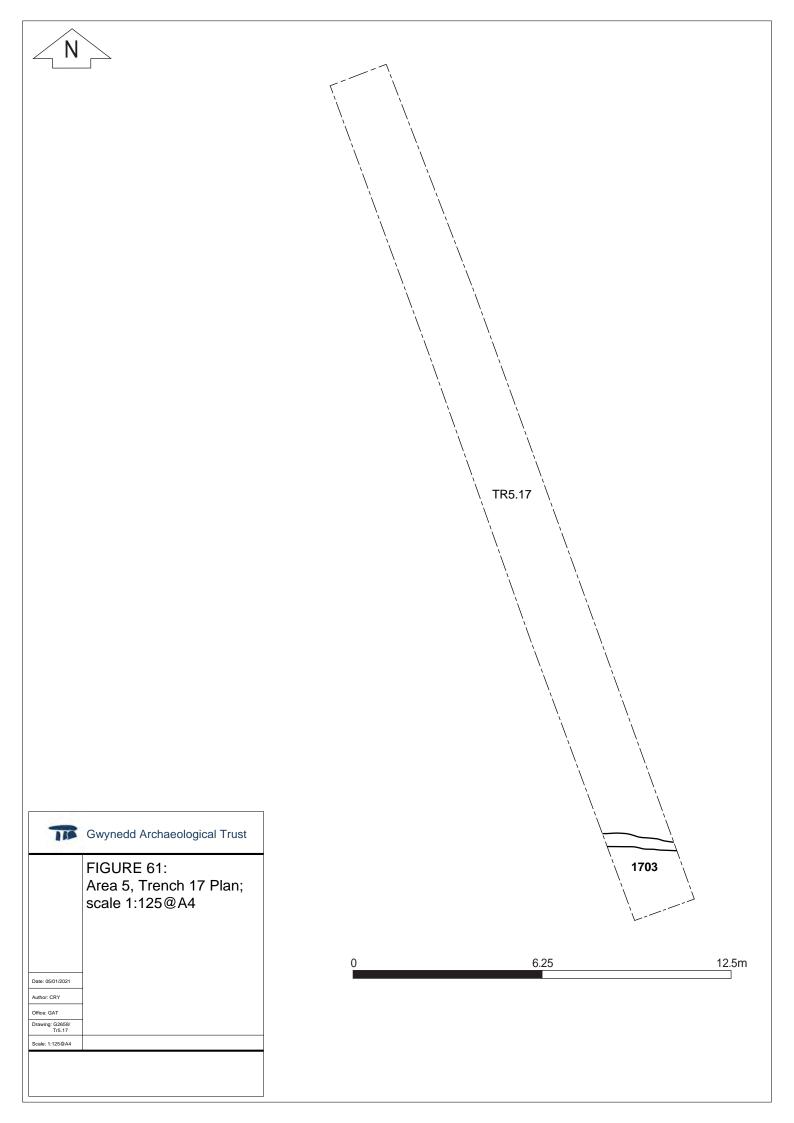


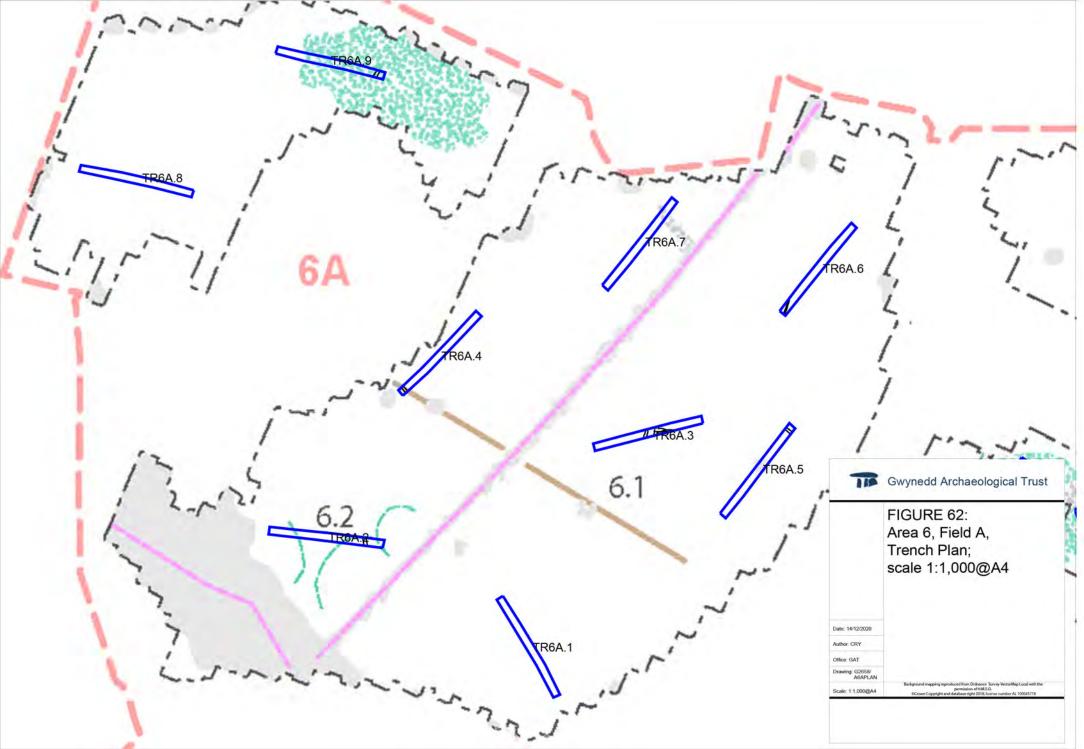


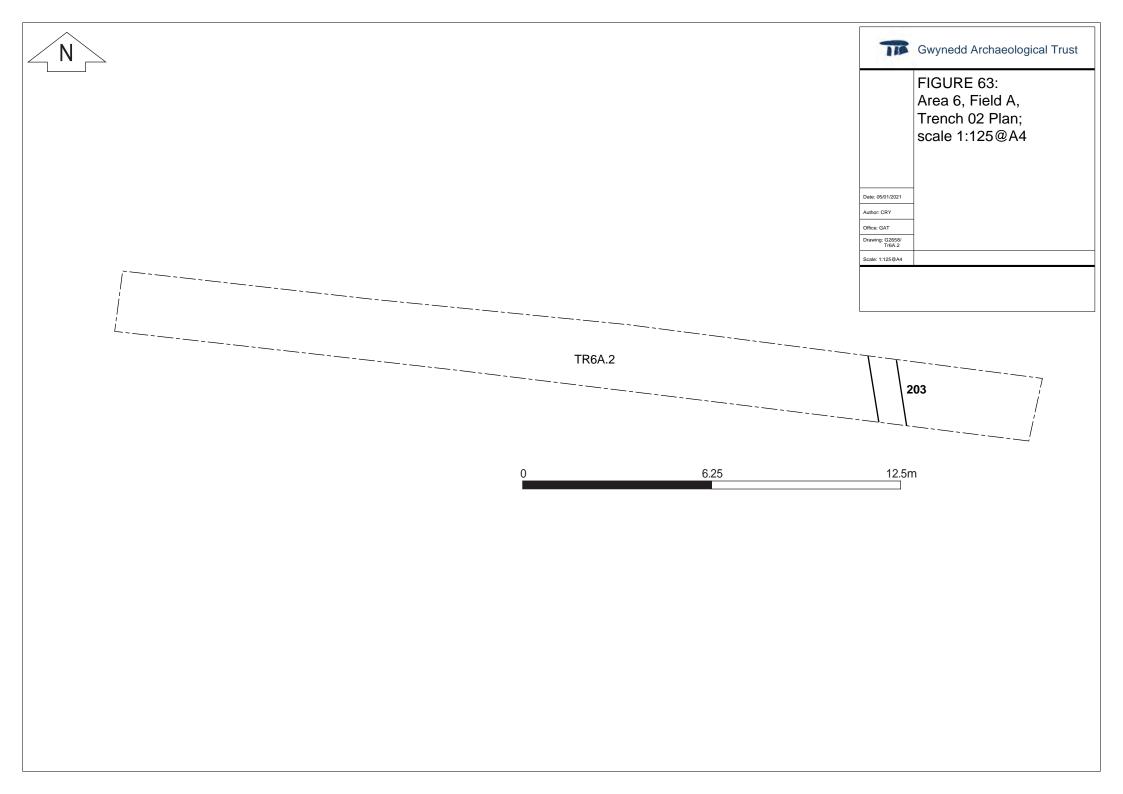


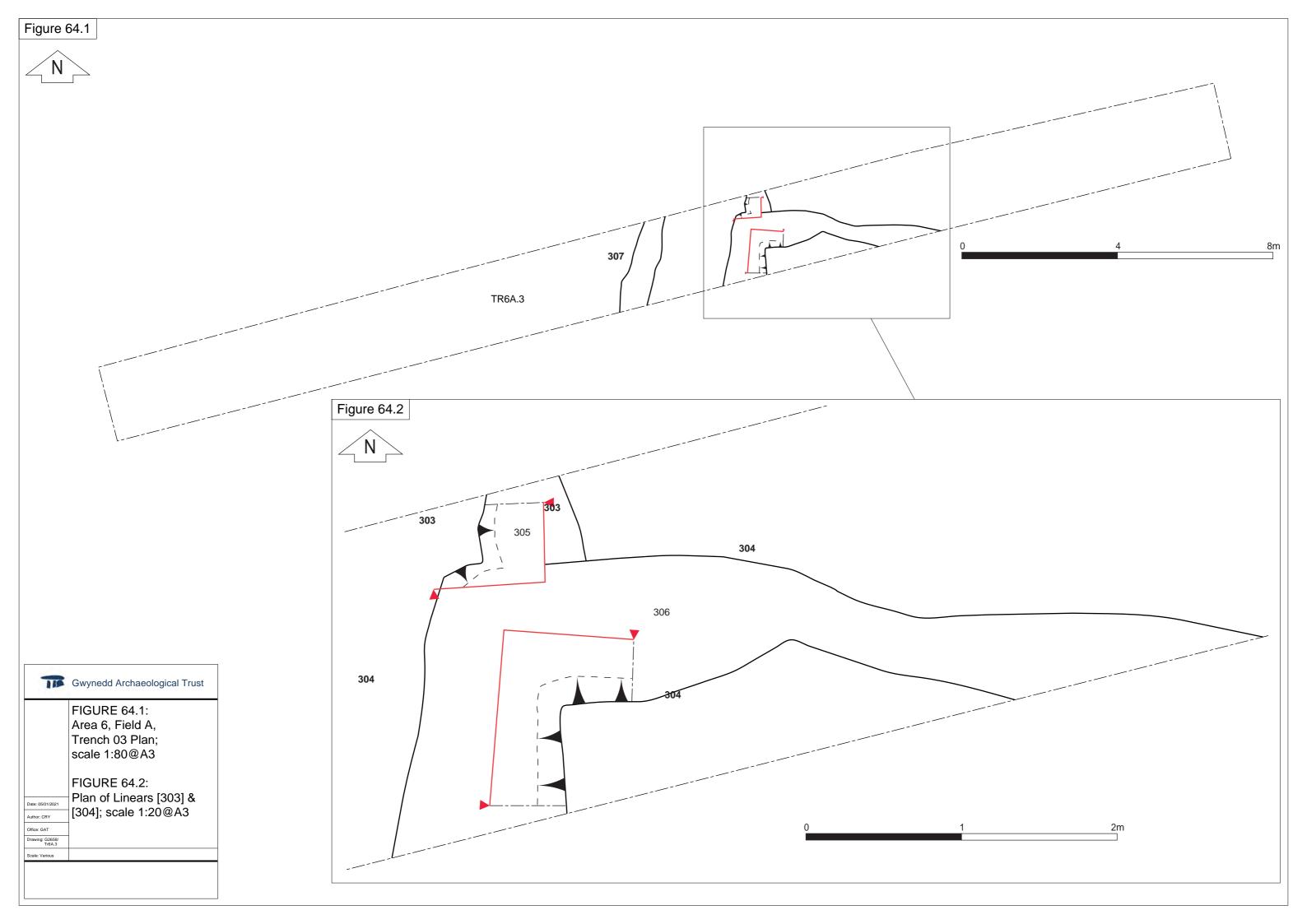


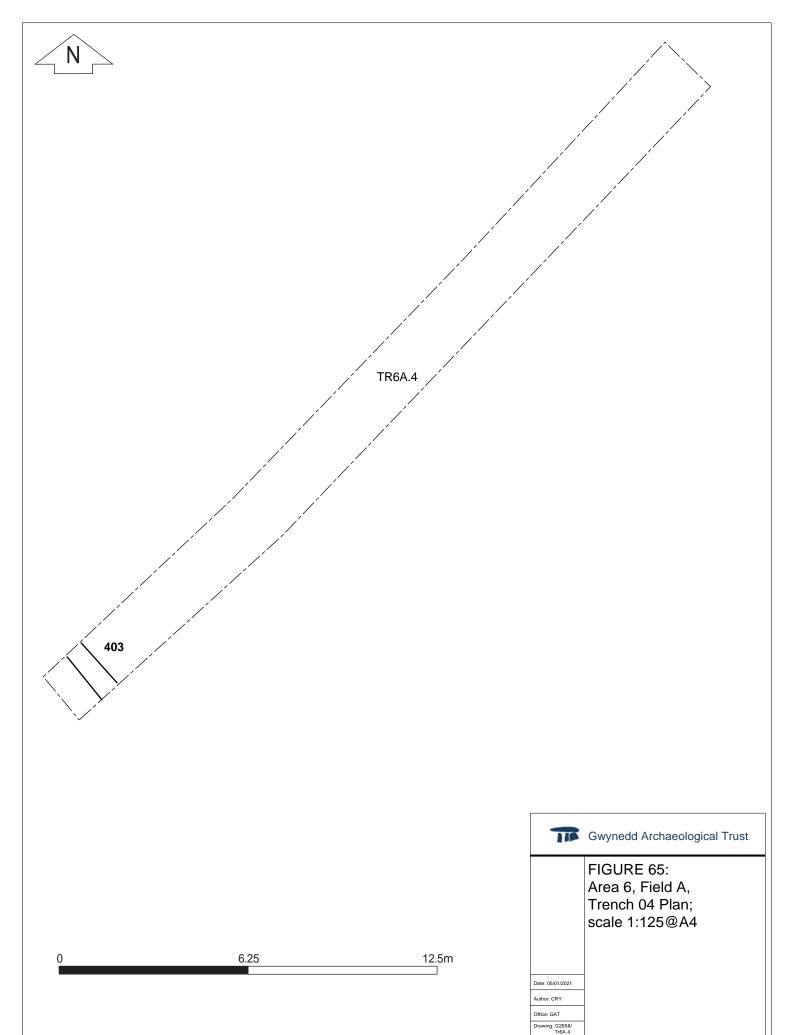
0 6.25 12.5m



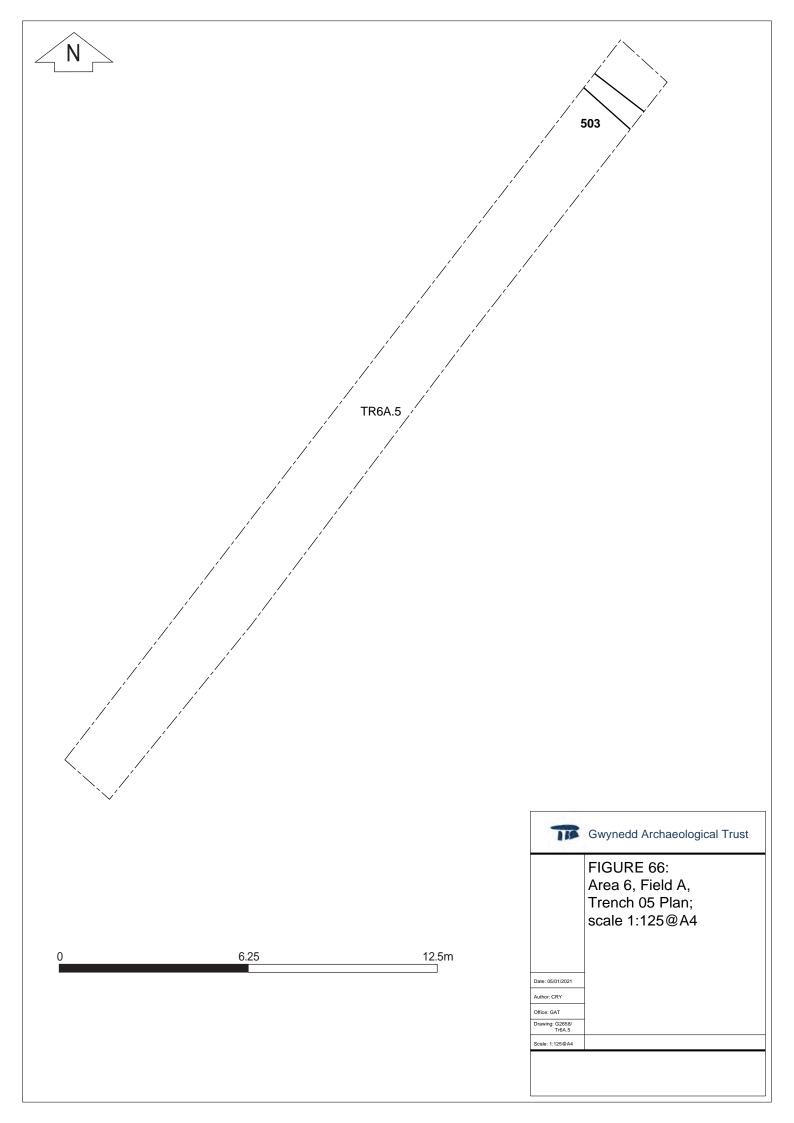


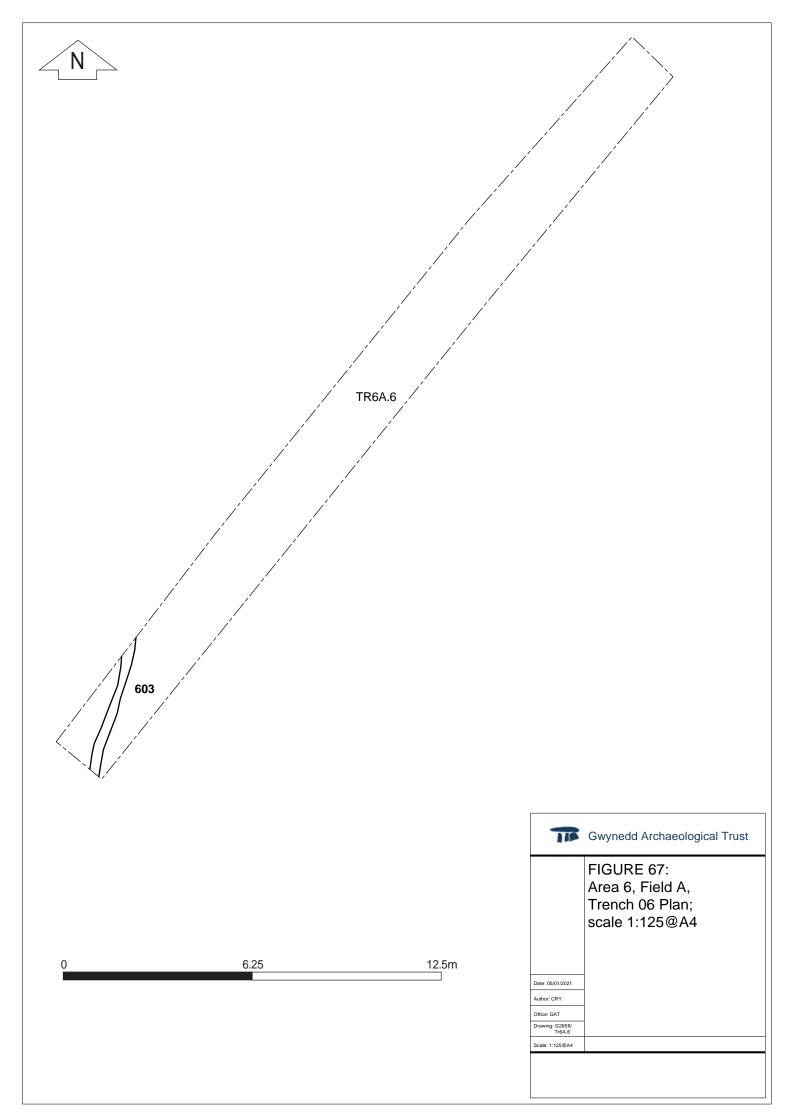


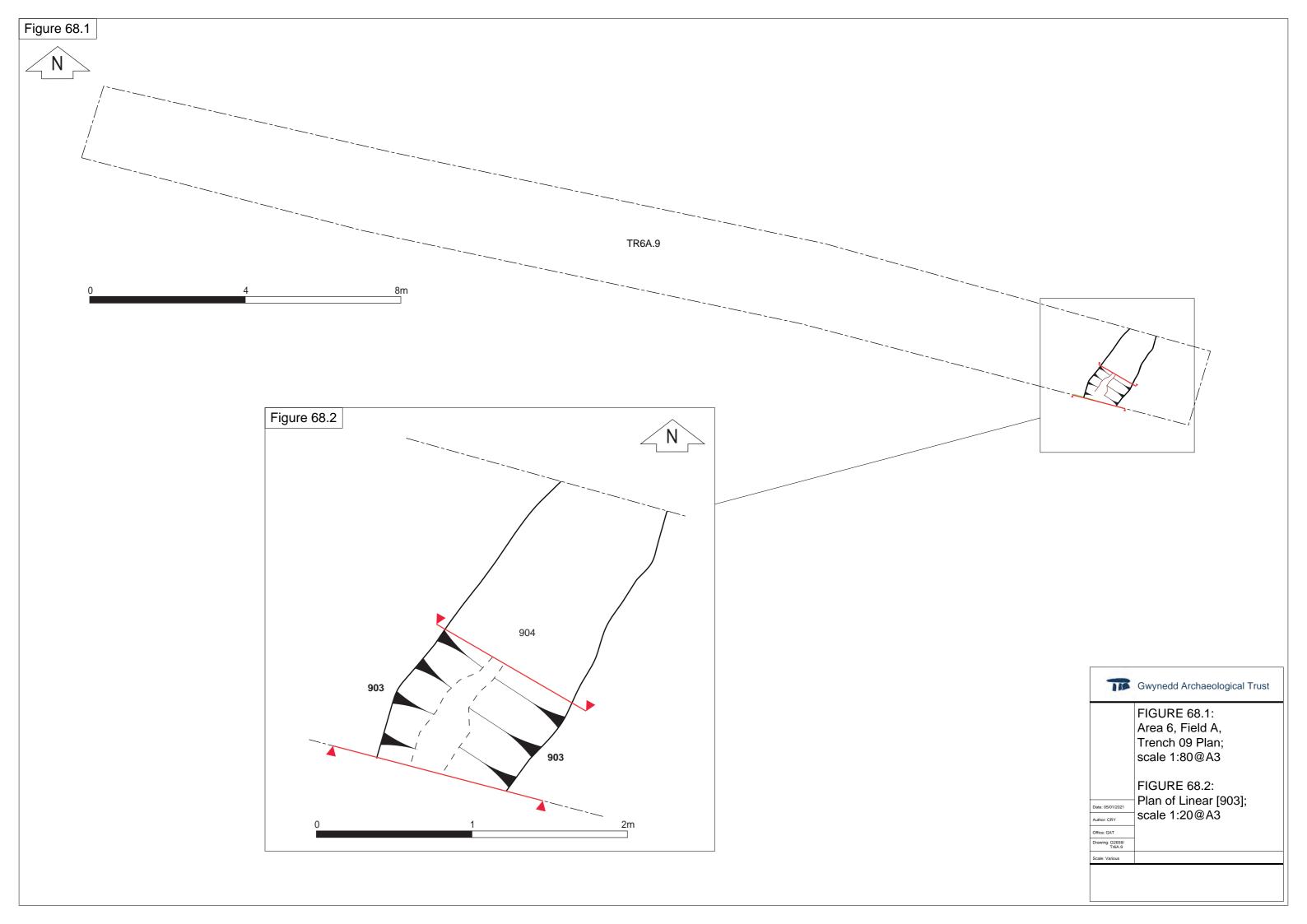


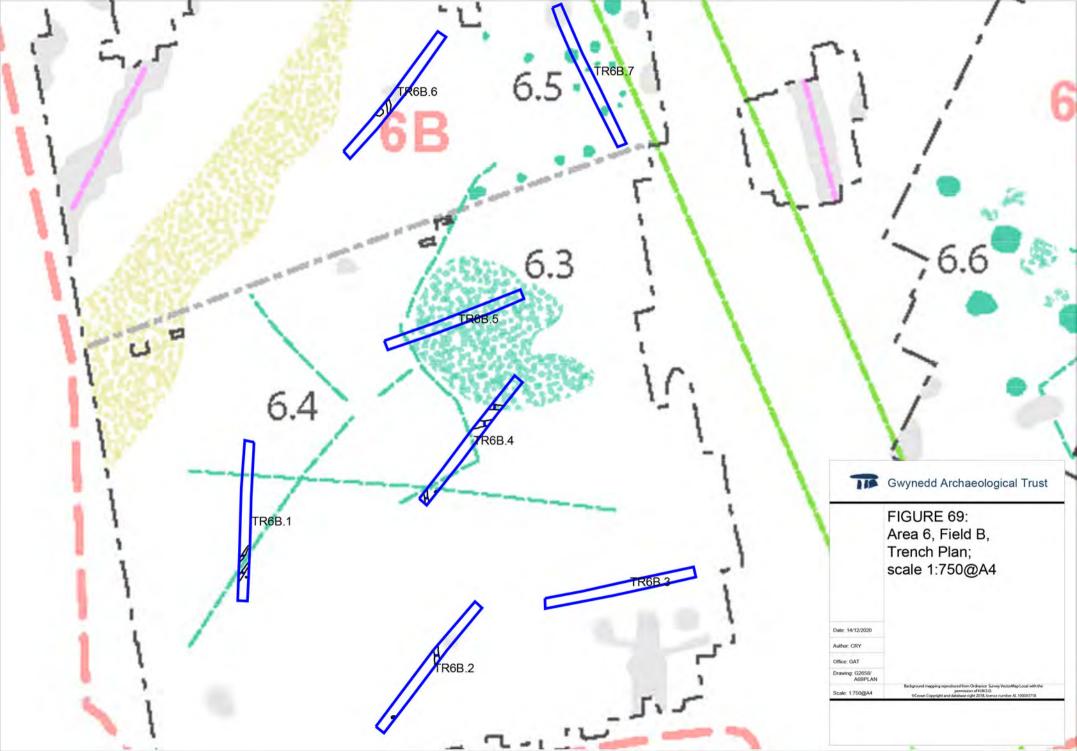


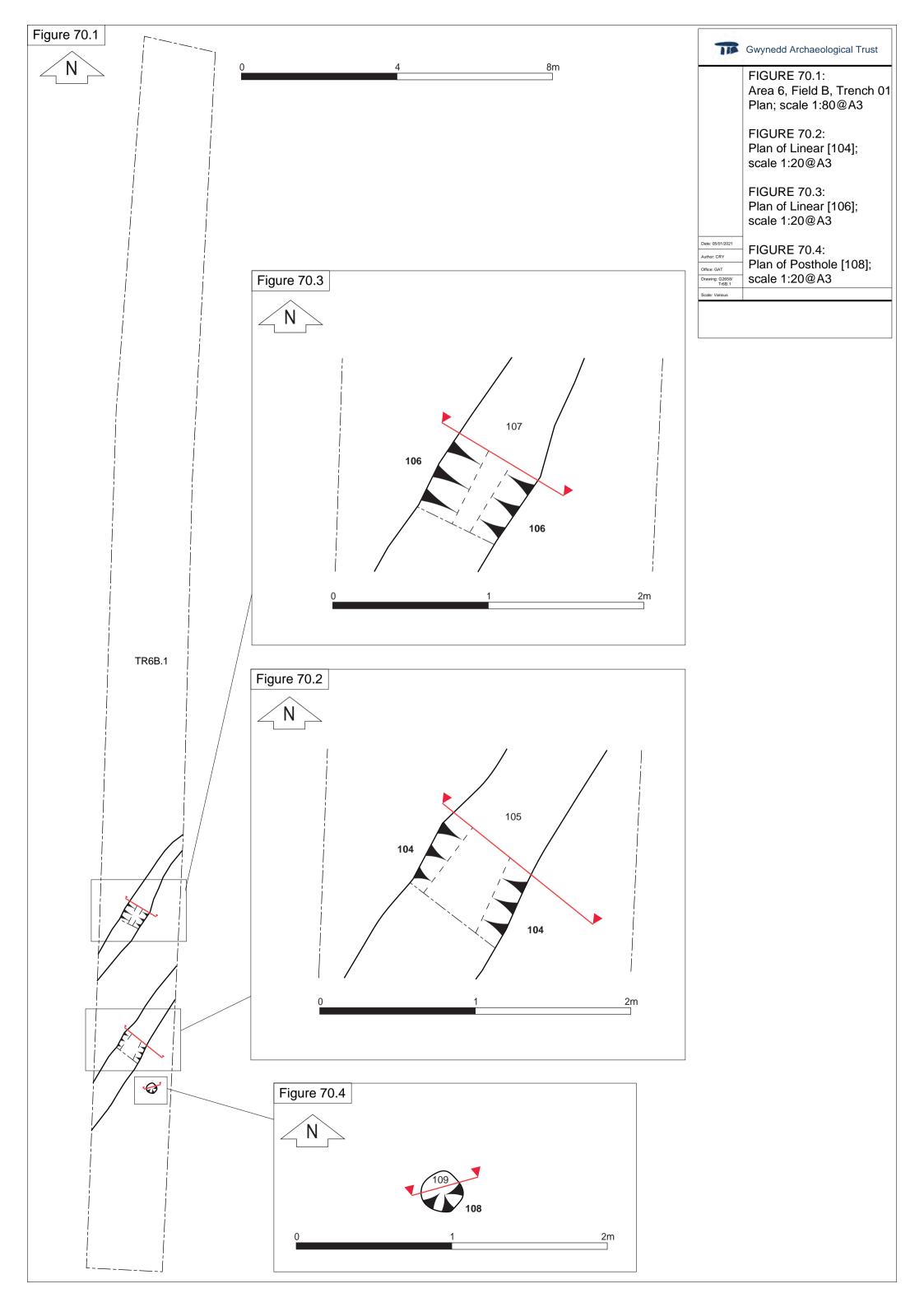
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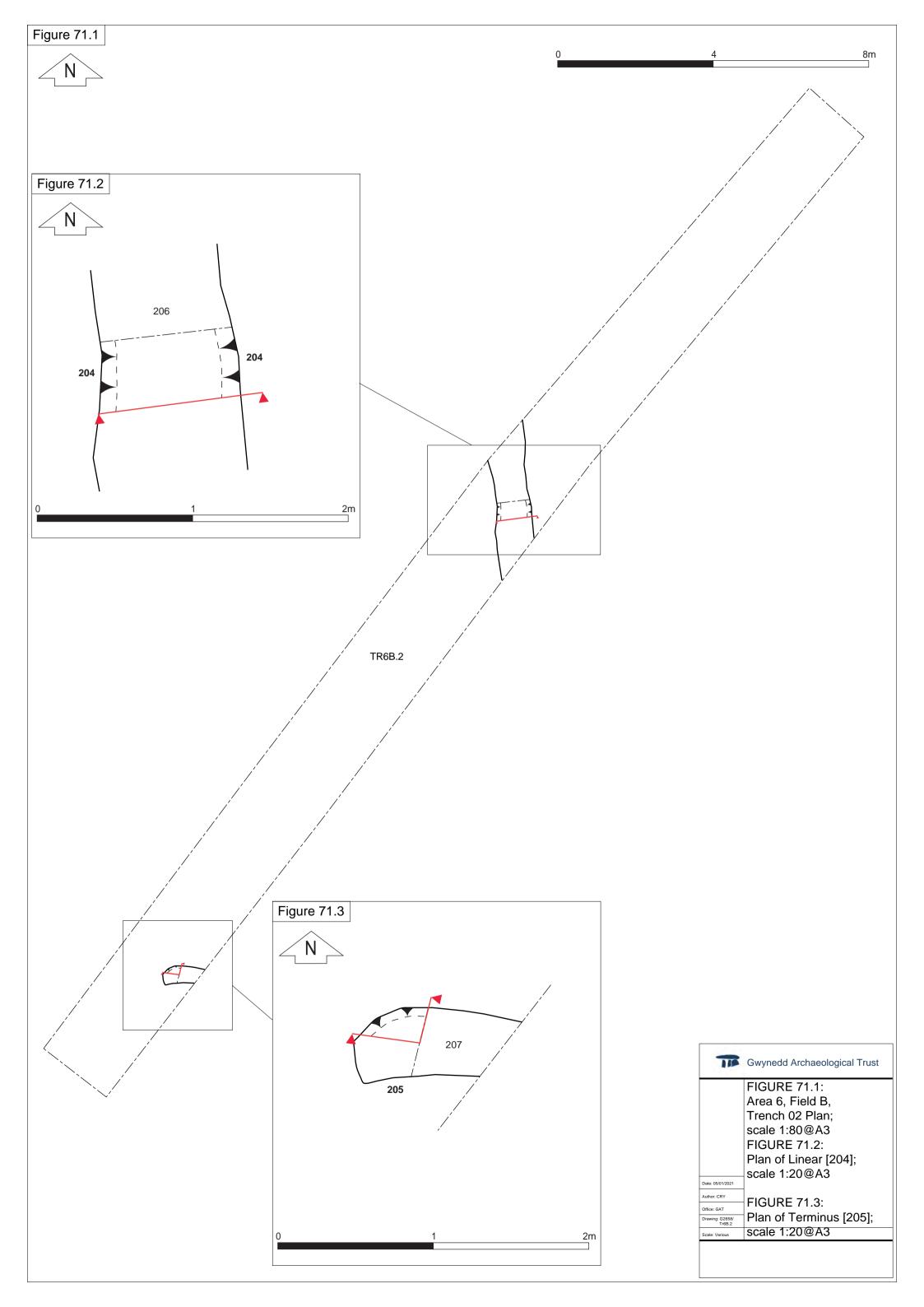


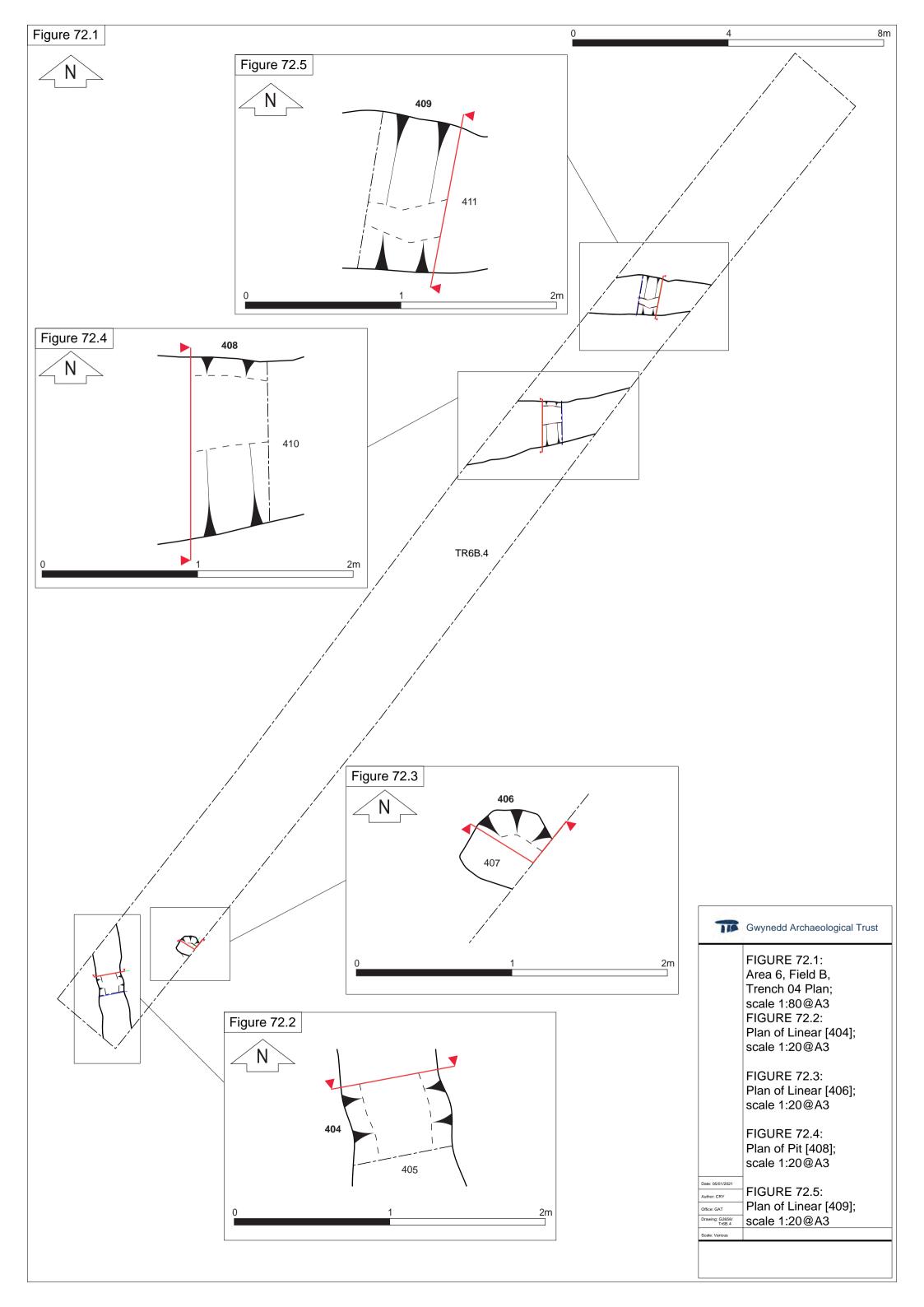


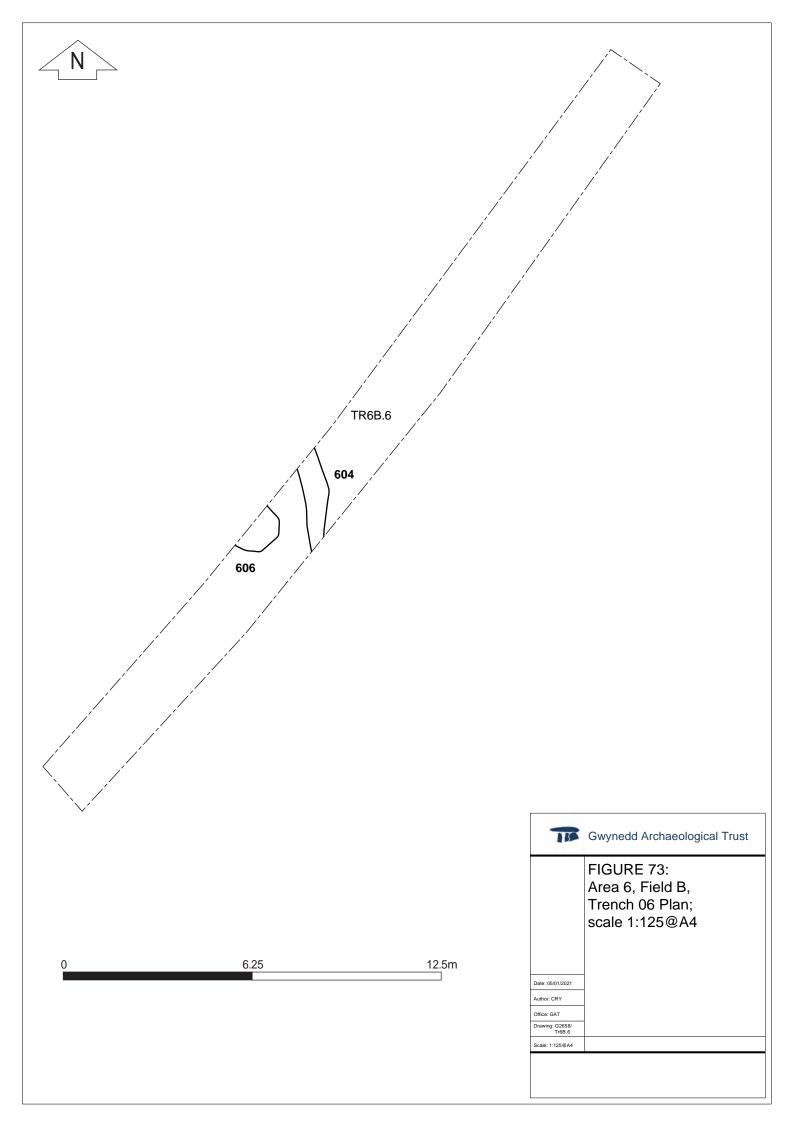




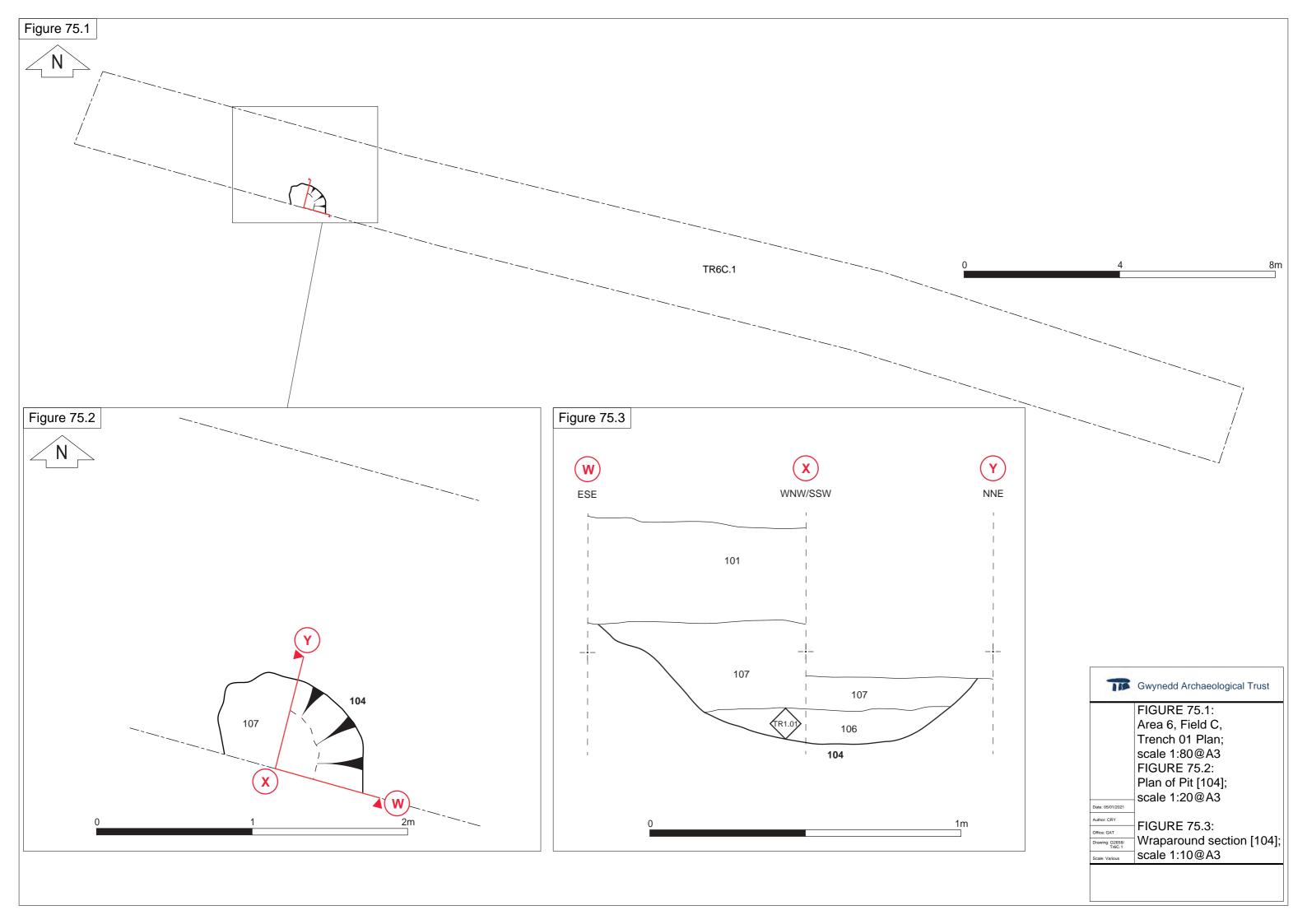












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TR6D 4

