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BREA DOWNS TO DOWRAN COMMON, ST JUST, CORNWALL

Archaeological Watching Brief



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A Report for MK International

**Brea Downs to Dowran Common, St
Just, Cornwall**

Archaeological Watching Brief

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January 2001

CORNWALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

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Within Cornwall Archaeological Unit, the Project Manager was Peter Rose. Dick Cole analysed the historical data, carried out the fieldwork and produced this report. Adam Sharpe assisted with the fieldwork and gave advice on the streamworking evidence.

Cover illustration

The protective piping for the fibreoptic cable, having been drilled beneath boundary no. 14.

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Abbreviations

CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit
CRO	Cornwall County Record Office
EH	English Heritage
NGR	National Grid Reference
RCM	Royal Cornwall Museum
PRN	Primary Record Number in Cornwall SMR
SMR	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Sites and Monuments Record

1 Summary

An archaeological watching brief along the 1.8km route of trenching for a fibroptic cable between Brea Downs and Dowran Common was carried out during September 2000 by CAU on behalf of MK International.

The study area was complex, showing evidence of a number of important historic zones including:-

- Area of former heathland, heavily affected by mining (Wheal an Vor).
- Anciently Enclosed Land associated with the medieval farms of Dowran and Numphra, and including prehistoric remains and post-medieval streamworkings.
- Recently Enclosed Land to the south of Numphra, enclosed in at least three distinct phases during the 18th – 19th centuries.

Fieldwork included the investigation of narrow topsoil strips, some limited boundary recording and the investigation of mining remains. Evidence recorded during the project has considerably strengthened our understanding of this part of St Just Parish.

Identified features and finds included:-

- Flint finds of Mesolithic and Neolithic date, representing the first recovered artefacts from this area and showing continuous human activity in the landscape, dating back well over 6,000 years.
- Two ditches in the cable corridor identified as Iron Age/Roman-British, contemporary with a fortified enclosure (round) to the south-east of Dowran. Unstratified pottery of similar date was recovered from nearby fields while two further sherds of possible Iron Age pottery were recovered in a ditch feature within Recently Enclosed Land to the south.
- Medieval and early post-medieval artefacts also recovered within the vicinity of Dowran, illustrating how the hamlet and the nearby round have been a focus of settlement in this part of West Cornwall for centuries.
- Medieval and post-medieval agricultural features including boundaries, grubbed-out banks and ditches. Data collected provided insights into the various phases of enclosure of heathland between the 18th and 19th centuries and the creation of various post-medieval smallholdings.
- Evidence of mining including streamworks at Dowran and Numphra, and the remains of part of Wheal an Vor. The Numphra workings contained upcast from early workings and an excavation channel, while the site of Wheal an Vor demonstrated how such an area of former mining activity had been reclaimed and brought into agricultural production in the late 20th century.

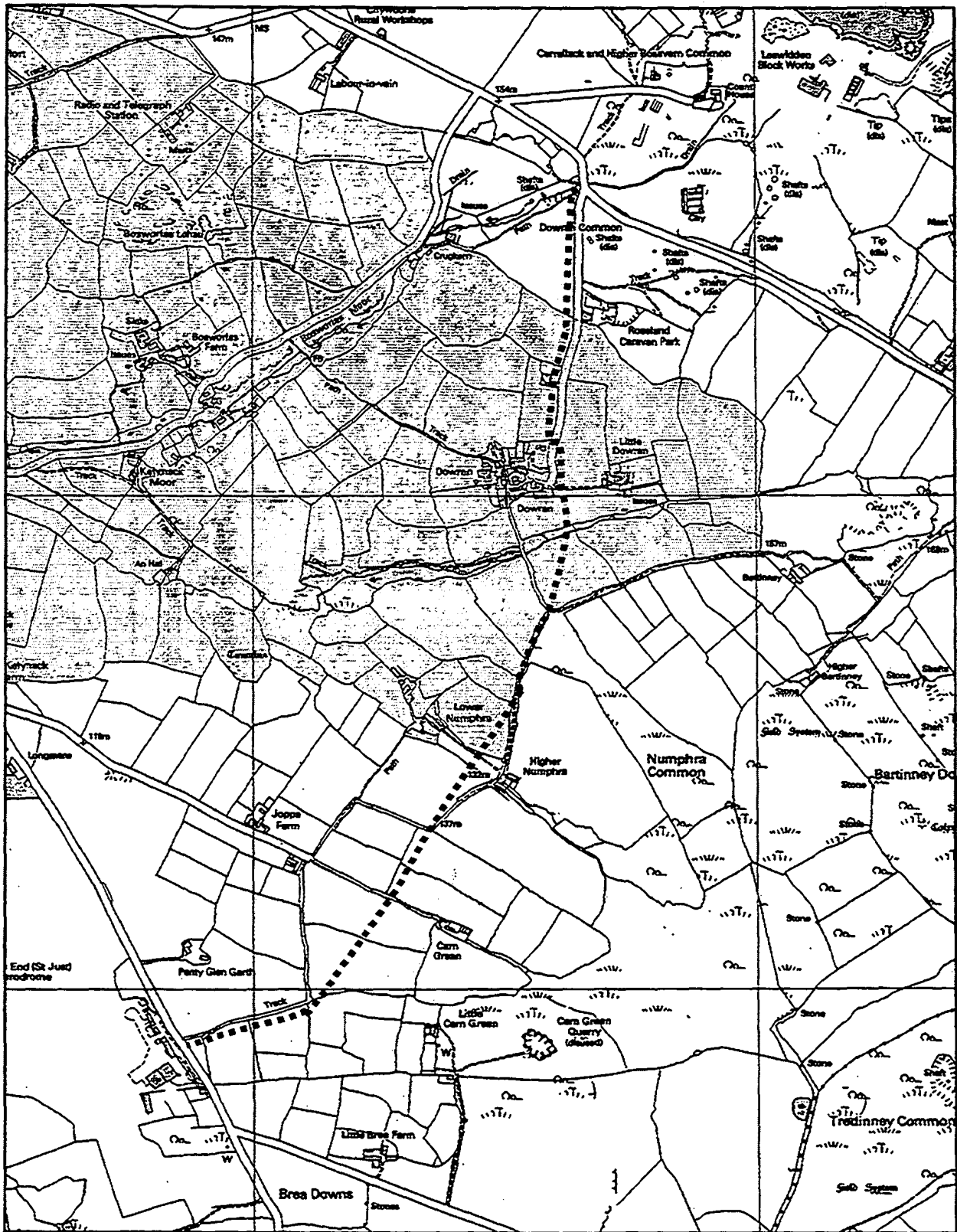


Fig. 1 Location of the trenching from Brea Downs to Downan Common. The dashed line shows the location of the trench and the shading represents Anciently Enclosed Land.

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2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

In September 2000, the Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) was commissioned by MK International to carry out a watching brief along the line of fiberoptic cable laying between Brea Downs and Dowran Common, in the parish of St Just in Penwith.

The cable corridor extended from the edge of the Lands End Aerodrome complex (SW 3786 2889) northwards to the top of Dowran Common (SW 3865 3059). The length of the corridor was approximately 1800m, while the excavated width of the trench varied between less than one metre to four metres.

2.2 Aims

The aims of the archaeological watching were as set out below:-

- To record all archaeological finds and features affected by the works.
- To provide advice to the project on minimising impact on the archaeological record where possible.

In order to minimise damage to the archaeological remains, MK International agreed to pass the cable through gateways and to drill or excavate under hedges wherever possible, rather than breach them. In most cases, this was done with the upstanding boundaries only suffering a minimal amount of damage.

It was also the intention of the company to drill beneath the streamworks near Dowran and at Numphra to minimise disturbance to these features.

2.3 Methods

The archaeological work along the route of the cable trench took a variety of forms.

2.3.1 Desk top assessment

During the initial phase of this project, a desk-top assessment was undertaken, with historical databases and archives consulted in order to obtain information about the history of the site and the structures and features that were likely to survive. The main sources consulted were as follows:

- Cornwall SMR
- Published histories (see Section 6.2)
- Early maps (see Section 6.1)

2.3.2 Fieldwork/watching brief

The watching brief involved the location and recording of archaeological sites, individual features and the recovery of artefacts.

Features were located on base plans at 1:2000, and sketch planned (with measurements along the cable trench). All features were part excavated and sections were recorded via measured drawing and detailed annotation. All different features, layers and fills were allocated individual context numbers in the field, or numbered subsequently (based on the

field notes). The record for each of these context numbers is reproduced within this report (see Appendix 1). Black and white prints were taken of the main features and these have been archived within CAU's GBP photographic catalogue system.

Artefacts were collected during the watching brief and subsequently washed, catalogued and assessed by Anna Jones and Carl Thorpe (both CAU).

A number of modern service trenches were encountered during fieldwork. These were not recorded.

2.3.3 Recording of field boundaries

A total of 22 boundaries were crossed by the cable corridor. The cable company set out not to damage historic boundaries and agreed to drill beneath the boundaries or to avoid them wherever possible so as not to affect the upstanding remains.

As a result, six boundaries were not affected as the trench went through gateways, contractors excavated beneath 8 boundaries causing only limited damage while eight were breached by machinery. Four of these boundaries were breached as part of the excavations through the two streamwork areas, and were recorded by sketch section drawings, with descriptions of the boundary and further interpretative notes. Of the remaining four boundaries, one had been excavated prior to the archaeological work commencing and rebuilt in the local style. The others were inspected during the watching brief and notes taken (see Appendix 2).

2.3.4 Recording of historic streamworks

In order to minimise damage to archaeological remains, MK International had initially agreed to drill beneath the streamworks near Dowran and at Numphra.

Ground conditions in the field, including very fractious bedrock, meant that this was not deemed possible and the streamworks had to be breached by excavation. The excavations in both these areas were recorded in sketch section by the members of CAU.

3 The Study Area

The trenching ran through the West Penwith 'Area of Great Historic Value' and three distinct types of historic landscape, as identified by the Cornwall Landscape Assessment.

3.1 Historic Landscape Character Zones

During 1994, CAU carried out a map-based historic landscape assessment across the whole of Cornwall, using existing field patterns and early map and place-name evidence to characterise the landscape (Cornwall County Council 1996). This characterisation reflected the historic processes that have shaped the Cornish landscape and involved dividing Cornwall into a series of zones, each of which reflects a particular set of historic processes and tends to contain a predictable range of archaeological sites and historic features. The cable corridor passed through three historic character zones; Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL), Recently Enclosed Land (REL) and a small pocket of Upland Rough Ground (URG). The following sections are based on the text for these zones as published in the Cornwall Landscape Assessment 1994 (Countryside Commission 1996)

3.1.1 Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL)

This is characterised by farming settlements documented before the 17th century AD and irregular field patterns with either medieval or prehistoric origins. AEL tends to be on relatively sheltered land, not too steep and not too poorly drained, but can extend onto the high downs. Networks of winding lanes and roads connect farming settlements whose layouts are typically irregular, often clearly shrunken from hamlets; (some are still hamlets). Church towns and a few larger villages are scattered through the zone, which also contains most of the Cornwall's ancient towns.

Much, even most, of this zone will have been enclosed and farmed since the Later Bronze Age (c.1500 BC). Land cleared and improved in later prehistory or in the Early Medieval period was re-organised in the later medieval period into extensive 'strip' field systems. These systems were associated with hamlets of co-operating families; while more solitary farmers laid out more irregular medieval field systems.

The gradual enclosure of 'open' strip fields, mainly from the 14th to the 17th century, transformed this zone, leaving fields of various sizes and shapes, but almost all with sinuous sides whose boundaries are substantial, stock proof hedges and walls, supporting rich and varied fauna and flora. At the same time, the communal society of the co-operative hamlets gave way to a more individualistic one of self-contained farming families.

Just over 50% of the cable corridor runs through AEL, from Lower Numphra to north of Dowran, where the landscape is of prehistoric and medieval origin, associated primarily with the settlements of Numphra and Dowran (first recorded in 1589 and 1245 respectively). See Section 4.2 for more details.

3.1.2 Recently Enclosed Land (REL)

This is characterised by land enclosed from the 17th to 20th centuries, usually from medieval commons. The fields are characteristically rectangular with straight sides. The roads are also walled or hedged and straighter than elsewhere. Associated settlements mostly comprise single farmsteads or smallholdings. Often in exposed areas, there is usually less woodland than in Anciently Enclosed Land, but more evidence of its previous vegetation in gorse and heather, etc. on hedges and in corners of fields.

Although some of this zone was enclosed in the second half of the 18th century and in the 20th, the greatest part was taken in from rough ground in the 19th century. These new enclosures were not normally established in waste ground, but in summer grazing and fuel

grounds, usually held by tenants in common but actually owned by lords of manors or estates.

Approximately one third of the cable corridor runs through REL, from Brea Downs to Higher Numphra. The field patterns and settlements in this area are the result of the enclosure of former areas of heathland or downland during the 18th and 19th centuries. See Section 4.1 for more details.

3.1.3 Upland Rough Ground (URG)

This is characterised as unimproved land, distinct from the surrounding enclosed landscape. This zone (heath or scrub vegetation) has the longest history of human interference, being a product of prehistoric intervention and maintained through medieval and early modern land use systems.

Environmental analysis confirms woodland cover in such areas, removed by early farmers in the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age periods for arable and pastoral farming. Soils deteriorated due to nutrient loss and the Zone settled into its accepted open, healthy form, with its use changed to more extensive pastures and fuel grounds (peat and furze). URG was more extensive until 1750 when enclosed by industrial labourers and an expanding agricultural population.

The Cornwall Landscape Assessment records Dowran Common as URG. An area of historic heathland, it has been altered through intensive mining in the 19th century and earlier. The part of the common within the study area has been improved in recent years. See Section 4.3 for more details.

4 Fieldwork Results

4.1 Brea Downs to Higher Numphra

4.1.1 Background

The land between Higher Numphra and the Lands End Aerodrome consists of post-medieval enclosures of former heathland, land which was taken in during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Rowe has written that "enclosure in Cornwall was a process of irregular and intermittent attrition by individual landlords and tenants ... most of the fertile land had been enclosed generations before, and the 18th and 19th century enclosure movement in Cornwall was different from the processes of enclosing open arable fields which went on in the country east of a line drawn from Hull to Exeter. Instead of a process which eliminated the small yeoman farmer, the Cornish changes tended to increase the number of smallholders, especially in the mining districts ... it is probable that 25,000 to 30,000 acres of wastelands were reclaimed between 1700 and 1860" (1993, 225).

The above quote clearly describes the process going on in this area of St Just Parish in the post-medieval period, as field systems were expanded outwards from the core medieval landscape and new smallholdings were being created in areas of former moorland.

Analysis of the map evidence shows that the land to the south of Numphra underwent at least three phases of enclosure (see Fig. 3).

Martyn's Map of 1748 shows that the roadway leading from Higher Numphra to Joppa was enclosed by this date, showing that the area between them had also been enclosed. The settlements at Higher Numphra and Joppa were not recorded until 1840, on the Tithe map, however.

Martyn's Map and the OS drawings produced in 1809 also demonstrate that the area south of Joppa was unenclosed when these maps had been produced. Much of this land was taken in between 1809 and 1840 however, when a series of smallholdings (see Fig. 1) were constructed, namely:-

- Carn Grean (SW 3840 2912), first recorded on the 1840 Tithe map.
- Settlement recorded as Carn Grean (SW 3824 2902) on 1840 Tithe map, to the immediate south of the above. This settlement is no longer extant.
- Little Carn Grean (SW 3836 2891), first recorded on 1840 Tithe map.
- Penty Glen Garth (SW 3788 2907), first recorded on 1840 Tithe map.

A further parcel of land to the south had been enclosed by 1880. The new settlement positioned within the intake was Little Brea Farm (SW 3852 2866). New buildings had also been constructed by 1880 to the south-east of Little Carn Grean to which they may have been associated. The cable corridor did not pass through this later parcel of enclosure.

The field-names in this section of the study area, recorded on the 1840 Tithe map, reflect this late date of enclosure. Most of the fields were recorded as simply either 'croft' or 'plot.' All the fields were recorded as 'arable,' (meaning they had been cultivated some time during the previous seven years), except Field 2, which was recorded as healthy pasture.

4.1.2 Introduction to fieldwork

Trenching was carried out within a total of eight fields (Fields 1-8) between Brea Downs and Higher Numphra, and eleven boundaries were crossed by the works. The enclosure of

Fields 1-5 has been dated to between 1809 and 1840, while Fields 6-8 have been provisionally dated as pre-1748.

Throughout this area, the topsoil was removed to a width of 1.0m at the top of the trench, decreasing to a width of between 0.5m and 0.8m at the base. In Field 3, the excavated area was 3.0m wide. The subsoil was inspected for archaeological features prior to the secondary excavation of a deeper trench for the laying of the cable. The depth of topsoil was 0.3m in most places, although up to 0.45 - 0.5m in Fields 5-7.

Only two boundaries, nos. 8 and 11 were breached by the contracting team, of which boundary 11 was a feature associated with the Numphra Streamworks (see Section 4.2.6)

4.1.3 Prehistoric evidence

A total of six flints were recovered during fieldwork; two from Field 1 and four from Field 8. Most were not sufficiently diagnostic to be dated, although a single piece in Field 8 has been dated to the Mesolithic, demonstrating at least sporadic hunter-gatherer activity in the area. A late Neolithic core was also recovered from Field 1.

This area also included the only stratified find (2 conjoining fragments of pottery) provisionally dated to the Iron Age or possibly the Romano-British period. This was located within a small square-cut ditch [17] in Field 6. It was positioned alongside another larger and more shallow ditch on a slightly different alignment, suggesting that ditch [17] could indeed have a prehistoric or Romano-British date. It must also be acknowledged that the artefact may simply have been re-deposited in this feature at a later stage however.

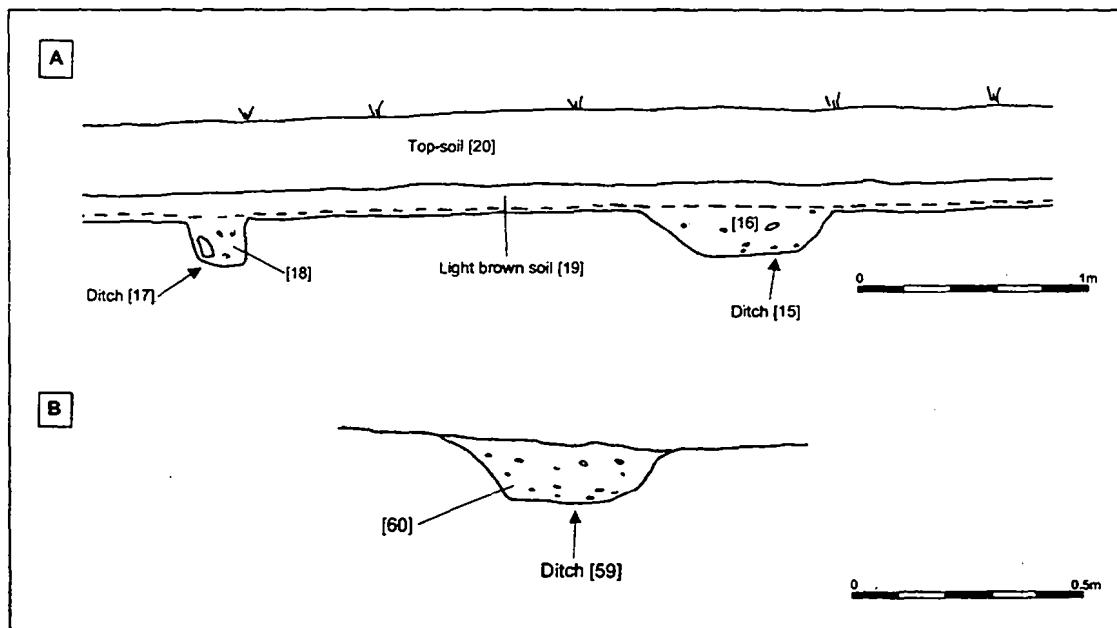


Fig. 2 Prehistoric ditch features (a) Ditch [17] which contained Iron Age pottery and (b) ditch [59] in field 10, near Downan and the prehistoric round (PRN 53226) (see Section 4.2.3).

4.1.4 Post-medieval landscape

Evidence for the post-medieval landscape came in the form of existing field boundaries (nos. 1-11) and a total of 8 ditches.

The boundaries varied as to their state of preservation, but were clearly all stone-faced earthen banks and most were 1.5m high. The boundaries had very perpendicular sides and much of the stone-facing consisted of vertical rows of small and medium-sized stones. Particular features of the boundaries in this area of Recently Enclosed Land included a considerable amount of patching and the use of large stones. **Boundary 4**, for example, was constructed on a base of large boulders, obviously removed from the fields during their enclosure.

Boundary 8, which was breached, was perhaps the least well-preserved bank. It was 1.7m wide at its base with a maximum height of 1.0m, comprising a single fill of a rooty light brown soil with some poorly preserved stone-facing still in place.

A total of eight ditches were recorded during the fieldwork, all of which were on alignments generally consistent with the surrounding field systems. In **Field 1**, a north-south boundary was grubbed out late in the 20th century and survives as a very rough and irregular hollow [1], suggesting it had been roughly removed using a mechanical digger. A further square-cut ditch [3] was positioned to its immediate west and is likely to have been a modern service trench.

Two boundaries recorded on the 1880 OS map were located due to the partial survival of their associated ditches - a single ditch [6] on an east-west was recorded in **Field 4** and two ditches [50] [52] on a north-west - south-east alignment in **Field 8**. Two other ditches were recorded in **Field 6**; a square-cut ditch [17] on a NW-SE alignment which, as noted above, contained a fragment of possible Iron Age pottery, while ditch [15] on a slightly less northerly orientation lay just to the south.

A further, very slight ditch feature [13] was recorded to the north of **Field 5**, running parallel with boundary 6. Two hollows were also recorded as possible features; cut [5] in **Field 1** and cut [9] in **Field 5**.

Analysis of the map evidence demonstrated that two boundaries recorded on the 1880 map were not recorded during the fieldwork. These were a north-south boundary in **Field 2** (SW 3806 2894) and a NNW-SSE boundary in **Field 3** (SW 3813 2897). Interestingly neither of these boundaries were recorded on the 1840 Tithe map, which may suggest that these later sub-divisions of existing fields were not so well-constructed or as substantial as earlier boundaries and left less obvious traces in the archaeological record.

4.1.5 Medieval, post-medieval and modern finds

A total of 88 unstratified post-medieval or modern artefacts were recovered from this section of the trenching, and as might be expected within such an area of late post-medieval enclosure, no artefacts were found which could be dated to the medieval period. Most finds (78 in total) have been broadly classified as modern in date (19th and 20th century), being mostly Glazed Stoneware and glass. A total of 10 pieces of post-medieval pottery were recovered in **Fields 1, 2 and 6**, dating to between 16th and 18th centuries. This assemblage was quite varied, including Cornish Coarsewares and Glazed Earthenwares.

The modern glass and pottery evidence is likely have originated from the various small holdings set up in the 18th and 19th centuries, with the fragments of post-medieval vessels being pottery retained by these same households for use into the 19th and early 20th centuries.

Much of this material may have been distributed through the process of manuring these improved fields over the last 250 years or so.

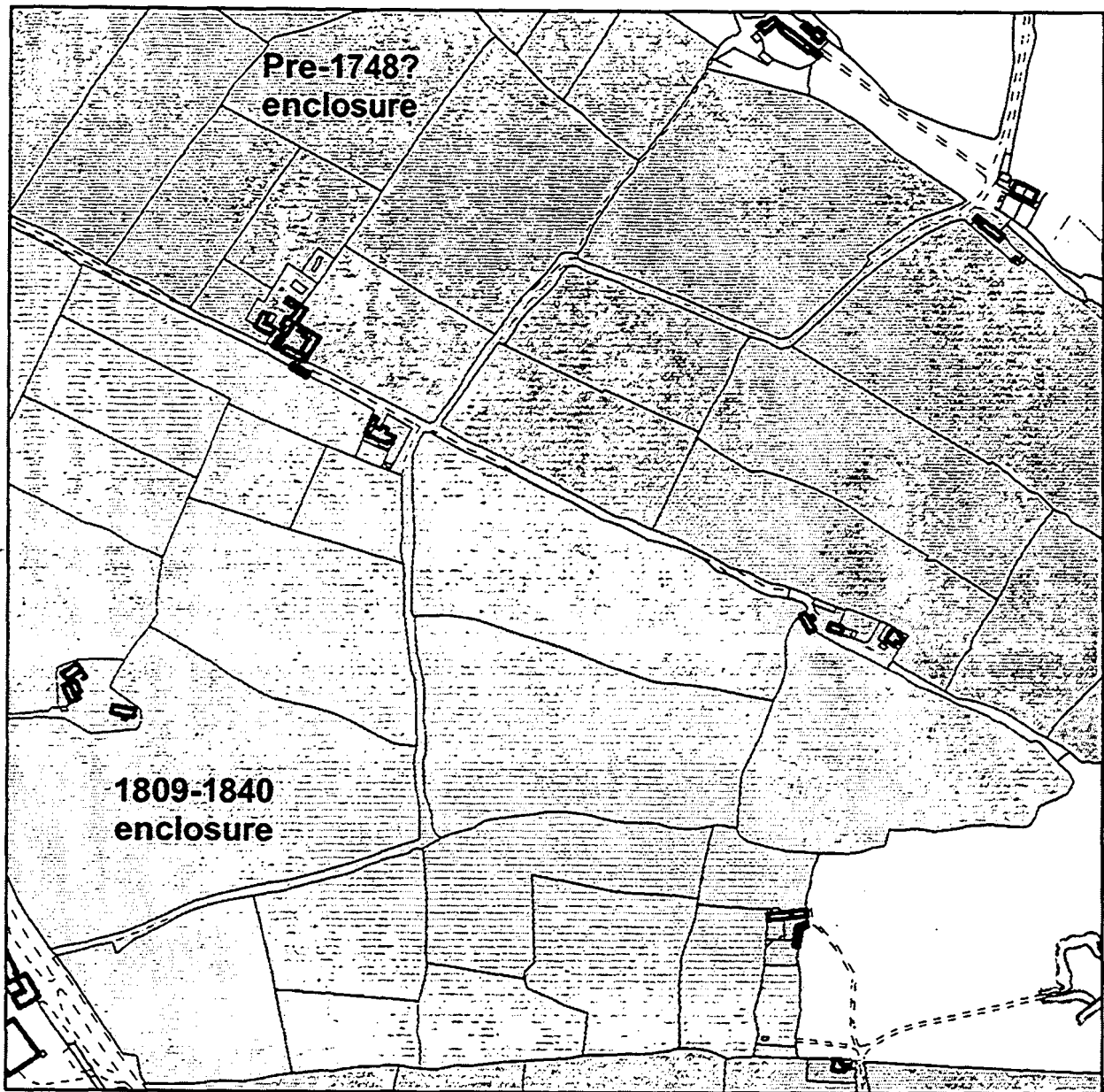


Fig. 3 Different phases of enclosure of Brea Downs to Higher Nymphra.

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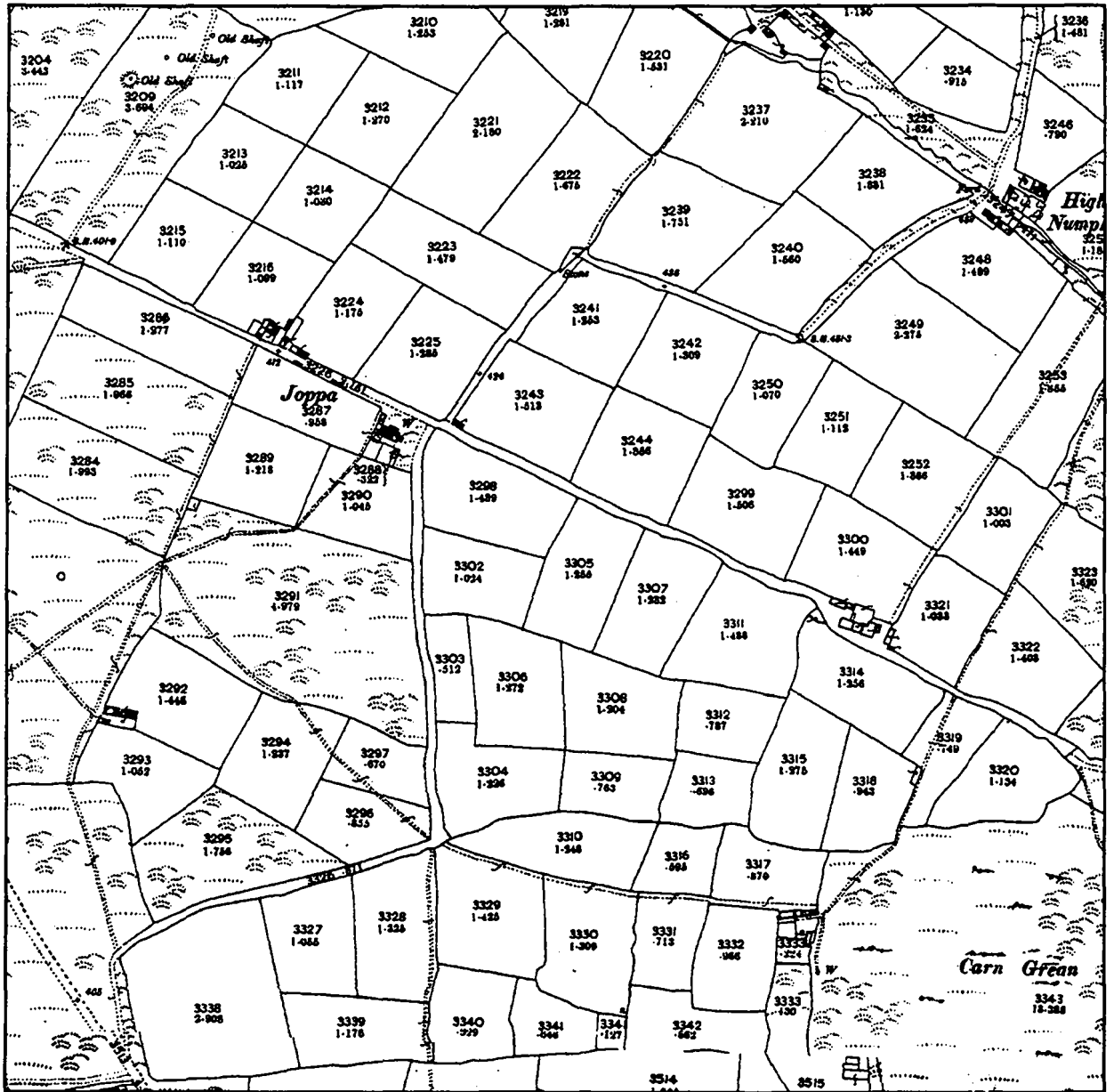


Fig. 4 *Brea Downs to Higher Numphra in 1880 (from Ordnance Survey map).*

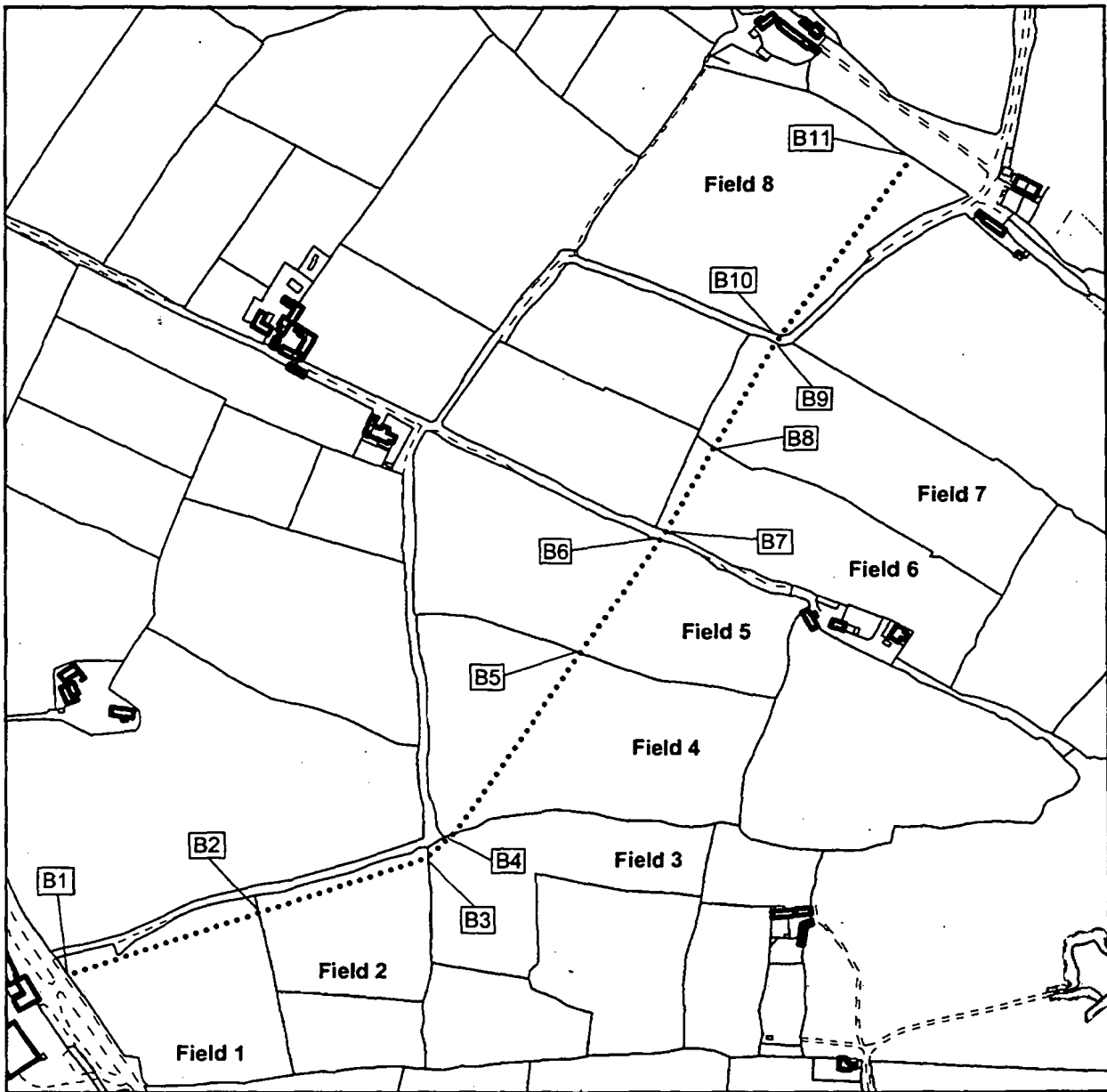


Fig. 5 Location of fields and boundaries - Brea Downs to Higher Nunphra.

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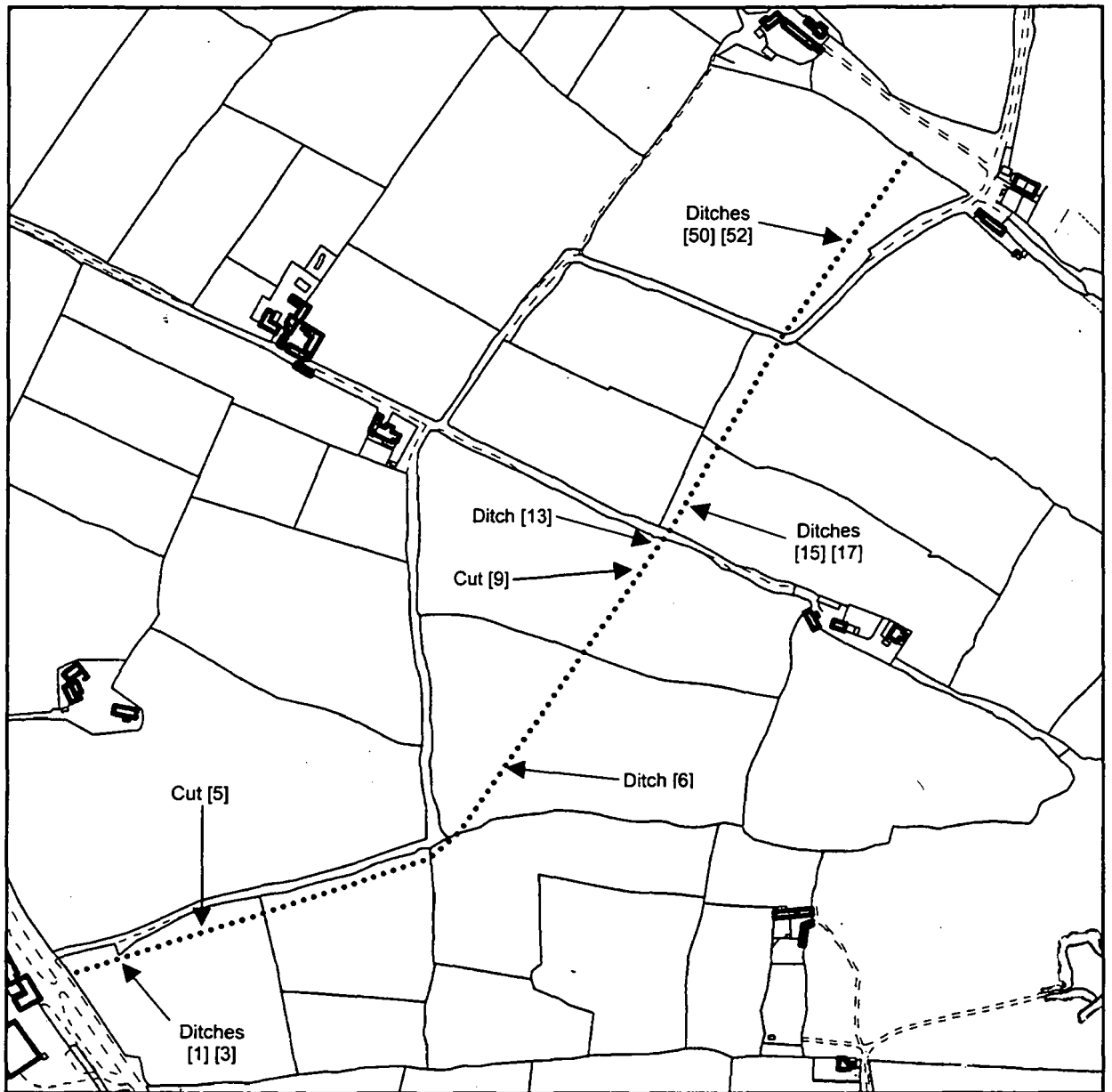


Fig 6 Archaeological features - Brea Downs to Higher Namptha.

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4.2 Dowran and Lower Numphra

4.2.1 Background

The central part of the area breached by the cable corridor was an expanse of Anciently Enclosed Land, of at least medieval origin. Lying within this area were the holdings of Dowran and Lower Numphra, while other medieval settlements such as Bosworlas and Kelynack lie immediately to the west. The nearby presence of Bosworlas and Kelynack provides an indicator of considerable time-depth in the area. Bosworlas contains the place-name element *bos* 'dwelling' which suggests an origin in the early medieval (ie. pre-Norman) period while Kelynack is of similar date, being first recorded in 1086. It is also likely that such medieval settlements had prehistoric antecedents.

The eastern edge of the Anciently Enclosed Land, which is of importance to this study, is demarcated by Dowran Common to the north, Numphra Streamworks to the south (PRN 16088) and the regular fields of Bartinney to the east. The modern holdings of Bartinney take their name from the nearby fortification and downs; no settlement of that name was recorded on either Martyn's map of 1748 or OS drawings of 1809.

The settlement of Dowran itself (PRN 29683) was first recorded in 1245 as 'Doueron' (Gover 1948, 631). The name is Cornish and means watering place (Padel 1985, 87, 262). The hamlet now contains numerous separate dwellings around an irregular townplace. Little Dowran, a secondary settlement c.200m to the east is of 19th century origin.

The settlement of Numphra (PRN 28657) was first recorded in 1589 (Gover 1948, 633). The full derivation of this Cornish name is not clear, although it does contain the place-name element *bre* 'hill.' Numphra is now known as Lower Numphra. A secondary settlement known as Higher Numphra lies within Recently Enclosed Land to the east of Lower Numphra (see Section 4.1.1); it was first recorded on the 1880 OS map.

The field system around Dowran, especially to the west of the road leading north to Dowran Common, has been identified as a medieval field system (PRN 37654) probably overlying an earlier prehistoric system (PRN 37655) (see Johns 1995). Many of the contour-following hedges run along probable prehistoric lynchets. The enclosures associated with Lower Numphra are morphologically very similar to the Dowran fields and likely to be of similar date. Johns also records the field system (PRN 37656) to the south of the Dowran streamworks (PRN 37665). This is a linear block of fields on a WSW-ENE orientation and he describes them as medieval in date, but makes no reference to possible prehistoric origins.

Study of the map evidence demonstrates that during the last 30 years numerous boundaries have been grubbed-out around the hamlet of Dowran and Lower Numphra (see Fig. 11).

Archaeological features in the vicinity of Dowran included an Iron Age or Romano-British enclosure or round (PRN 53226) in the south-west corner of Field 10, the upstanding remains of a smithy (PRN 37659) and a well.

Other features to be affected by the trenching included the two sections of streamwork. The streamworks to the south of Dowran (PRN 37665) were identified from CAU photographs. The streamworks have an east-west orientation and the main part of the excavation lies to the east of the cable trenching. Johns describes the cuttings as "visually impressive, ranging from 1.6m in depth in the south-west corner to 3.5m deep at the east end with spoil heaps up to 2.5m high. A leat 1.3m wide by 0.9m deep feeds into the streamworks from the north-east ..." (1995, 168). A shallow gully running eastwards towards the main part of the streamworks was traversed by the cable trench (see Section 4.2.6).

Streamworks in the area of Dowran have been noted by Noall. He wrote that "tin streaming at St Just, which laid the foundations of the local mining industry, died out at such an early period that few details regarding it have survived. However, Dr Borlase has left a description of a remarkable tin work of this kind found in the tenement of Dowran in 1738. The pulverised ore occurred in a layer between 1 and 1½ feet thick, and of varying breadth in the moory ground where it was first discovered. It had a back of soil and gravel above only 2 feet high, but as the stream went further east "it had still a higher covering till at last it had all Dowran Hill (which may be about 40 feet perpendicular) over it, the stream continuing still in its horizontal position" (1973, 93). The area affected by the cable trench was recorded as 'moor' on the 1840 Tithe map.

The second streamworks (PRN 16088) to the south of Lower Numphra covers an area of some 6 hectares in total. Almost all of this area lies to the east of Higher Numphra. It was surveyed by Sandy Gerrard in 1985, and the eastern extent of the working is scheduled. The main part of the extraction had produced an excavation up to six metres deep, 460m long and between 10 - 80m wide. The waste material from the systematic extraction process lies in curved, parallel dumps and provide the main source of evidence for the character and method of working. At the upper end of the complex are three reservoirs formerly used to gather and control water for the streamworkings, and at least one of the service leats still survives. The water would have been used to work the tin gravels. Upslope from the streamworks are three prospecting pits representing prospecting ahead of the uphill progression of the streamworks.

The area affected by the cable trench was recorded as 'The Stennack' on the 1840 Tithe map. This name is Cornish for 'tin ground' (Pool 1990, 89). The northern half of Field 8 to the south was formerly known as Stennack Field, clearly named after the local workings. This site can be expected to be 13-18th century in date and was formerly one of the finest examples in Penwith and the only scheduled streamworks in West Cornwall. Sadly the value of the complex as a whole was compromised in 1989 and 1990 when the owner of the land used this area as a landfill site.

A gully approximately 2m deep leading into the scheduled area was cut by the cable corridor. This gully lies some distance to the west of the scheduled area.

4.2.2 Introduction to fieldwork

Trenching around Dowran and Lower Numphra was carried out within a total of six fields (Fields 9-14), and eleven boundaries were crossed by the works.

In field 9, the topsoil was removed to a width of 1.0m at the top of the trench, decreasing to a width of between 0.5m and 0.8m at the base. In fields 10-14, the width of the topsoil strip was approximately 3.5m. The subsoil was inspected for archaeological features prior to the secondary excavation of a deeper trench for the laying of the cable. The depth of topsoil varied between 0.3 and 0.45m, with deeper pockets of earth at the southern-most points of Fields 9 and 11.

Within this section of landscape, seven boundaries were breached by the works. Four of the boundaries demarcated the extent of the two streamworking complexes (see Section 4.2.6), one boundary had been dissected and rebuilt prior to the start of the archaeological work and another was a late 20th century earthen bank.

4.2.3 Prehistoric evidence

A total of eleven flints were recovered during fieldwork; seven from Field 9, one from Field 10, two flints and water-rounded pebbles in Field 11 and one from Field 14. Only three flints - two in Field 9 and one each from Fields 10 and 11 - have been dated. All three are probably late Neolithic in date.

Also recovered from this area were a total of five sherds of unstratified pottery provisionally identified as either Iron Age or Romano-British. This included three undiagnostic bodysherds classed as Iron Age or Romano-British in Field 11 and two further sherds of Romano-British or possibly early medieval date in Field 12.

Two ditches were also recorded that stood apart typologically from the medieval and post-medieval hedge ditches in the area. Furthermore, given their location close to an identified round (PRN 53226) and unstratified finds of a similar date, these ditches have been identified as potentially of prehistoric date.

In the southern corner of Field 10, a curving ditch [59] was located (see Fig. 2). A flat-bottomed ditch, it contained a considerable number of small holes with a gap of 0.3m between them. With the largest hole being only 0.08m by 0.06m with a depth of 0.05m, it is likely that this is evidence of the bases of post-holes for fencing of some description. This feature is also less than 100m to the west of the round (PRN 53226) in this field.

Further to the north in Field 13, ditch [43] was recorded on a NNE-SSW orientation, at variance with the existing landscape. It was 1.7m wide with a depth of 0.28m, and contained a considerable stone bank embedded within the centre of the ditch. The topsoil strip was poor in this area, but the full scope of this feature could be noted by various stones breaking through the surface of the remaining soil.

4.2.4 Medieval and post-medieval landscape

Evidence for the medieval and post-medieval landscape was once again the existing field boundaries (nos. 11a-19) and a total of seven ditches.

The boundaries within the Anciently Enclosed were very similar, in terms of construction, to those recorded within the Recently Enclosed Land further to the south. Stone-faced earthen banks were again common throughout the area, although in a number of cases like Boundary 12 were more heavily overgrown. Some had also been heavily modified into the modern period.

Boundaries 11, 11a, 13a and 13b were all breached due to the excavation through the streamworking areas. Boundaries 11a and 13b were typical stone-faced earthen banks, while 11b was a later feature that overlay part of the infilled Dowran streamworks. Boundary 11 was a bank of small stones that were probably upcast from the Numphra streamworks (see Fig. 8). Boundaries 16, 18 and 19 were well-preserved stone-faced banks, with some varying degrees of erosion especially along 16. Boundary 15 was cut and rebuilt prior to archaeological work starting (see Fig. 20).

Boundary 13, had been well hidden under a vast tranche of gorse and bramble, but was breached and proved to be a typical stone-faced bank, with perpendicular sides. It was 0.9m wide but only 1.0m high.

A total of seven ditches were recorded within the section of Anciently Enclosed Land and identified as being of either medieval or later origin. Two of these were immediately to the north of the Numphra Streamworks were felt not to be agricultural in origin (see section 4.2.6).

Ditch [41] in Field 12 represents a boundary recorded on the 1880 map, although a second parallel boundary to the south was not located. A field boundary was recorded on the 1880 OS map in Field 9. It was on a NW-SE alignment, and during the fieldwork a stony spread was located in this area [72]. A second such spread to the north [73]. A further and very slight ditch [48] was recorded towards the south of Field 12. This feature had not previously been recorded.

The evidence is more problematic in Field 10. Both the 1880 and 1907 OS maps show that this enclosure was previously four separate fields (see Fig. 10). From this information we expected to encounter evidence for two boundaries' one on a SW-NE alignment and the other on a NW-SE alignment. Fieldwork, however, located three ditches, all on a broad SW-NE orientation but not in the exact areas that such features had been expected.

The boundaries were very varied, ditch [61] being round-bottomed while ditch [67] had two distinctly different sloping sides, demonstrating that it was almost certainly a drainage ditch running parallel with the northern side of a grubbed-out boundary.

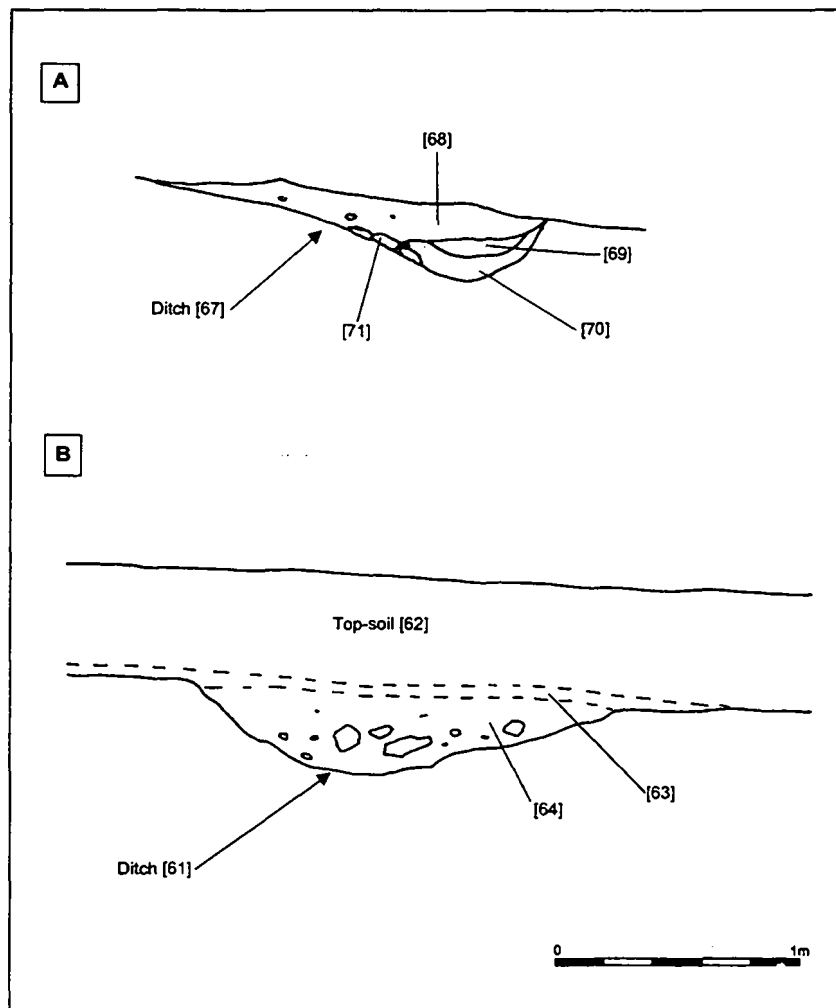


Fig. 7 East-facing sections of (a) ditch [67] and (b) ditch [61].

4.2.5 Medieval, post-medieval and modern finds

The Anciently Enclosed Land between Lower Numphra and Dowran contained a wide range of archaeological artefacts. Modern finds (19th - 20th century) were scattered throughout Fields 9-14, with earlier artefacts recovered from Fields 11 and 12 to the immediate west of the settlement of Dowran.

In Field 11, 27 medieval pottery sherds were recovered along with 27 artefacts of post-medieval date and 24 of modern, while in Field 12 there were eight pieces of medieval date, nine of post-medieval date and ten were modern.

The medieval finds near Dowran are those typical Cornish coarsewares (Stuffle Ware and Lostwithiel Ware), often found on sites of such date in Cornwall, while the post-medieval wares were more varied and many had been imported over longer distances. These included slipwares from the Bristol/Gloucestershire area and North Holland.

4.2.6 Streamworks at Numphra and Dowran

The two areas of streamworking in the path of the cable trenching had been identified prior to works commencing and, following negotiation, the necessary mitigation procedures then put into place.

Numphra streamworks (PRN 16088) were well-known as an important site, though most of it lies to the east, where it is protected as a Scheduled Monument. The corridor for the cable laying lay well to the west of the protected areas. Dowran streamworks (PRN 37665) had been identified more recently and little investigative work had been carried. Once again however, the bulk of the site lies to the east.

Numphra

The northern edge of Numphra streamworks (Fig. 8) was marked by Boundary 11a, a typical stone-faced earthen bank. To the south of this boundary, on the same broad east-west orientation was a well-preserved square-cut ditch [55] and also to the north was a similar ditch, recorded some 0.8m below the level of the modern field surface at the base of a considerable hollow filled with top-soil and redeposited natural. It is likely that both of these features and the infilled hollow in the southern part of Field 9 are linked to the streamworks in some way. It could be that the ditches were directing water towards some processing complex further to the east.

The main part of the streamworks recorded in section was a 7.5m wide channel. This channel would have originally been the river, but had since been streambed and then backfilled with fine material washed into the excavation from upstream. Layers within this channel include loose stone [86], fine sand [85] and clay [84]. Upcast from the workings was also identified with a deposit of small stones [83] to the south, brown clays/shoad [81] and sand [82] to the north. Stones from the workings had also been piled up to form the boundary on the southern side of the feature (boundary no 11).

Dowran

The trenching through the documented streamworks at Dowran (Fig. 9) failed to record similar deposits as at Numphra, since all deposits encountered were clearly modern backfill. This included the main mottled brown deposit [76], which contained numerous large stones and in the centre of the feature debris of modern agriculture such as silage bags.

Two further deposits of mixed re-deposited natural sub-soil [77] [79] were recorded and both these deposits were deliberate dumps of material placed directly underneath the position of the stream running through the valley bottom and which must have been redirected at some stage.

A dark brown soil [78] was recorded to the south of the hollow, overlying context [79], through which the stream ran – just above the redeposited natural. Boundary 13a, a stone-faced bank of small pieces of rubble lies above context [78], making it a feature which clearly post-dates the operation of the streamworks in this area.

Boundary 13b demarcating the other side of the works is a typical stone-faced earthen bank with a maximum height of 1.5m. It is well-preserved but top-soil from Field 11 has banked up against it making it appear a very slight feature from within that field.

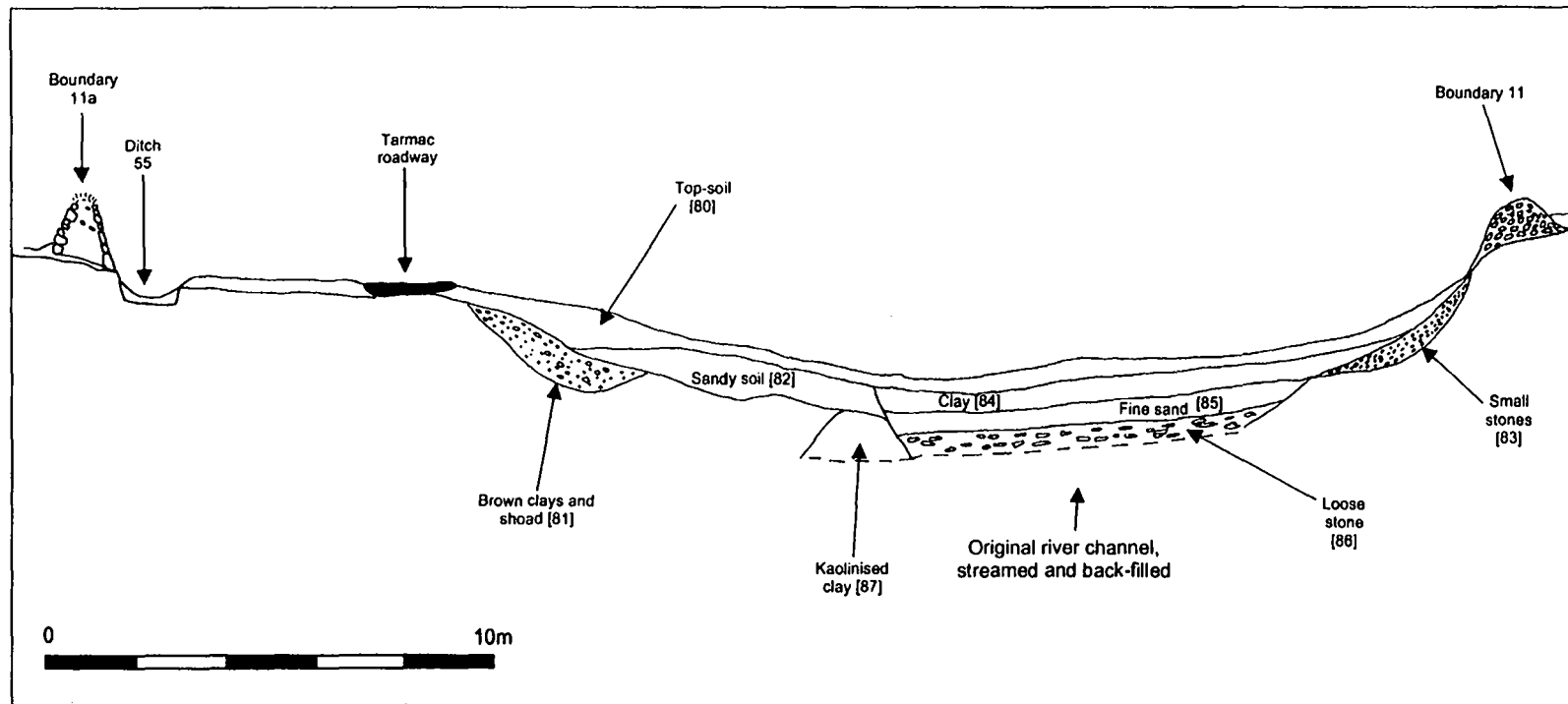


Fig. 8 Sketch of west-facing section of the Nymphra Streamworks.

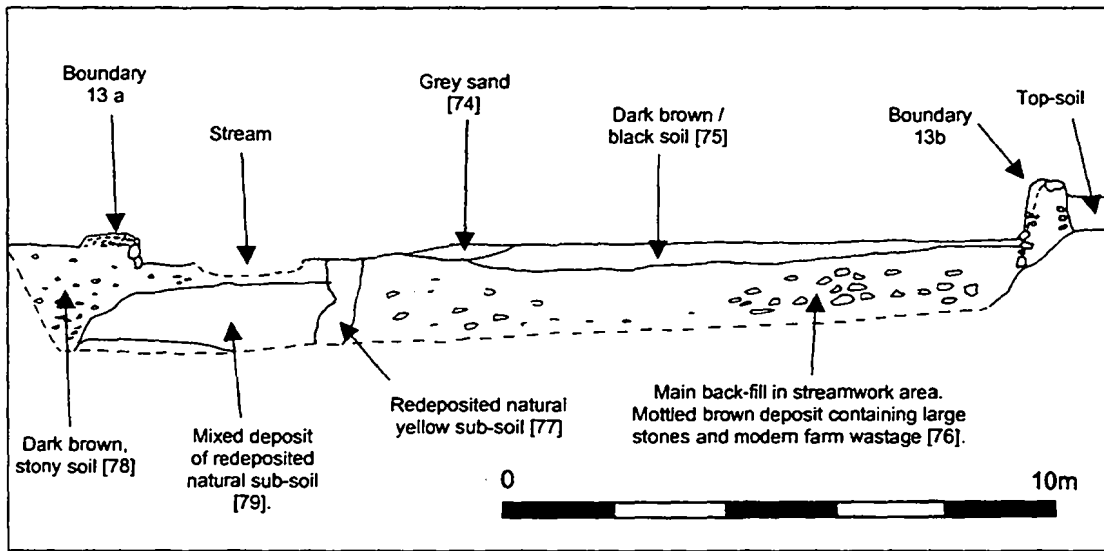


Fig. 9 Sketch of east-facing section of infilled Downan Streamworks hollow.

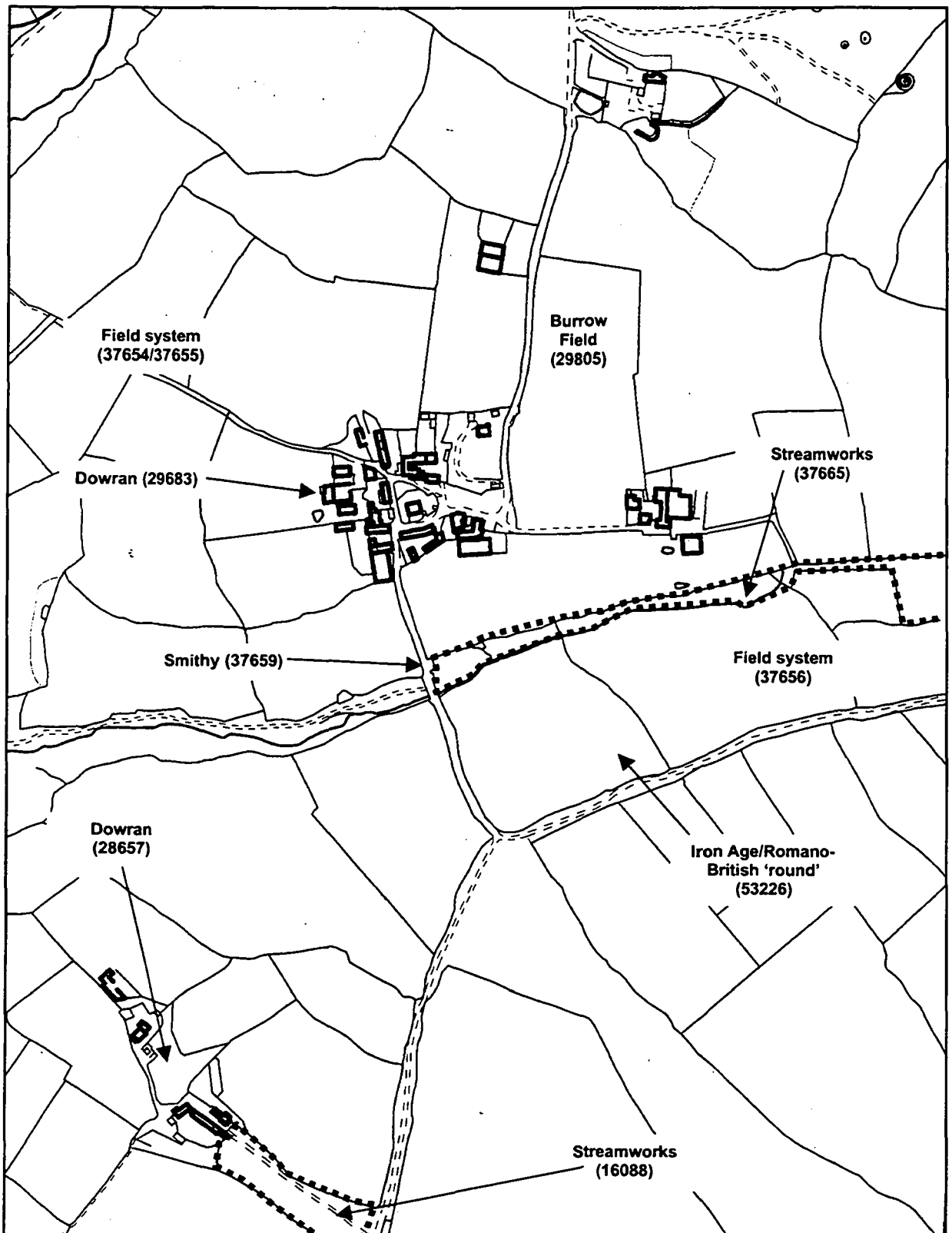


Fig. 10 *Known archaeological sites near Dowran (with Primary Record Numbers – SMR).*

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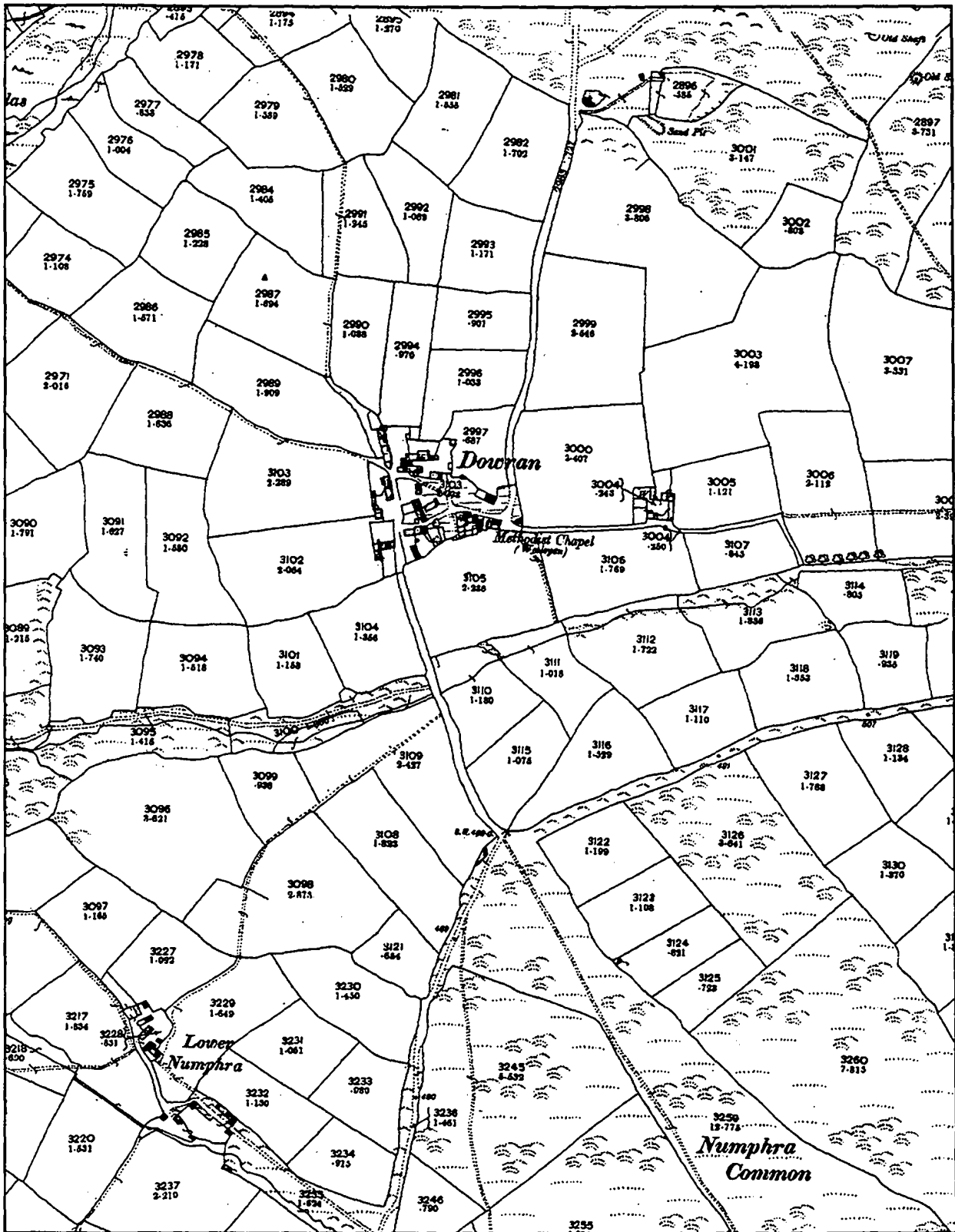


Fig. 11 Douran in 1880 (from Ordnance Survey map)

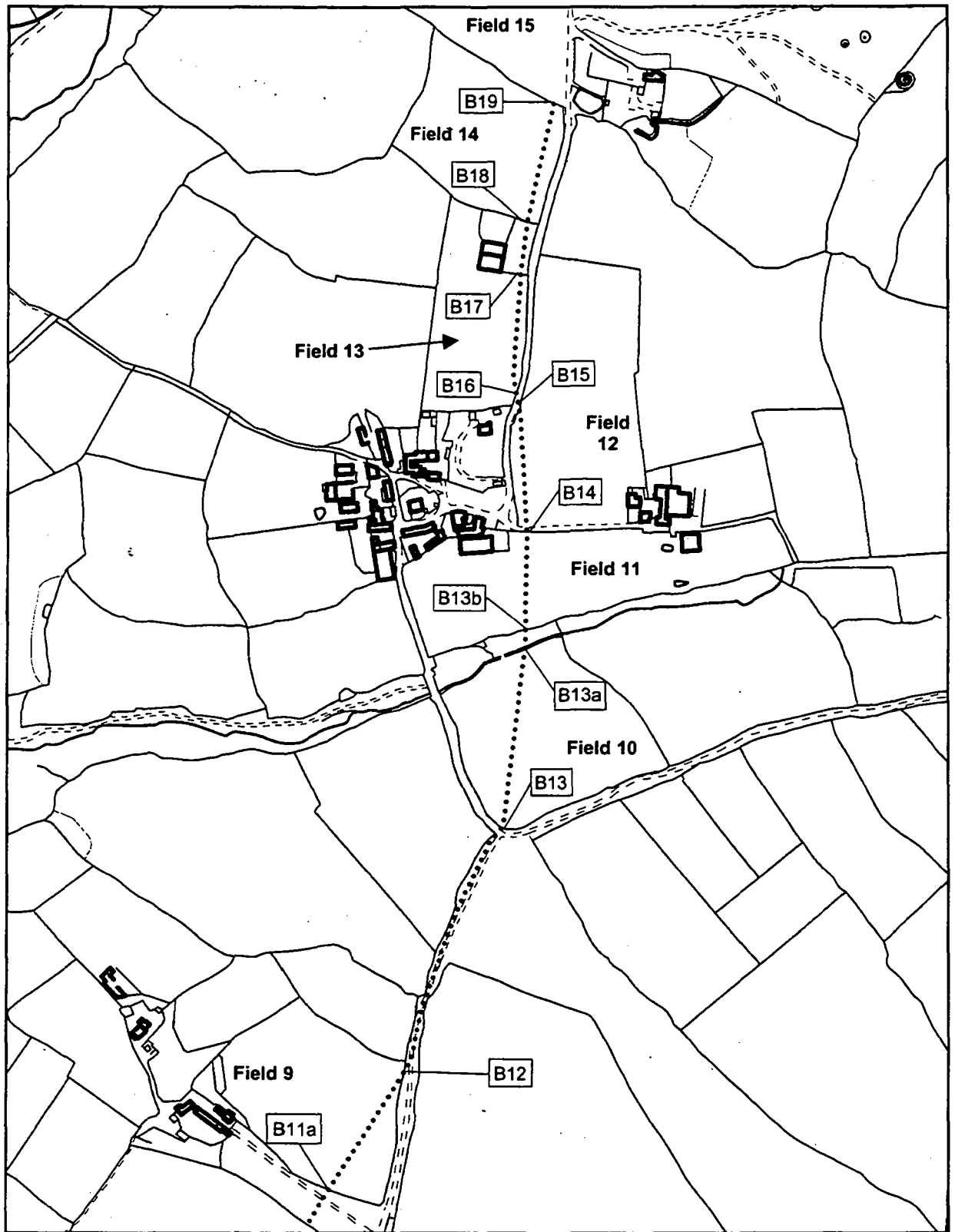


Fig. 12 Location of fields and boundaries - Downan.

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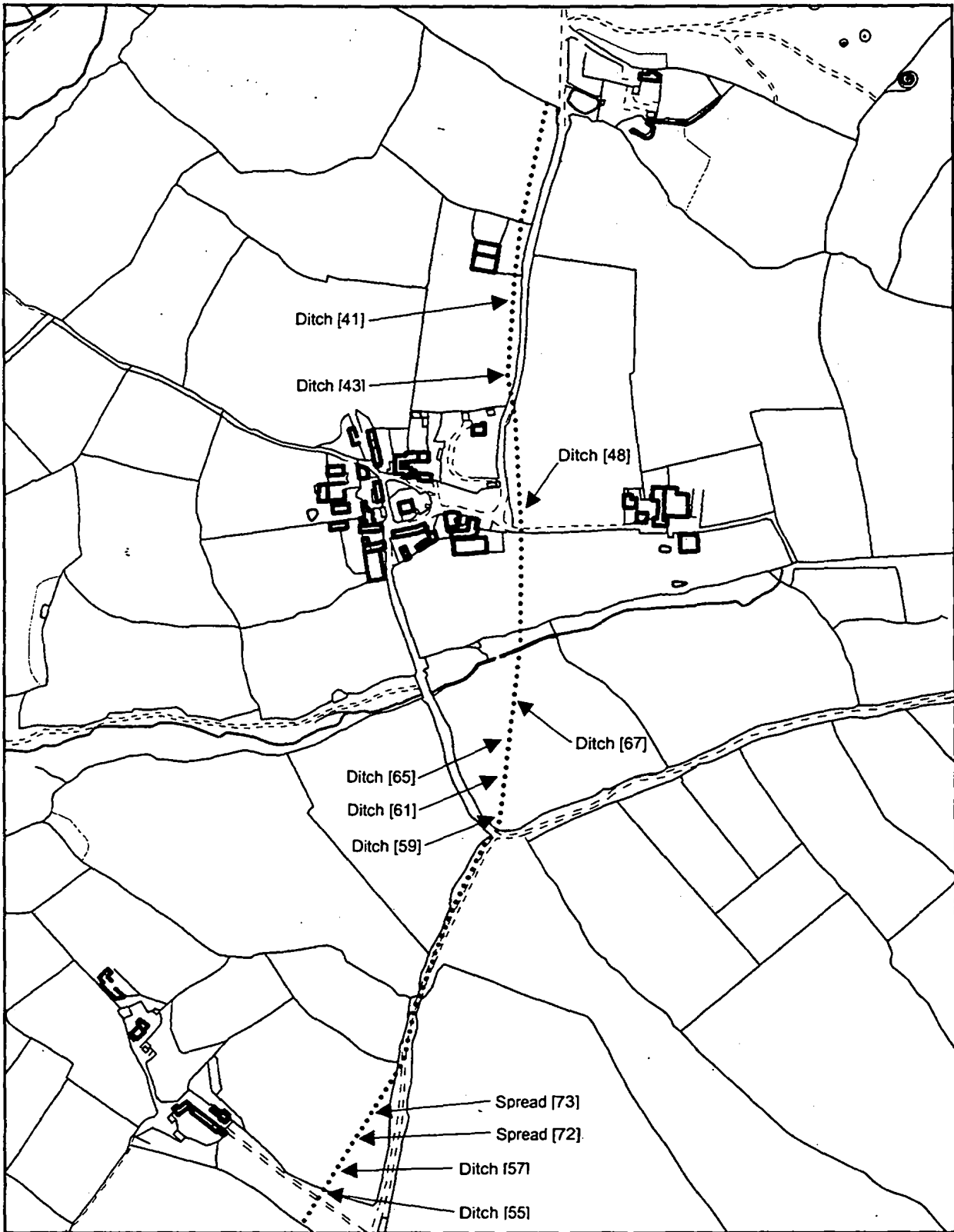


Fig 13 Location of archaeological features - Downan.

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4.3 Dowran Common

4.3.1 Background

Field 15 was part of 'Dowran Common' on the 1840 Tithe map and subsequent Ordnance Survey maps. The 1880 and 1908 OS maps record shafts and mining remains within the area. Two shafts were recorded on the 1908 map (see Fig. 15).

These remains are part of Croft an Vor Mine (PRN 37669) which represents a cluster of mines which had its origins in earlier streamworking (see Johns 1995, 168-172) and subsequently developed along a series of lodes running north-west - south-east across the Common. The mine was also known as Croftenverth/Croft an Vergh/Croft an Berth and probably includes parts of Douran/Wheal Dower/Wheal an Dower/Little Wheal Dower. The mine was working in 1671 and 1716-18; identified as Croft an Vergh in 1671, Croftenverth in 1782 and Croft an Vor in 1857 (Sharpe 1992 Vol 2, 129). Wheal an Dower/Douran was at work before 1725 (Gerrard 1986) and operating as a streamwork in 1783 (Sharpe 1992 Vol 2, 129).

It has been suggested by Noall, that a mining enterprise known as Wheal Augusta (PRN 37670) also lay within Field 15 (Noall 1973, 16). It had been named South Balleswidden until 1850 and was then re-worked between 1850 and 1855 as Wheal Augusta. Pre-1850 workings included an adit, shafts and water-wheel; the 1850s workings included an account house, smith's shop, horse-whims, a number of shafts and an adit (Noall 1973, 16). There is a possible streamworks site running along the southern edge of field 15, though it has been infilled in the latter stages of the 20th century.

The remains of Wheal an Vor were described and sketch-surveyed by Sharpe (1992, Vol 2, 129-130), although the remains in field 15 were no longer visible as the land had been taken in, improved and shafts and other earthworks levelled. The enclosure is presently pasture.

Further industrial sites on Dowran Common, to the east of the road leading out of Dowran include streamworks (PRNs 37666 and 37667), lode-back pits (PRN 37668) and a holloway (PRN 37661). None of these features were affected by the cable trenching.

A shaft was also recorded on the 1908 OS map at SW 3865 3054, which was slightly to the east of the cable trenching and as a result, no evidence of this feature was recorded.

4.3.2 Introduction to fieldwork

The length of the trenching through Field 15 was approximately 240m. As this was through an area of former heathland, no boundaries were affected by the works. The topsoil was removed to a width of between 3.5 and 4.0m, with a top-soil depth of at least 0.3m.

4.3.3 Mining remains

Fieldwork encountered a very disturbed and irregular sub-soil beneath the top-soil, once it had been removed. There were a number of apparently 'raised' areas of natural subsoil with deep pockets of dark soil between them. These humps and associated hollows are clear evidence of mining activity in this area, with the hollows varying in shape and depth, with some being over 1.0m deep.

The areas of visible natural sub-soil also contained a total of eight ditches (Figs. 14 and 17). There was a single feature to the far north [40] and two clusters (one of three [32] [35] [38] and one of four [21] [24] [26] [29]). These ditches were primarily very small and on a broad east-west orientation (see Fig. 14). No immediate function for these features was apparent,

although it is possible they simply allowed water to flow away from areas of mining activity.

The relatively clean 'top-soil' which filled the hollows was also suggestive of deliberate backfill after the mining operations had ceased and the local farmer had taken the decision to bring this area into cultivation. There was also a considerable amount of modern rubbish dumped in the southern part of Field 15 helping to make up the ground (see Section 4.3.4).

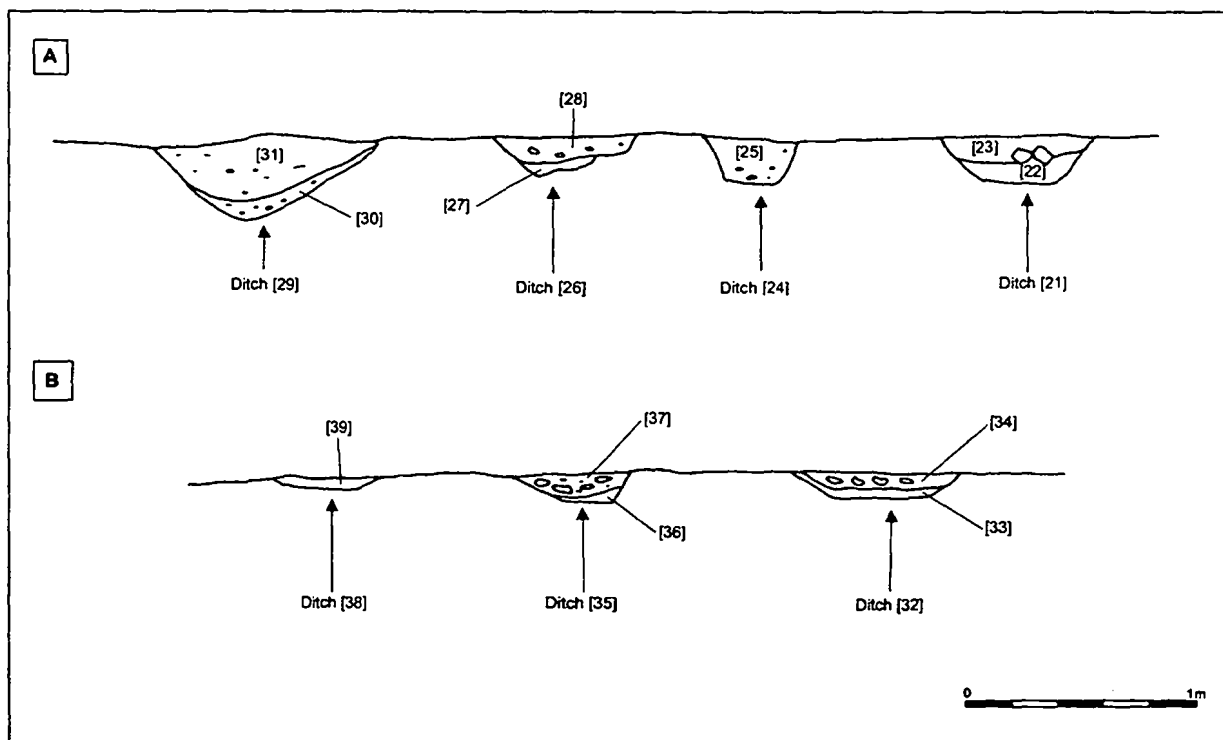


Fig. 14 West-facing sections of groups of ditches in Field 15 (a) ditches [21] [24] [26] [29] and (b) ditches [32] [35] [38].

4.3.4 Post-medieval and modern finds

Analysis of the artefacts recovered from within Field 15 show that with the exception of 11 sherds of post-medieval pottery dating to the 17th and 18th centuries, the finds were all of modern date.

A limited amount of finds were recovered along the northern part of the corridor, but most were recovered from three concentrations at 168m and 210m from the northern end of the corridor, with a massive dump area at 200m from the north end. Ninety-six artefacts were recovered from the main dump area, with a range of artefact and pottery types including flower pot, stoneware, glass fragments and white glazed stoneware (55 sherds) which have all been dated to the 19th or 20th centuries.

The amount of deliberate dumping in this area meant, however, that only a selection of the materials were removed from the field rather than the full assemblage.

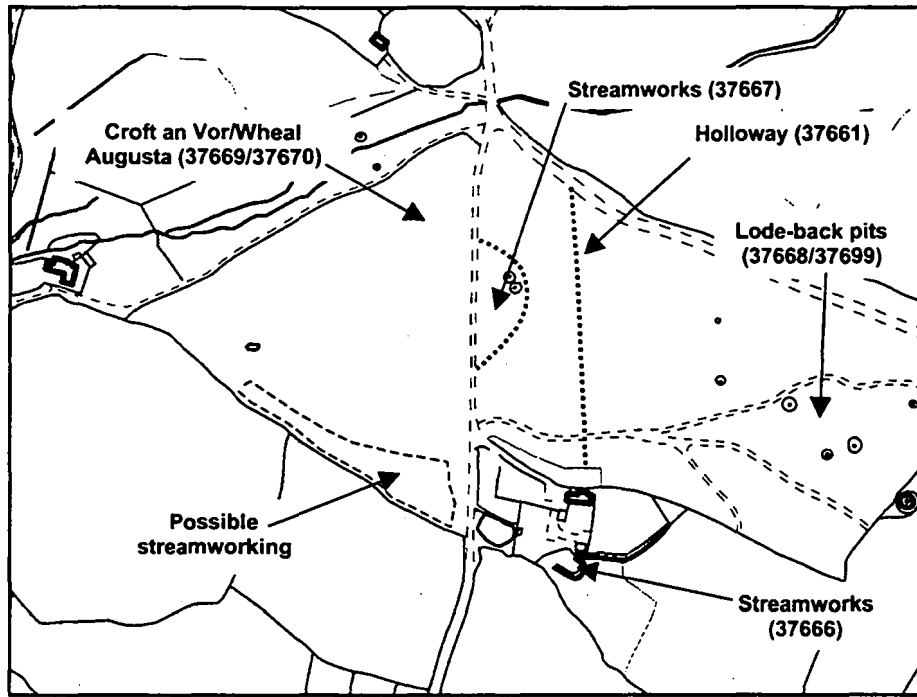


Fig. 15 Known archaeological sites on Douran Common (with Primary Record Numbers - SMR).

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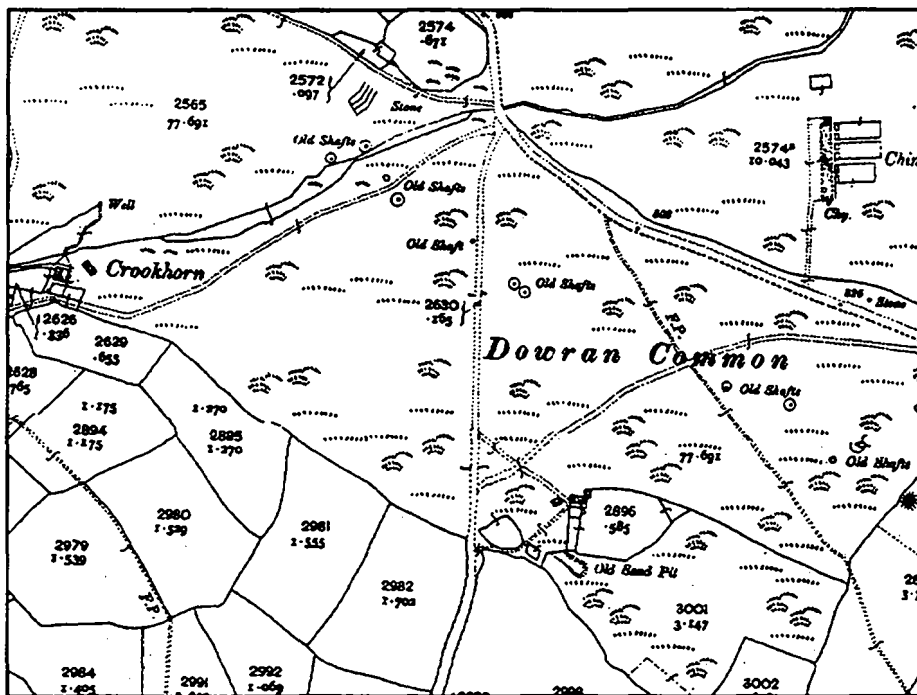


Fig. 16 Douran Common in 1908, showing location of mining remains (from OS map)

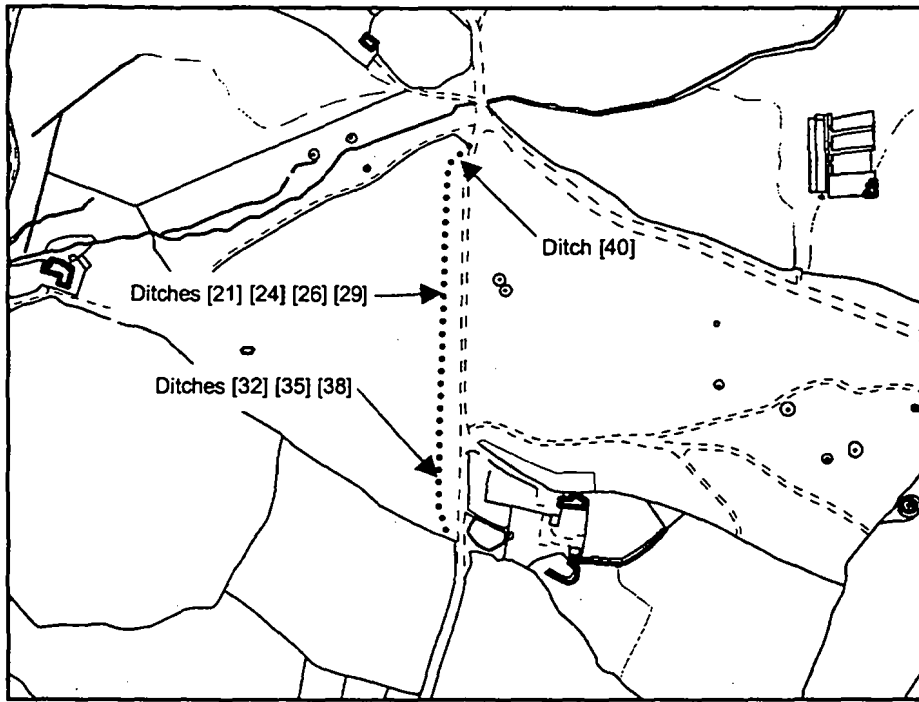


Fig. 17 Location of trench and archaeological features on Dowran Common.

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5 Conclusion

The Brea Downs to Dowran Common cable trenching passed through an area of considerable time-depth; a landscape occupied first by hunter-gathers and then by sedentary communities, who gradually created the multi-layered Cornish landscape of today.

Discoveries from this project have considerably strengthened our understanding of this part of St Just Parish, its structure, economy and development:-

- **Flint finds of Mesolithic and Neolithic date**

A number of worked flints were recovered from the immediate vicinity of the trenching corridor, which have been dated to the Mesolithic and Neolithic periods by Anna Lawson Jones. These represent the first recovered artefacts from these periods, showing continuous human activity in the landscape, dating back well over 6,000 years.

- **Iron Age/Romano-British round and associated evidence**

Positioned to the south-east of Dowran is a late prehistoric fortified enclosure, identified from aerial photographs. Fieldwork identified two ditches in the cable corridor which have been provisionally dated as contemporary with the round. A total of five sherds of unstratified Iron Age/Roman-British pottery were recovered from the two fields between the round and the medieval settlement of Dowran, while two further sherds of possible Iron Age pottery were recovered within a ditch feature within Recently Enclosed Land to the south. The latter may be evidence for later prehistoric activity in an area which in the

medieval period had reverted to heathland.

- **Dowran - an example of continuous settlement**

As well as Iron Age pottery, a high concentration of medieval and early post-medieval artefacts were recovered from the vicinity of Dowran. Such finds were not recovered from anywhere else along the line of the cable trench, illustrating just how the hamlet and the nearby round must have acted as a focus of settlement in this part of West Cornwall.

- **Medieval and post-medieval agricultural landscape**

Evidence of agriculture investigated by this project consisted mainly of boundaries, grubbed-out features and ditches. Data collected in the project has provided us with insights into

- the expansion outwards from the original block of farmland around Dowran (of prehistoric and medieval origin) into open heathland between the 18th and 19th centuries
- the creation of numerous smallholdings in the new enclosures from Higher Numphra to Carn Grean.
- the amalgamation of fields into larger enclosures during the modern period.

Few opportunities for detailed examination of field boundaries arose as the breaching of boundaries was largely avoided.

- **Tinstreaming and mining remains**

The study also allowed an opportunity to view and assess the importance of streamworks at Dowran and Numphra, and the remains of part of Wheal an Vor. The Numphra workings contained upcast from early workings as well as the silted up excavation channel, while the site of Wheal an Vor demonstrated how such a rough area of former mining activity had been reclaimed and brought into agricultural production in the late 20th century.



Fig. 18 Possible prehistoric ditch [43] containing a stone wall.



Fig. 19 Adam Sharpe excavating possible prehistoric ditch [59] in Field 10.



Fig. 20 The laying of the trench in Field 11.

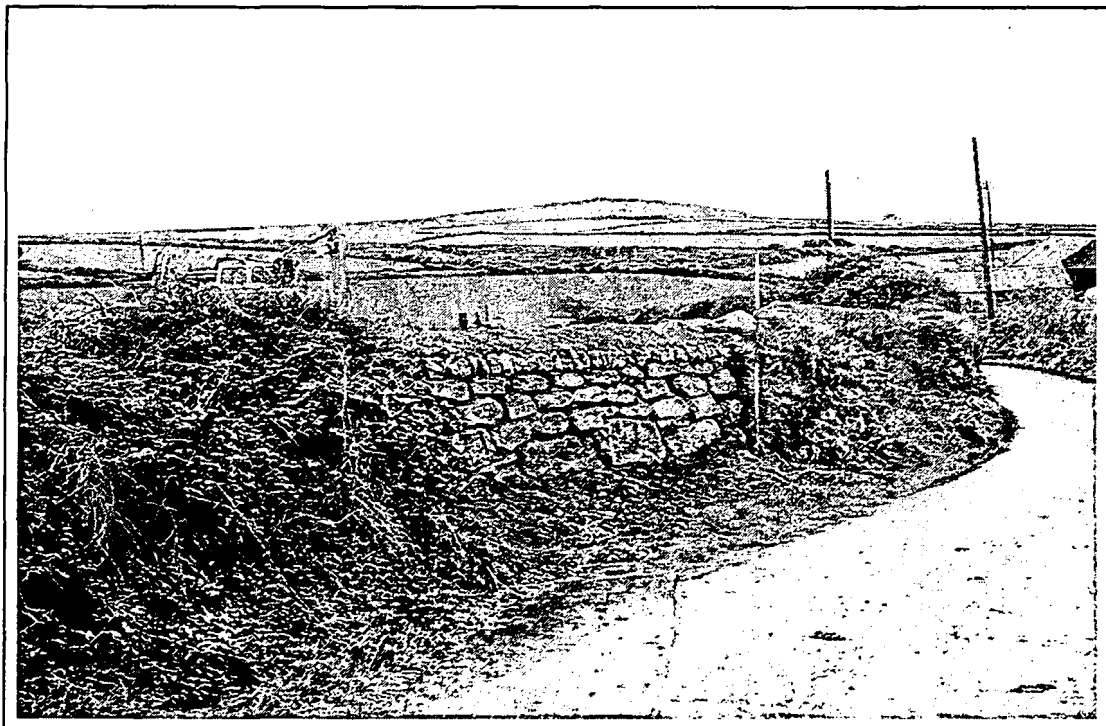


Fig. 21 Boundary 15, which was breached and rebuilt in the local tradition prior to archaeological works starting.

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7 Project Archive

The CAU project number is 2000064

The project's documentary, photographic and drawn archive is housed at the offices of Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall County Council, Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Station Road, Truro, TR1 3AY. The contents of this archive are as listed below:

1. A project file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration.
2. Field plans and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE 394/1-19).
3. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers: GBP 1231/2-37; 1232/1-36
4. This report held in digital form as: G:\CAU\DOCUMENTS\SITES\SITES SIST JUST IN PENWITH\BREA DOWNS TO DOWRAN CABLE.2000064\REPORT.DOC

Artefacts and environmental material retrieved during the project are currently stored at CAU offices in Truro, for eventual deposition to the Royal Cornwall Museum, River Street, Truro.

8 Appendix 1: Contexts recorded from Watching Brief

A total of 87 contexts were recorded during the excavation of features along the trenching. All the contexts are listed below.

No.	Description	Field no.	NGR (SW)
1	Shallow ditch, on a north-south orientation. It is 3.5m wide and 0.2-0.3m deep. Heavily disturbed, this is the remains of a field boundary grubbed out in recent years by mechanical digger.	1	3789 2889
2	Single fill of cut [1]. Dark brown top-soil, quite rooty in places.	1	-
3	Square cut ditch, 0.5m wide, to the south of cut [3], running parallel with it. The feature was not fully excavated and appears to be a modern service trench.	1	3789 2889
4	Fill of cut [3]. Redeposited natural sub-soil.	1	-
5	Slight 'kidney bean-shaped' hollow, 0.5m by 0.3m, with a depth of 0.04m. Unlikely to be an archaeological feature. Fill not noted.	1	3795 2892
6	Ditch on an east-west alignment, it is 2.5m wide and has a maximum depth of 0.2m. It has a pronounced slope to the south, but slopes in more gently from the north. This is clearly the northern ditch of a field boundary recorded on the 1840 Tithe map and early OS maps. No evidence of a southern ditch was noted.	4	3816 2904
7	Single fill of cut [6]. A light brown silty clay, containing a considerable amount of grit or small gravelly stones.	4	-
8	Dark brown top soil overlying fill [7] above. It is 0.3m deep.	4	-
9	A roughly cut, irregular pit, 0.8m by 0.4m, with a further slight depression leading off to the east. The pit has a maximum depth of 0.15.	5	3824 2916
10	Single fill of cut [9]. A very mottled mixture of light and darker brown soils, plus small fragments of natural sub-soil.	5	-
11	A light brown silty clay, quite reddish in places, overlying fill [9]. It is 0.2m deep.	5	-
12	Dark brown top soil overlying fill [11] above. It is 0.3m deep.	5	-
13	Very slight ditch on a WNW-ESE alignment, is 0.18m wide and 0.07m deep. The cut is triangular with a slightly more pronounced slope to the south. This may be a deep cultivation scar.	5	3826 2918
14	Single fill of cut [13]. A dark brown silty, clay soil.	5	-
15	Ditch on an approximate NW-SE alignment. Flat-bottomed with gently sloping sides, it is 0.8m wide and 0.2m deep.	6	3828 2921
16	Single fill of cut [15]. It is a light brown silty clay soil, with hints of red, also containing numerous small stones.	6	-
17	Almost square-cut ditch, to the north of cut [15], on a slightly different alignment. It is 0.24m wide and 0.2m deep.	6	3828 2921
18	Single fill of cut [17]. It is a light brown silty clay soil, with hints of red. Contained stratified fragments of Iron Age pottery.	6	-
19	A light brown silty clay, quite reddish in places, overlying fills [16] and [18]. It is 0.12m deep.	6	-
20	Dark brown top soil overlying fill [19] above. It is 0.3m deep.	6	-
21	One of four associated ditches on a rough east-west alignment. A flat-bottomed ditch with fairly pronounced sides, it is 0.65m wide and 0.2m deep.	15	3864 3052
22	Bottom fill of cut [21], it is light brown silty clay. It is 0.12m deep.	15	-
23	Top fill of cut [21], it is a dark brown silty clay. It contains some medium-sized stones and is 0.08m deep.	15	-
24	One of four associated ditches on a rough east-west alignment. A flat-bottomed ditch with steeply sloping sides, it is 0.4m wide and 0.2m	15	3864 3051

No.	Description	Field no.	NGR (SW)
	deep.		
25	Single fill of cut [24], it is dark brown and very gritty, silty clay.	15	-
26	One of four associated ditches on a rough east-west alignment. An irregular ditch with a roughly cut base and fairly pronounced sides, it is 0.6m wide and 0.15m deep.	15	3864 3051
27	Bottom fill of cut [26], it is red-brown gritty and silty clay. It is 0.05m deep.	15	-
28	Top fill of cut [26], it is a dark brown silty clay. It contains some small stones and is 0.1m deep.	15	-
29	One of four associated ditches on a rough east-west alignment. A flat-bottomed ditch with fairly pronounced sides, it is 1m wide and 0.35m deep.	15	3864 3051
30	Bottom fill of cut [29], lining the base of the ditch. It is reddish-brown gritty soil, and 0.8m deep.	15	-
31	Top fill of cut [21], it is a dark brown gritty soil. It is 0.27m deep.	15	-
32	One of three ditches on an approximate east-west alignment. It is a shallow ditch with gently sloping sides, 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep.	15	3864 3040
33	Bottom fill of cut [32], it is dark brown/black gritty soil. It is 0.05m deep.	15	-
34	Top fill of cut [32], it is a very stony within a dark brown silty clay soil. It is 0.05m deep.	15	-
35	One of three ditches on an approximate east-west alignment. It is a shallow ditch with fairly pronounced sloping sides, 0.5m wide and 0.12m deep.	15	3864 3040
36	Bottom fill of cut [35], it is a red-brown gritty soil. It is 0.04m deep.	15	-
37	Top fill of cut [35], it is a very stony dark brown/black deposit. It is 0.5m deep.	15	-
38	One of three ditches on an approximate east-west alignment. It is a very slight feature, 0.5m wide and 0.04m deep.	15	3864 3040
39	Single fill of cut [38], it is a dark brown silty clay soil.	15	-
40	Ditch with very steep sides. It was 0.5m wide. The feature was cut by mechanical digger, which made recording not possible.	15	3865 3059
41	Ditch on an east-west alignment, it is 1.5m wide and has a maximum depth of 0.24m. The ditch has a more pronounced slope to the north and this clearly was a ditch than ran along the southern side of a field boundary recorded on the 1840 Tithe map and early OS maps. There was no second ditch to the north.	13	3861 3020
42	Single fill of cut [41]. A light brown silty clay soil, it is much grittier towards the bottom of the cut.	13	-
43	Ditch on a NNE-SSW alignment, it is 1.7m wide and 0.28m deep, providing a setting for a 'stone bank.' The ditch has a steep slope to the west and a more gentle one to the east. Likely to be a prehistoric feature.	13	3861 3015
44	A light brown crumbly soil in western part of cut [43], containing small fragments of natural. Bottom fill of cut [43] in the western part of the ditch.	13	-
45	Bottom fill of cut [43], in the eastern part of the ditch. It is a mid brown silty clay with occasional stones. It is also quite mottled, with inclusions of a darker red-brown soil and pieces of natural.	13	-
46	Central fill of cut [43], it is a mottled dark brown, with some fragments of a lighter brown soil within it. Maximum depth is 0.24m.	13	-
47	A setting of numerous small and medium-sized stones, making up the base/core of a field boundary. Main structural fill of cut [43].	13	-
48	A very slight round-bottomed ditch on an east-west alignment. It is 0.6m wide and has a maximum depth of 0.07m at its deepest point.	12	3861 3003

No.	Description	Field no.	NGR (SW)
49	Single fill of cut [48], it is a gritty red-brown soil.	12	-
50	Ditch on an approximate north-west - south-east alignment. The ditch has a pronounced slope to the north and more gradual one to the south, it is 0.7m wide and 0.08m deep. It is the southern ditch of a grubbed out boundary bank, recorded on the 1840 Tithe map and early OS maps.	8	3840 2939
51	Single fill of cut [50], it is a mid brown, silty clay.	8	-
52	Ditch on an approximate north-west - south-east alignment. The ditch has a pronounced slope to the south and less of one to the north, it is 0.7m wide and 0.06m deep. It is the northern ditch of a grubbed out boundary bank, recorded on the 1840 Tithe map and early OS maps.	8	3840 2939
53	Single fill of cut [52], it is a mid brown, silty clay.	8	-
54	Mid brown, silty clay top soil overlying cuts [50] and [52].	8	-
55	Square-cut ditch to the immediate south of Boundary 11a. It is 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep. Running broadly east-west, it may have directed water towards part of the Numphra Streamworks, perhaps a processing area.	-	3946 2948
56	Single fill of cut [55]. It is a mixed deposit of sub-soil and top-soil. Maximum depth near the edges of the feature is 0.45m.	-	-
57	Square-cut ditch feature located towards base of cable trench. It was 0.6m wide and 0.4m deep, and covered by re-deposited top-soil and natural to a depth of 0.8m.	9	3846 2949
58	Single fill of cut [57]. It is a light grey-brown soil.	9	-
59	Curving ditch to the south of Field 10. The ditch is quite flat-bottomed, with a more pronounced slope to the east. It is 0.47m wide and 0.13m deep. At the base of the ditch, there were a considerable number of small holes, with a gap of approximately 0.3m between each. This may be evidence of the bottoms of post-holes placed along its length. The largest hole was 0.08m by 0.06m with a depth of 0.05m. Each was filled with a very gravelly soil. Likely to be a prehistoric feature.	10	3860 2978
60	Single fill of cut [59]. It is a dark brown silty clay, containing a number of small stones.	10	-
61	Ditch on an approximate WSW-ENE alignment, it is round-bottomed with a more pronounced slope to the south. It is 1.65m wide with a maximum depth of 0.3m.	10	3860 2980
62	Dark brown top-soil, to a depth of 0.4m, overlying context [63].	10	-
63	A thin lense of black soil, overlying cut [61] and its fill [64]. This context is 0.05m thick.	10	-
64	Single fill of cut [61]. It is a grey-brown soil, containing numerous medium-sized stones, and is 0.3m deep.	10	-
65	A shallow ditch, on an approximate WSW-ENE alignment, with gently sloping sides and a flat bottom. It is 1.8m wide and has a maximum depth of 0.16m.	10	3860 2984
66	Single fill of cut [65], it is a brown silty clay.	10	-
67	A round bottomed ditch on an approximate WSW-ENE alignment. It has a more gentle sloping side to the south. It is 1.6m wide and has a maximum depth of 0.3m.	10	3861 2988
68	Top fill of cut [67]. It is a dark brown silty clay, 0.15m deep.	10	-
69	Middle fill of cut [67]. It is a mottled light brown soil, containing large amounts of grit. It is 0.06m deep.	10	-
70	Bottom fill of cut [67]. This fill curves around the base of this feature and overlies fill [71]. It has a maximum depth of 0.2m.	10	-
71	A cluster of small and medium-sized stones, which may be remains of field boundary that has fallen into ditch which ran alongside it.	10	-

No.	Description	Field no.	NGR (SW)
72	Stony spread of small and medium-sized stones over 7m in length. Natural subsoil was visible through the stones. A boundary in this area was recorded on the 1840 Tithe map and early OS maps.	9	3848 2952
73	Stony spread of medium-sized stones in a slight hollow. The stones are in a matrix of dark brown soil and this feature extended over 7m in length. Natural subsoil was visible through the stones.	9	3849 2954
74	Top fill of streamworks hollow at Dowran. A mottled silty, sandy grey deposit, it is 2.0m wide and 0.3m deep.	-	3861 2993
75	Silty dark brown/black soil overlying the main deposit in streamworks hollow [76]. It is 10m wide and up to 0.4 deep.	-	3861 2993
76	Main fill over streamworks hollow. It is a mottled brown deposit containing elements of a darker soil, pockets of red and very large amounts of medium-sized and large stones. This deposit in the northern part of the hollow is 12m wide and over 1.6m deep. Much of this deposit is clearly very modern as to the south it contained dumped remnants of silage and associated black plastic bagging.	-	3861 2993
77	Redeposited light yellow natural. Quite mottled it forms a clear edge to the deposits placed below the redirected stream. This deposit was 0.6m wide.	-	3861 2992
78	A dark brown, very stony and humic, deposit to the south of the streamworks hollow. It is 6.0m wide and has a maximum depth of 1.6m and a thin part of it stretches under the stream.	-	3861 2992
79	A considerable mottled deposit made up of redeposited natural of various different colours - both yellow and red. It is very mixed and also contains numerous small stone. This deposit was clearly deliberately laid in order to form the foundation or bedding for the stream which runs east -west over it. It is over 4.0m wide and 1.2m deep.	-	3861 2922
80	A layer of dark brown silty clay which overlies the deposits in the Numphra Streamworks. The layer is 0.2m deep in most places, but is 0.7m deep near to the tarmac road. It is over 22m wide.	-	3843 2946
81	An area of brown clay, containing numerous angular rocks including shod. This lies under context [82] to the north of the streamworks/reworked river channel. This deposit is 4.0m wide and has a maximum depth of 0.6m.	-	3843 2946
82	A sandy soil which lies over context [81] to the north of the streamworks/reworked river channel. This deposit is nearly 7.0m wide and has a maximum depth of 0.45m.	-	3843 2946
83	A limited deposit of small stones on the immediate northern side of boundary 11, sloping down towards the reworked river channel. The deposit is 0.35m deep.	-	3843 2946
84	Top fill of the streamworks/reworked river channel, it is clayey deposit to a depth of 0.4m. The width of this deposit is over 7.0m, as its overlaps onto context [83].	-	3843 2946
85	Middle fill of the streamworks/reworked river channel, it is a fine sand to a depth of 0.4m.	-	3843 2946
86	Deposit of loose sub-angular stones, which are iron stained, below context [85]. It is 0.5m deep.	-	3843 2946
87	Natural deposit of kaolinised clay to the north of the stream river channel.	-	3843 2946

9 Appendix 2: Field Boundaries

A total of 22 boundaries lay in the path of the Brea Downs to Dowran Common trenching. The cable company set out not to damage the historic boundaries and agreed to drill beneath or avoid boundaries, wherever possible, so as not to affect the upstanding remains.

As a result, 6 boundaries were not affected as the trench went through gateways, contractors excavated beneath 8 boundaries causing only limited damage while 8 were breached by machinery. Four of these boundaries were breached as part of the excavations through the two streamworking areas, and were recorded by sketch section drawings. Of the remaining four boundaries, one had been excavated prior to the archaeological work commencing and rebuilt in the local style. The others were inspected during the watching brief and notes taken.

The table below contains descriptions all boundaries in the path of the cable trenching, whether they were affected or not.

No	Description	Date	Whether affected	NGR (SW)
1	Roadside boundary, 1.5m in height with a similar width. An earthen bank, stone-faced on the eastern side, it shows clear evidence of rebuild or patching. The boundary is quite earthy, with gorse on top.	1880-1907	Cable trench drilled underneath boundary. Not affected.	3786 2889
2	Stone-faced earthen bank with very perpendicular sides, 1.5m high and 1.2m wide. It is stone-faced on both sides, with vertical rows of small, medium-sized stones. Considerable covering of bramble.	1809-1840	Cable passed through field gateway. Not affected.	3799 2893
3	Stone-faced earthen bank with very perpendicular sides, 1.5m high and 1.2m wide. It is stone-faced on both sides, with vertical rows of small, medium-sized stones. Considerable covering of bramble.	1809-1840	Cable passed through field gateway. Not affected.	3811 2896
4	Large, part eroded stone-faced earthen bank boundary. It is 1.5m high with a similar width. The boundary is constructed on very large boulders, presumably cleared from the fields as the boundaries were being constructed.	1809-1840	Cable trench drilled underneath boundary. Small amount of collapse.	3812 2898
5	Stone-faced earthen bank with perpendicular sides, 1.5m high and 1.2m wide. It has good stone facing on both sides, with vertical rows of small, medium-sized stones. Considerable covering of vegetation.	1809-1840	Cable trench drilled underneath boundary. Not affected.	3820 2911
6	Lane-side boundary, it is 1.5m high with a similar width. It is a grassed-over earthen bank boundary. Some stone-facing may be found, but is not clearly visible along its whole length.	1809-1840	Cable passed through field gateway. Not affected.	3827 2919
7	Lane-side boundary, it is 2.0m high from the bottom of the lane but only 0.7m tall in the field to the north. The southern side is stone-faced, but in many places, there is very little substance to this boundary along the southern edge of Field 6.	pre-1748	Cable passed through field gateway. Not affected.	3831 2925
8	Stone-faced earthen bank boundary. It was 1.7m wide at its base and 1.0m tall. It comprised a single fill of a loose, rooty and	pre-1748	This boundary was breached by mechanical digger.	3831 2925

No	Description	Date	Whether affected	NGR (SW)
	light brown soil, containing numerous small stones. Stone-facing was very poor along this boundary, but clear on south side of section. No associated ditches visible.		Sketch section drawn.	
9	Lane-side boundary, it is 1.5m high from the bottom of the lane and 1.0-1.2m in field 8 to the south. The bank is stone-faced on both sides, but heavily covered in vegetation.	pre-1748	Cable trench drilled underneath boundary. Not affected.	3834 2933
10	Road-side boundary, it is a stone-faced earthen bank, 1.4m high and over 1.0m wide. It is faced on both sides and has considerable cover of vegetation. No ditch was recorded to the north of this feature.	pre-1748	Cable trench drilled underneath boundary. Not affected.	3835 2933
11	A stony bank to the north of Field 8. It was 1.4m wide and 0.5m tall. Consisting of numerous small stone pieces, it is not a proper 'field boundary' and represents evidence of clearance of stones from either the field or the streamworking area to the north.	PM?	Breached by the cable trenching. Recorded as part of sketch section of the Numphra Streamworks.	3844 2945
11a	Stone-faced bank to the north of Numphra Streamworks. Faced on both sides, it is 1.5m wide at its base and 1.6m high. The fill is a dark brown soil, containing numerous roots and some small stones. There is a square-cut ditch [55] immediately to the south, which is probably associated with the streamworks.	MD?/PM	Breached by the cable trenching. Recorded as part of the section in area of Numphra Streamworks.	3842 2948
12	Roadside boundary, it is an earthen bank with considerable evidence of stone-facing. It is 1.5m high, and heavily overgrown by gorse and bramble. This boundary is quite ramshackle in places, with some earth dumped against the road-side face. Some of the facing of this boundary looks to be later re-build or patching.	MD?/PM	Cable passed through field gateway. Not affected.	3852 2958
13	Road-side boundary, it is 1.0m high and 0.9m wide. Stone-faced on both sides, the bank lies within a large undergrowth of bramble and gorse. The boundary has good stone facing on both sides, and has a single, stony light brown fill.	MD?/PM	Breached by the cable trenching. Disturbed due to stony nature and not drawn due to ongoing works.	3860 2977
13a	Limited remains of stone bank or revetment to north of Field 10. The stone-facing to the north is 0.5m tall, with a spread of small rubble 1.0m wide. Constructed after the streamworks were no longer in use.	MD?/PM	Breached by the cable trenching. Recorded as part of the section in area of Dowran Streamworks.	3861 2992
13b	Stone-faced earthen bank on northern edge of Dowran Streamworks. The bank is 0.9m tall on the north side and 1.5m tall where it dips into the streamworking, with sides showing good remains of stone facing. The soil from Field 9 to the north has eroded down field, so that only 0.2-0.3m is presently visible above the ground level of the field. It has a single fill of a loose, mid brown silty clay.	MD?/PM	Breached by the cable trenching. Recorded as part of the section in area of Dowran Streamworks.	3861 2993
14	Lane-side boundary. A stone-faced earthen bank, it is 1.2m high and 1.0m wide. The best stone-facing is on the southern side. To the	MD?/PM	Cable trench drilled underneath boundary. Not affected.	3862 3001

No	Description	Date	Whether affected	NGR (SW)
	west of the cable trench, the boundary is very rough and mis-shapen and this may suggest the remainder of the boundary to the Little Dowran holding has been reworked in recent years.			
15	Road-side boundary. A stone-faced earthen bank, it is 1.2-1.5m high on the road-side and slightly less in Field 12. There is some bramble and gorse over the bank.	MD?/PM	Boundary was breached prior to CAU being on site. Stone-faced bank has been rebuilt (see Fig. 20).	3861 3011
16	Road-side boundary, it is 1.2m high on the road-side and 0.8-0.9m in Field 13 to the west. It is an earthen bank, stone-faced on both sides and 1.0m wide. Quite eroded in places, some facing is hard to see due to brambles.	MD?/PM	Cable trench was drilled underneath boundary prior to CAU being on site. Not affected.	3861 3013
17	Modern earth bank on the southern side of a late 20 th century agricultural yard.	MD?/PM	Breached by cable trench. Not recorded.	3861 3022
18	Stone-faced bank, it is 1.5m high and 1.0m wide. Well faced on both sides, there is some obvious erosion in one place showing small rubble stones in the core of the bank. The stone-facing consists of small to medium-sized stones in vertical rows.	MD?/PM	Cable trench drilled underneath boundary. Not affected.	3862 3026
19	Stone-faced earthen bank, it is 1.8m high and 1.0m wide. Well faced on both sides, there is gorse on top of the bank. Large ditch, filled with top-soil, on southern side of this ditch - not visible in path of cable trench.	MD?/PM	Cable passed through field gateway. Not affected.	3864 3036

10 Appendix 3: Finds Report

by C.M.Thorpe.

A total of 410 artefacts were recovered during this project. Pottery comprises the largest group 328 pieces in total, some 80% of the collection. There is also flint (see Appendix 4), stone, metalwork, and glass within the assemblage.

Two conjoining pieces of Iron Age or Romano-British pottery came from a stratified context; ditch fill [18] within field F6. The remainder of the finds were unstratified and collected from the spoil heaps along the cable trench.

The total number of finds from each field are summarized in the tables below.

Field F1. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Post-medieval	107g	6
Modern	54g	14
Stonework		
Flint	58g	2
Glass		
Modern	49g	4
DESCRIPTION		
1 rimsherd Cornish Post-medieval Coarseware, Lostwithiel Ware. 16 th century		
1 rimsherd North Devon Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware Decorated Slipware. 17 th to 18 th centuries		
1 rimsherd Post-medieval yellow Glazed Red Earthenware, Bristol/Staffordshire Ware. 18 th century		
1 bodysherd Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware Decorated Slipware. 18 th century		
2 sherds Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 th to 18 th centuries		
13 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 sherd Modern Yellow Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
4 fragments Modern glass. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
2 flints. Prehistoric		

Field F2. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Post-medieval	17g	3
Modern	27g	2
Glass		
Modern	29g	5
DESCRIPTION		
3 sherds Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 th to 18 th centuries		
1 sherd Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 sherd Modern Black "Basaltz" Ware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
5 fragments Modern glass. 19 th to 20 th centuries		

Field F3. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Modern	15g	3
Glass		
Modern	9g	1
DESCRIPTION		
3 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 fragment Modern glass. 19 th to 20 th centuries		

Field F4 Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Modern	120g	13
DESCRIPTION		
1 sherd Modern drainpipe. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
10 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 sherd Modern Yellow Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 sherd Modern Brown Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		

Field F5. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Modern	26g	5
Clay		
Tile	17g	1
DESCRIPTION		
5 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 sherd Modern terracotta roofing tile. 19 th to 20 th centuries		

Field F6. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Post-medieval	10g	1
Modern	19g	7
DESCRIPTION		
1 sherd Cornish Post-medieval Coarseware. 17 th to 18 th centuries		
6 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 sherd Modern Brown Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		

Field F6. Context [18] Ditch fill.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Iron Age	5g	2
DESCRIPTION		
2 undiagnostic bodysherds Iron Age (Romano-British?)		

Field F7. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Modern	51g	7
DESCRIPTION		
6 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 sherd Modern Yellow Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		

Field F8. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Modern	58g	17
Stonework		
Flint	7g	4
DESCRIPTION		
15 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 sherd Modern Glazed Red Earthenware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 4 flints. Prehistoric		

Field F9. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Post-medieval	37g	3
Modern	29g	7
Stonework		
Flint	75g	7
Clay		
Other	Clay pipe	2g
		1
DESCRIPTION		
7 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 3 sherds Post-medieval/Modern Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 th to 19 th centuries.		

1 clay pipe stem fragment. 18th to 19th centuries
 7 flints. Prehistoric

Field F10. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Post-medieval	98g	5
Modern	5g	2
Stonework		
Flint	60g	1
Glass		
Modern	3g	1
DESCRIPTION		
1 sherd Post-medieval Bristol/Somerset Yellow Glazed Slipware. 18 th century 4 sherds Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 th to 18 th centuries 2 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 shard Modern Glass. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 flint. Prehistoric		

Field F11. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Iron Age	13g	3
Medieval	149g	27
Post-medieval	174g	26
Modern	72g	21
Stonework		
Flint	32g	2
Pebble	183g	6
Quartz	1g	1
Other Quartzite	32g	1
Clay		
Tile Roofing	13g	1
Other Clay pipe	3g	1
Glass		
Modern	3g	2
DESCRIPTION		
3 undiagnostic bodysherds Iron Age/Romano-British pottery 9 sherds undiagnostic Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13 th to 14 th centuries 9 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware, Bunnings Park/ Stuffle Ware. 13 th to 14 th centuries 2 sherds Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware, Lostwithiel Ware. 15 th century 7 sherds Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware. 15 th to 16 th centuries 20 sherds Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 16 th to 18 th centuries		

1 sherd Post-medieval Bristol/Staffordshire Yellow Glazed Slipware. 18th century
 3 sherds Post-medieval Tin Glazed Earthenware. 17th to 18th centuries
 1 sherd Post-medieval Tin Glazed Earthenware, Delft Ware. 18th century
 1 sherd Post-medieval North Holland Slipware. 17th century
 17 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19th to 20th centuries
 1 sherd Modern Yellow Glazed Stoneware. 19th to 20th centuries
 1 sherd Modern Nottingham Salt Glazed Stoneware. 19th century
 2 sherds Modern Stoneware. 19th to 20th centuries
 2 shards Modern bottle glass. 19th to 20th centuries
 1 clay pipe stem fragment. 18th to 19th centuries
 1 roofing tile fragment. 16th to 17th centuries ?
 1 quartz crystal
 1 quartzite whetstone
 6 water rounded pebbles
 2 flints. Prehistoric

Field F12. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Early Medieval	11g	2
Medieval	65g	8
Post-medieval	116g	9
Modern	52g	7
Glass		
Modern	25g	3
DESCRIPTION		
2 small undiagnostic bodysherds Romano-British ? or Early Medieval pottery. 7 sherds undiagnostic Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13 th to 14 th centuries 1 sherd Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware. 15 th Century 9 sherds Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 th to 18 th centuries 4 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 sherd Modern Yellow Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 sherd Modern terracotta flowerpot. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 sherd Modern Black "Basaltz" Ware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 2 shards Modern bottle glass. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 broken glass sphere. Handle? 19 th to 20 th centuries?		

Field F13. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Post-medieval	17g	1
Modern	23g	4

DESCRIPTION
1 sherd North Devon Gravel Tempered Glazed Red Earthenware, Barnstaple Ware. 18 th to 19 th centuries
4 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries

Field F14. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Post-medieval	13g	1
Modern	16g	4
Stonework		
Flint	6g	1
DESCRIPTION		
1 sherd Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 th to 18 th centuries		
4 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 flint. Prehistoric		

Field F15. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Modern	173g	6
Metalwork		
Iron	41g	2
Glass		
Modern	173g	3
DESCRIPTION		
2 sherds Modern terracotta flower pot. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
3 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 sherd Modern White Porcelain Jar. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
2 shards Modern glass. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
1 complete glass medicine bottle. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
2 iron nails		

Field F15. – at 168m from north. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Modern	101g	6
Glass		
Modern	298g	6
DESCRIPTION		
3 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		
2 sherds Modern Brown Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries		

1 sherd Modern White Porcelain Jar. 19th to 20th centuries
 3 complete glass medicine bottles. 19th to 20th centuries
 2 Modern glass fragments. 19th to 20th centuries

Field F15. Dump at 200m from north. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Post-medieval	243g	4
Modern	1028g	69
Glass		
Modern	824g	23
DESCRIPTION		
3 sherds Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 th to 18 th centuries 1 sherd Post-medieval Bristol/Staffordshire Yellow Glazed Slipware. 18 th century 55 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 4 sherds Modern Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 3 sherds Modern Nottingham Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 6 sherds Modern Brown Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 sherd Modern terracotta flower pot. 19 th to 20 th centuries 18 Modern glass fragments. 19 th to 20 th centuries 4 complete glass medicine bottles. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 faceted glass bottle stopper. 19 th or 20 th centuries		

Field F15. at 210m from north. Unstratified.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT	COUNT
Pottery		
Modern	634g	33
Metalwork		
Iron	39g	1
Glass		
Modern	71g	2
DESCRIPTION		
7 sherds Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 th to 18 th centuries 19 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 5 sherds Modern Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 sherd Modern terracotta flower pot. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 sherd Modern Brown Glazed Stoneware. 19 th to 20 th centuries 2 Modern glass fragments. 19 th to 20 th centuries 1 iron object		

The most varied concentrations of artefacts are found in Fields 11 and 12. This reflects the close proximity of these fields to Dowran , a settlement of known medieval origin, showing prehistoric, medieval and more recent activity in this general area.

The earliest material recovered appears to be Iron Age or Romano-British ware from Field 6 [18], Field 11 and Field 12 though the sherds are small and identification must at this stage be tentative. The sherds could possibly be Early Medieval.

There is very little medieval pottery of the 13th to 14th centuries. Eighteen sherds were recovered from Field 11, and seven from Field 12 - both close-by to the hamlet of Dowran. Artefacts from the late medieval period (15th to 16th centuries) reflect the same distribution, clustered around the area of known medieval settlement.

The number of artefacts from the post-medieval period (16th to 17th centuries) is greater, being found in fields 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15, whereas all fields along the trenching produced artefacts dating to the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries. This reflects the intensification of land use into the modern period, with the enclosure of former heathland to both the south and the north.

It is recommended that all possible Prehistoric and early medieval pottery be examined by a specialist in Prehistoric ceramics in order to confirm the material's identity and age.

11 Appendix 4: Lithic Report

by Anna Lawson Jones

Field No.	No. of pieces	Material	Date	Comments
1	1	Flint	Prehist.	Heavily burnt/blistered probable blade fragment. Large multi-platformed flake core. Subsequent retouch forming a steep-sided scraper (core tool).
	1	Chert	?Neo.	
8	1	Flint	Meso.	Distal end of snapped, thick blade (with 5 dorsal blade scars). (Microlith production).
	1	Flint	Prehist.	Thickly corticated waste flake.
	1	Flint	Prehist.	Heavily burnt, thin probable flake fragment.
	1	Flint	Prehist.	Heavily burnt, thick probable blade fragment.
9	1	Flint	-	Unused flint pebble.
	2	Flint	Prehist.	Primary pebble waste flake.
	1	Flint	Neo/BA	Thick, modified core-rejuvenation flake with user-related removals and partial notch.
	1	Flint	Prehist.	Core-rejuvenation waste flake.
	1	Flint	Meso/E.Neo.	Snapped/hinged (short) length of a broad (thin) blade.
	1	Flint	?Neo.	Long, thick blade. Unmodified knife (small probable use related removals along one edge only).
10	1	Flint	?Neo.	Large opposed-platform, flake and blade core. Possible damage/crushing on platform edges indicating subsequent use as a core tool.
11	3	Stone	-	Un-modified pebbles
	2	Flint	-	" "
	1	Stone	-	Whetstone (4 smoothed or worn sides and both ends missing).
	1	Flint	Prehist.	Primary waste flake.
	1	Stone	-	Rounded end of a flat pebble. (Possibly not a natural break since other small removals can be seen along the broken edge).
	1	Flint	?Neo	Thickly corticated flake core. (Poss. Core tablet for the production of blanks?)
14	1	Flint	Prehist.	Primary waste flake.

(Primary = a preliminary or preparatory flake removed from a core. It has c50% cortex (outer skin) across its dorsal surface.

This assemblage consists of 17 pieces of flint, 1 piece of chert (and 5 other stone pieces - all from Field 11)). Of the stone pieces 3 are un-used beach pebbles, which were almost certainly brought to the field during the addition of beach sand to the field as a means of improving the soil. The broken stone pebble has been either deliberately (or accidentally) broken (perhaps during use) and the fifth piece is a broken whetstone, which has seen prolonged use. None of this stone material is dateable.

The 18 flint and chert pieces are all prehistoric in date, with the exception of the 2 flint pebbles (again found in Field 11 and probably the result of a soil improvement regime), and perhaps the unused flint pebble found in Field 9, (although this could perhaps be part

of a cache of raw materials. The majority of the remaining 15 flint and chert pieces are not sufficiently diagnostic to be dated with any degree of accuracy, although there are exceptions.

The earliest piece comes from Field 8 and is Mesolithic in date. This distal end of a long, straight neatly produced blade is likely to be the result of microlith manufacture (its bulbar end characteristically snapped off (Palmer 1977)). In addition another possibly Mesolithic (or perhaps Early Neolithic) broad blade fragment was found in Field 9.

Probable late Neolithic material was found in Fields 1, 9, 10 and 11. Three of these pieces were flake cores including a multi-platformed and a single platformed core type, plus a possible core tablet. An un-retouched thick blade (probably a knife blank) had been used for slicing and was additionally identified as being of a probable late Neolithic date.

The remaining assemblage tends to be dominated by waste, and is undiagnostic - potentially relating to any time between the Mesolithic and the Bronze Age. Most of it typifies a broadly Neolithic to Bronze Age date range, with a distinct bias away from the blade and bladelette production normally associated with Mesolithic (Ford 1987, Edmonds 1995) (and frequently Early Neolithic) periods.

In conclusion, this assemblage consists entirely of locally derived pebble flint, much of which was worked in the fields in which they were found. This is characterised by the presence of waste primary material, cores and core rejuvenation flakes. The cores were not exhausted, illustrating that workable flint was not in short supply, and that apparently subsequent use of relatively large cores (as core tools) was not unusual or avoided.

The presence of burnt material is frequently seen as a characteristic of settlement. The lack of recognisably domestic features located during the watching brief, despite the presence of knapping on site and burning (ie the presence of hearths etc in the immediate vicinity) is not unusual. Similar assemblages can frequently be found in Cornwall (Lawson Jones forthcoming) which rarely have associated features. The reason behind this is not always entirely clear. Lithic artefacts are resilient and have been found to move very little despite subsequent ploughing in level areas (Haselgrove 1985). Thus it is probable that pockets of material have survived in their approximately original location. Holgate (1985) found a very similar pattern with Neolithic material, for example, during fieldwork in East England (around Abingdon).

The small scale assemblage associated with this project would suggest that occupation in the area during the later Neolithic (and Bronze Age) period was small scale or that it was to one side of the trenched area seen during the watching brief. The lack of a distinct bias in terms of tool type would again suggest that this assemblage represents a domestic rather than a 'more specialist' assemblage.

As with similar pebble based assemblages the frequently small-scale size of the raw material (or core) necessitated the use of an anvil during knapping. This has resulted in a number of the pieces having damage at the distal end. The variably sized and characterised bulbs of percussion mean that a selection of both hard (stone) and soft (wood, antler, bone) hammers were used, although there does appear to have been a preference for soft hammers in this particular collection of pieces.