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# **Olchon Court, Llanveynoe: A Field Investigation**

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Conservation and Environmental Planning  
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Regeneration Directorate  
Herefordshire Council

# **Olchon Court, Llanveynoe: A Field Investigation**

**NGR: SO 2794 3262  
HSM 51613**

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**Herefordshire Archaeology** is Herefordshire Council's county archaeology service. It advises upon the conservation of archaeological and historic landscapes, maintains the county Sites and Monument Record, and carries out conservation and investigative field projects. The County Archaeologist is Dr. Keith Ray.

## **Summary**

*A preliminary archaeological excavation (HSM 51613), was undertaken as part of a community project with volunteers from the local community. The excavation took place to examine a series of earthworks that had been recorded in close proximity to Olchon Court as part of a long running survey project. The site of Olchon Court has long been associated with rumours of burials and was thought possibly to have been the site of a post-Roman early monastic site, although no firm evidence for this exists. Prior to the excavation a detailed earthwork survey was undertaken during which a low "L" shaped bank was recorded which appeared partially to enclose and define a levelled area, possibly forming some kind of enclosure or fold-yard. A resistivity survey appeared to indicate the presence of masonry remains on the eastern edge of the levelled area and the possibility of some density of stone along the line of the earthworks.*

*The first trench opened (Trench 1) was placed to traverse the low bank defining the northern edge of the possible enclosure. A second trench (Trench 2) was located at right-angles to Trench 1, to traverse the embanked eastern edge of the levelled area. Trenches were dug by hand and the turf was cut and stacked for ease of replacement at the conclusion of the excavation. It quickly became apparent that Trench 1 cut across a linear feature which is likely to have been created by ploughing in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Upon the removal of the turf in Trench 2, however, a tightly packed stone structure was immediately revealed. Although only a small area was initially uncovered, this appeared to be roughly circular with a dry-stone revetment wall, or coursed kerb, enclosing it to the west. This kerbing was found to survive to a height of 0.65m and appears to define a cairn approximately 9m in diameter. To the south of this feature were two large vertically set stones arranged in a linear stance. The trench was extended westwards to reveal that the line indicated by these stones was continued northwards by a contiguous line of smaller, also vertically set, stones that leaned outwards to west. A further double pitched line of identical small stones was revealed that abutted the kerbed cairn. The turf-like soil between these features produced a small number of prehistoric pottery sherds, flint flakes and debitage, and burned bone. A small patch of burning was recorded close to the northern limit of the trench. A further randomly laid deposit of tightly packed, angular stones was found to abut the large upright stones and, eastwards, to underlie the cairn.*

*Two further trenches were opened to the east of Trench 2, to try to define the eastern limit of the kerbed cairn. One of these (Trench 3) was a 1m square test pit which uncovered part of the eastern arc of kerbing. However, here the contained stone 'fill' was not revetted by dry stone walling but by large vertically set slabs. A fourth trench was excavated further to the east of Trench 3. This intercepted re-deposited turf and stone possibly derived from the structures immediately to the west.*

*The circular stone structure would appear to represent a well preserved kerbed burial cairn of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date. Interestingly this monument appears to have been adapted by the addition of a small radial wall of double set stones and the formation or continuation of a further "kerb" which does not appear to run parallel to the cairn. Additionally there appears to be an earlier phase of stone monument over which the cairn has been partially constructed, the exact date of which remains unknown. Further investigation will be needed to determine whether the successive structures were built in the Early Neolithic or as a series culminating in an Early Bronze Age phase.*

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### Notes:

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2. Figures contained within this report contain material from the Ordnance Survey. The grid for this material is the National Grid and the map data is taken from Ordnance Survey base mapping with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office (OS Licence 100024168).
3. This material has been reproduced solely in order to locate the site in its environs.
4. Location plans are indicative only. National Grid References are accurate to approximately 10m. Measured dimensions are accurate to within 1 metre at a scale of 1:500, 0.1m at 1:50, and 0.02m at 1:20.
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## Introduction

This report provides an account of a small scale exploratory excavation carried out close to Olchon Court in Llanveynoe parish (NGR SO 2794 3262) in May 2009. The excavation was undertaken to try to establish the nature and age of a series of subtle earthworks in a field immediately to the north-east of the present farm complex. The field within which the excavations took place has been under pasture for over fifty years and is managed under an Environmental Stewardship scheme.

Since the spring of 2003 Herefordshire Archaeology has been undertaking an annual, week long, field survey project within the upper reaches of the Olchon Valley. This has comprised the systematic recording of all field boundaries (both present and relict), together with all other earthwork features and building remains. This project has continued up to May 2009 and has been staffed largely by supervised local volunteers.

It was during this survey that a series of earthworks were noted in an improved pasture field to the north-east of Olchon Court. The nature of the earthworks and their proximity to the agricultural / ancillary buildings of Olchon Court, led to the assumption that they probably related to a medieval or later fold-yard or possibly to an early monastic centre linked to the 7<sup>th</sup> century priest, St. Beuno. An excavation was planned here also in light of reports of the finding, some years ago, of human bones close to the eastern edge of the yard. It was thought possible that if these reports were correct in their identification of human remains these might relate to the cemetery of an early monastic site.

Prior to the excavation a detailed earthwork survey was produced and a geophysical survey undertaken. The excavation itself took place from Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May through to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009. All fieldwork was undertaken by Herefordshire Archaeology staff assisted volunteers from the local community and further afield. All excavation work was carried out by hand. Turves were cut and stacked with spoil dumped behind the turves. Backfilling was done by hand as was the re-turfing.

## Location

Olchon Court (HSM 6124), is situated at SO 279 326, approximately 8 miles south of Hay-on-Wye and 10 miles north of Abergavenny. The predominant rocks of the area are the Old Red Sandstones (British Geological Survey, 1988) with Dittonian Sandstone Marls and Grits forming the lower slopes of the Black Mountains. Local soils are of the Bromyard Association and are well-drained, fine and silty, and suitable for cereal growing, stock rearing and hop growing (Soil Survey 1983). The dominant landforms of the area comprise hills and valleys running north to south, with Olchon Court being set on the top of a low bluff or knoll which juts out into the Olchon Valley, overlooking the Olchon Brook. The Black Mountains to the west and the Crin y Gath (or, Cat's Back) to the east, dramatically overshadow Olchon Court, with summits at Black Darren and Hatterrall Hill rising to 604m and 531m OD respectively, and Cats Back ridge standing to a height of 614m. The Historic Landscape Characterisation for Herefordshire lists Olchon Court and its immediate environs as contour defined enclosure with axially aligned field boundaries. (Ray & White, 2003).



Figure 1: Aerial view of the Olchon valley looking south-west and indicating the location of Olchon Court.

## Previous archaeological work and relevant records

In May 1932, two Early Bronze Age cists were discovered during ploughing in a field belonging to Olchon Court Farm. The cists were rectangular and each was composed of five single slabs of local red sandstone, with the fifth stone in each case being a capstone. The cists were oriented north and south and had been placed side by side in a location approximately 250m to the south-west of Olchon Court but at a considerably lower elevation, close to the road which links together the farms in the upper reaches of the Olchon valley. The field in which the cists were found was visited within a few days of their discovery by the antiquaries George Marshall and Alfred Watkins in the company of other prominent members of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club. It was therefore through Marshall's published account, Watkin's photographs (with two from F. C. Morgan), and Prof. Sir Arthur Keith's report on the better preserved skeleton, that the find became known more widely (Marshall, 1932; Keith, 1932).

The larger, more westerly cist contained a complete Beaker and a barbed and tanged flint arrowhead, together with the well-preserved bones of a robust adult male. The body had been flexed and placed with its head to the north on its left side (that is, facing east). The smaller cist contained the disturbed and fragmentary remains of a sub-adult male accompanied by a largely disintegrated Beaker and a flint flake. The Olchon Court cists with their contained Beakers were for a long time among the very few Beaker traces to have been discovered within Herefordshire, although in the last ten years a significant number of new discoveries have been made.



Figure 2: Photographs of the Olchon Court cist burials uncovered in 1932

Towards the head of the Olchon valley, a series of earthen and stone built enclosures have been recorded and have been compared to 2<sup>nd</sup> millennium BC enclosures recorded in other upland regions, such as Grimspound on Dartmoor (Olding, 2000). Although of unknown date these enclosures are clearly multi period, and recent survey work has concluded that they may all relate to stock management in the medieval and/or post-medieval period. Slightly further afield, a stone circle and a concentration of early Bronze Age cairns have been recorded on Hatterall Hill (Olding 2000, 40). It has been argued, moreover, from the scarcity of hillforts and enclosures at high elevations on the Black Mountains, that there was widespread abandonment of upland areas in the Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age periods (Ibid, 56).

Other known prehistoric monuments in the area include a major standing stone, the 'King's Stone', at Wern Derries, Glibes Farm, Michaelchurch Escley (RCHME 1932; Children and Nash, 1994), which was found in a field that once contained round barrows. Another cist was uncovered over thirty years ago at Duke's Farm, Craswall. It was formerly set within a round barrow, and again was located with at least one other such mound (HSM 5493; Grinsell, 1993). In addition, a circular structured cairn has been recorded recently on Cefn Hill, also in Craswall parish (Hoverd and Ray, 2008), and a number of barrows have been recorded at one time or another on and to the south of Urishay Common.

Llanveynoe church contains much 13<sup>th</sup> century fabric, although earthworks and a recent geophysical survey indicate that it once stood within an embanked and ditched elongated rectangular enclosure of unknown date. It would appear that the church has become a central place to which a number of early ecclesiastical carved and inscribed stones have been brought. These include two stones which are set against the wall inside the church. One is incised with the crucifixion scene and the other with a cross accompanied by alpha and omega signs and a dedicatory inscription. It is possible that these stones may have formed part of a *leacht*-type altar. Two further cross-marked stones have been set into the external north and south walls of the church while an early short-armed free-standing cross with a groove cut all the way down the centre of one face has been re-erected outside the church porch. One explanation for the groove is that it was used to pour libations into the grave of St. Bueno, with the cross perhaps forming the marker for the spiritual founder of the monastery claimed to have existed here (Ray, 2001). The medieval *Life* of St Beuno records that King Ynyr of Gwent granted lands in Ewyas to Beuno around 600AD, and it has been deduced that he therefore founded his first church and monastery at Llanveynoe. The king is then said to

have enrolled in the monastery. A further stone has recently come to light, built into the wall of a barn about a kilometre further up the valley. This is inscribed with a simple crucifix. There are records of a stone bearing a Latin and an ogham inscription having been discovered in the valley during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This, it is said, was broken up and used in the construction of a local road.

In 1947 workmen reported finding human skeletal remains during the excavation of footings for a barn at Olchon Court, but this was never verified. However the area immediately to the north-east of the reported find spot is an area of field locally known as “the graveyard”. Unconfirmed accounts suggest that “the grave yard” has been attributed to this corner of the field since at least the mid 1800’s. During the Second World War much of the more level land around Olchon Court was ploughed up, and this included the area known as “the Grave Yard”. However, ploughing was abandoned in this part of the field due to the frequency and size of stones encountered by the plough-share.

Since 2002, Herefordshire Archaeology has been conducting a field survey project in the upper portion of the Olchon Valley. The aim of the project has been to complement the work of the Olchon Valley History Project, undertaken in the late 1990s by members of Longtown and District History Society, which brought together both documentary records and often newly acquired oral histories for the valley. The archaeological survey project has involved the recording of all earthwork and boundary features together with quarries and redundant buildings. Initial results of the data acquired concerning the development of the boundaries in the valley point to a long and very complex history with a small number of cross-valley boundaries possibly dating to the prehistoric period.

Olchon Court itself comprises a much altered long house of late medieval date with strong links to the Lollards and later Recusant causes. Its inaccessibility and isolation rendered it a comparatively safe place for the continuation of Catholic religious ritual and doctrine banned by the state. It has long been rumoured that due to its age, dominant location and association by hearsay of burials, that Olchon Court sits on the site of an early church / monastic enclosure which would have pre-dated the parish church of Llanveynoe. In light of the work conducted here in 2009, it appears more likely that the early Christian site that has produced the incised crosses at the medieval church was located on or near to that church, or at or near Olchon House. This latter is, like Olchon Court, situated on the right bank and to the west of the Olchon Brook. However, Olchon Court is located at a point on that stream halfway between the more easterly Llanveynoe

church-town and Longtown, each of which straddle the ridge that is the continuation of the Cat's Back south-eastwards.

### Fieldwork in 2009

During the course of the earthwork and boundary recording project, a series of earthworks were noted in the fields surrounding Olchon Court. These were initially recorded in 2006 and were at that time plotted by hand-held global positioning systems to an average accuracy of 3m. The recorded earthworks comprised two main types. Firstly a series of relict lynchets or field boundaries were noted running on a north-east / south-west axis. These were particularly noticeable in the fields to the south and east of Olchon Court. Secondly, to the north-west of Olchon Court, a more subtle series of earthworks were recorded. These comprised a single but substantial bank or lynchet aligned on a south-east / north-west axis which appeared to terminate to the north of the Court with no other features linked to it. Close to the southern terminal of this feature were a series of linear banks and / or lynchets which appeared to make up three sides of a small enclosure immediately to the north-east of Olchon Court.

In May 2009, in addition to the annual week long field survey season, it was agreed with the owner of Olchon Court to re-survey these earthworks in more detail (Figure 3). The survey was undertaken using a Leica TCR 110 total station and the field drawing was produced as the measurements were taken, at a scale of 1:250. The survey recorded the subtle earthworks previously recorded by GPS but located them more accurately and with more detail in relation to current boundaries. The detailed earthwork survey recorded the roughly square area apparently enclosed by a bank on its northern and western sides and a level platform or lynchet on its eastern side. The platform or lynchet formed a triangular shape broadening at its southern end. Further to the west (upslope of the enclosure), a track way was recorded which appears to have once run from the door of the large barn, in a northerly direction diagonally across the field. This appeared to cut a low bank which ran down-slope from the western boundary of the field, towards a large lynchet. The lynchet, aligned on a south-east / north-west axis, runs for in excess of 100m before blending into the natural hill slope at its north-western end. Running along the base of the triangular platform on its eastern side was a small ditch. This did not appear to be related to the triangular earthwork as it continued to run in both directions on a north / south axis after earthworks which made up the triangular platform had terminated.

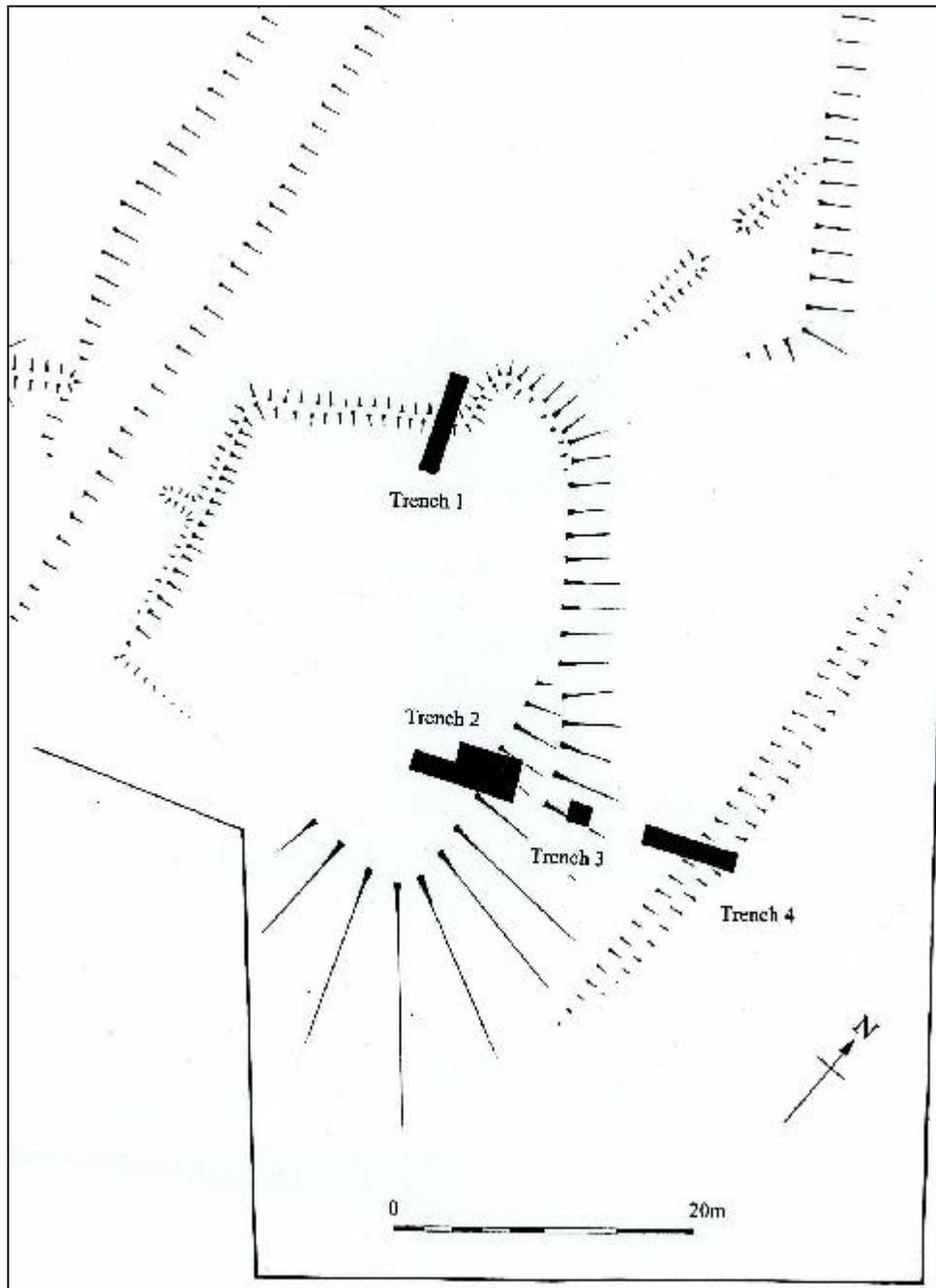


Figure 3: Olchon Court 2009: earthworks and trench location

In addition to the detailed earthwork survey, a resistivity survey was undertaken of a portion of the area of the earthwork survey. This area measured 60m by 60m and took in the entire area of the enclosure together with the triangular platform and the south-eastern end of the large lynchet. A Geoscan RM 15 instrument with twin probe array was used with readings taken every metre on a 1m traverse setting within four contiguous

30m grids. With the exception of the triangular platform the results were reasonably uniform with the tops of banks and top edges of lynchets showing a slightly higher resistance than the background but suggesting that little buried stonework was present (Figure 4). Equally there appeared to be little in the way of buried ditches within the survey area. The geophysical survey of the triangular platform area nonetheless traced a significant area of high resistance. This suggested the presence of considerable amounts of stone relatively close to the surface covering an area in excess of 5m wide (east-west) and 8m long (north-south). No anomalies were recorded that did not appear to relate closely to the visible earthworks.

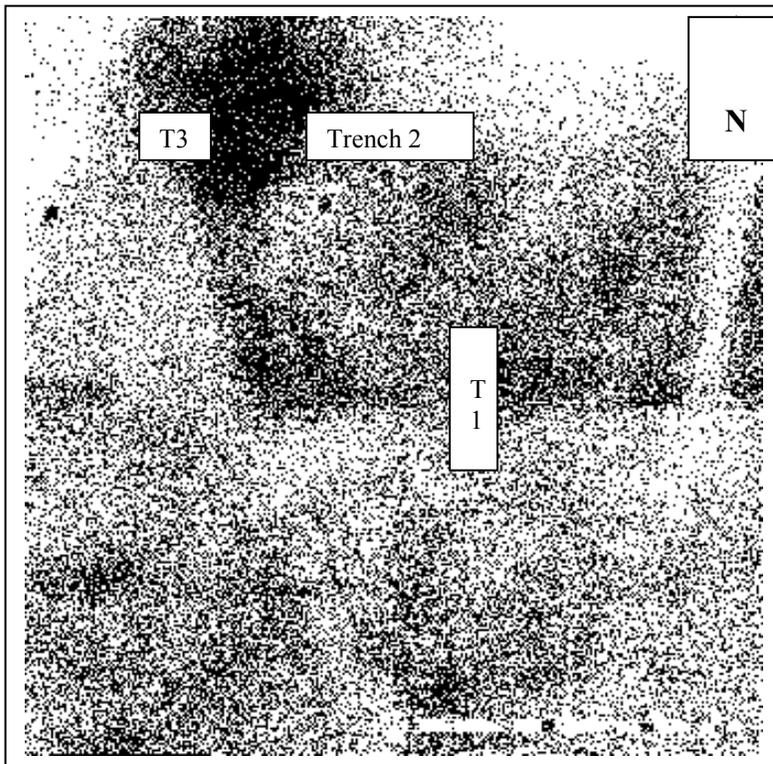


Figure 4: Olchon Court Barn Field, 2009: 60m by 60m grid showing the resistivity data over the site (the trench locations are indicative and dimensions not to scale)

Trench 1 was sited so that it traversed the east-west earthwork that defined the northern edge of the apparent enclosure. Small angular or rounded stones were found within a matrix of plough-soil, but no structure was revealed within the bank. The deposits were of colluvium brought down the slope by ploughing.

Trench 2 initially comprised a 5m long by 1.5m wide trench running on a north-east / south-west axis. This was lengthened to 8m and its eastern end widened to 3m in order to record and investigate archaeologically significant structures and deposits. Upon the removal of the turf an area of densely packed, angular, stone became apparent, (201). This feature ran into the eastern, northern and southern sections of the trench. The edge of this feature comprised a dry-stone built revetment wall or coursed kerb that used large squared blocks for the rough courses.



Figure 5: Eastern end of Trench 2 showing the stone kerb (201) and the two vertically placed slabs (203).

Approximately 1.5m to the west of this feature were two stone slabs which appeared to be set vertically into the ground, (203). Each slab was 0.2m thick and over 0.6m in length. Both slabs appeared to have been set into the ground in such a way that the

northern corner of each stood proud. Between features (201) and (203) was a layer of sandy silt hill-wash containing occasional small flecks of charcoal and small sandstone fragments (202), this deposit continued to the west of (203), to cover the western end of the trench.



Figure 6: The extended eastern end of Trench 2, and the full north-westerly extent of the densely packed stone feature (201).

The eastern end of the trench was widened to a total of 3m and the trench was cut back a further metre at its eastern end in order to reveal more of feature (201). It rapidly became clear that the dry-stone edging described a curve suggesting an oval or roughly circular overall shape for the feature. A number of stones which made up the feature had plough marks on them and some (including one of the edging stones), had been displaced by ploughing.

A 1.5m square trench, (Trench 3), was opened on the eastern break of slope to the east of Trench 2 in order to locate the opposite edge of feature (201). Whilst the densely packed stones were apparent very close to the surface in Trench 3, there did not appear to be any dry-stone revetment wall holding them in position. Instead there was a row of large, vertically set slabs (303), similar in size to feature (203) but apparently set into the ground so that their top edges were level rather than having one corner higher than the other as in Trench 2. Both slabs apparent within Trench 3 had started to collapse due to

the weight of stone behind them and were recorded as now being approximately 20 degrees from vertical. (see Figures 7 & 8).



Figure 7: The eastern limit of (301) within Trench 3; Trench 2 in background



Figure 8: Trench 3 after cleaning; looking east

Trench 3 was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.45m at which point a more compacted layer of hill-wash had become apparent which contained larger fragments of sandstone and small charcoal flecks, (referred to as (104) within Trench 2). It was decided to

terminate the excavation at this depth so as to not undermine the leaning kerbstones (303).

Trench 2 was further enlarged at its western end in order to investigate the vertically set slabs (203). At a depth of 0.35m, between features (201) and (203) and to the west of (203) was a layer of well compacted hill-wash with occasional flat fragments of sandstone and larger fragments of charcoal (204). It was from within this layer that a relatively small quantity of flint and pottery was recovered. Layer (204) butted both (201) and (203) and overlay all other features. Upon its removal a continuation of the vertically set slabs (203) was apparent. This was however very different in character and scale in that the projected line of the sets was continued but made up of much smaller and more haphazardly placed stones (207). These appeared to have been partially pushed over and all leant to the west.



Figure 9: The two differing types of construction in Trench 2 that comprised (203) / (207).

The line described by (203) / (207) is not concentric to the edge of (201) and appears to diverge from (201) as (207) continues to the north.

Spanning the distance between the northernmost end (as excavated) of (207) and (201) was a further stone built feature (206). This comprised a series of opposing pitched slabs approximately 0.45m wide and 0.3m high with their tops leaning against each other to form a low “A” profiled wall which linked the dry-stone revetted wall of (201) to (207), (see Figure 10).

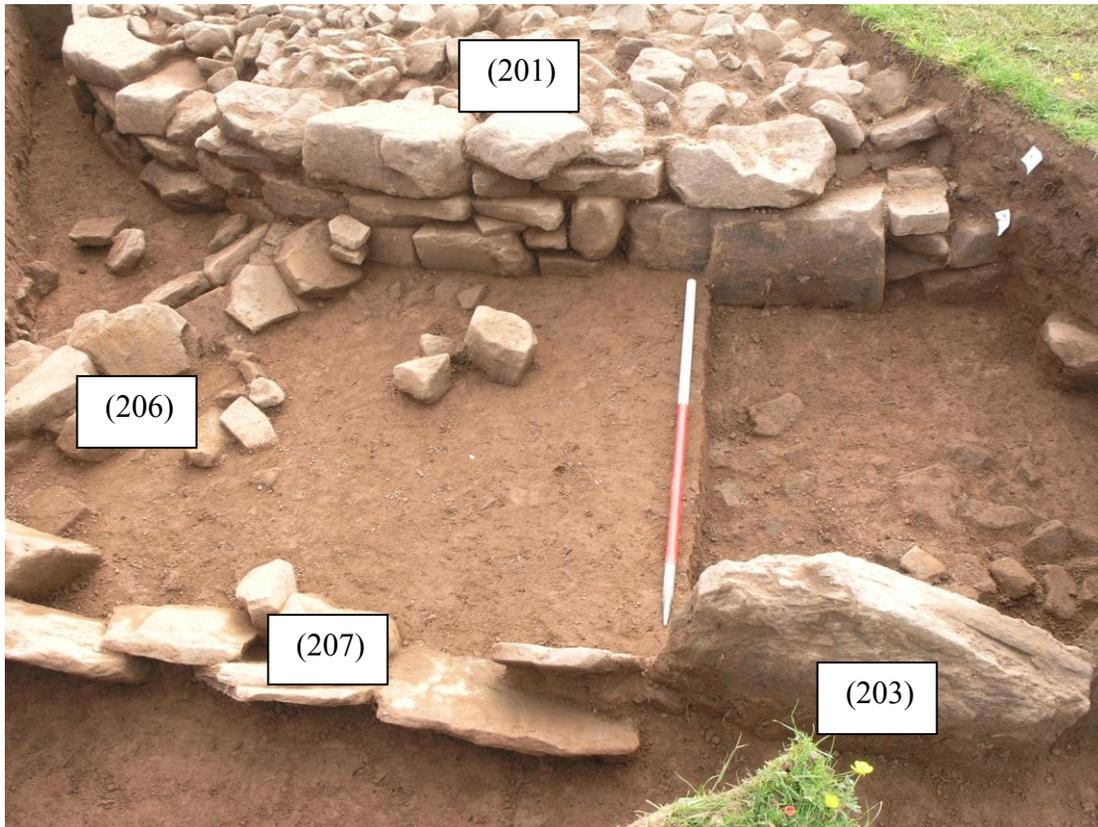


Figure 10: Trench 2 from the west showing the relationship between all stone built features.

Immediately below deposit (204) was a buried ground surface (205). This comprised a well compacted sandy silt containing patches / lenses of burning. It would appear that features (206) and (207) were both constructed from this level.

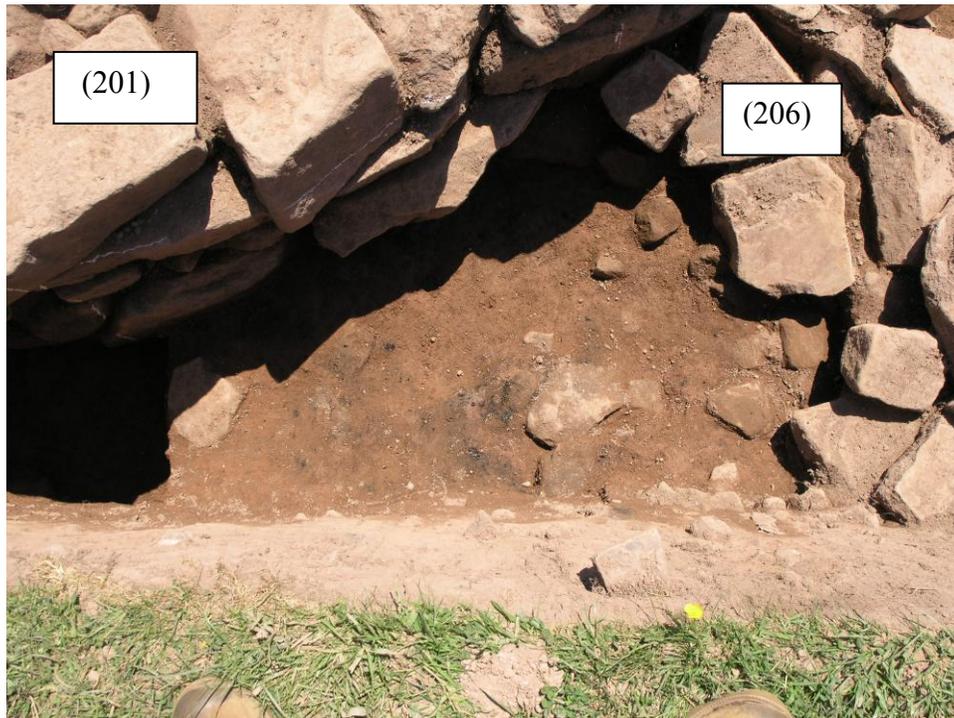


Figure 11: The area of burning (possible hearth) within deposit (205).

At a depth of 0.65m below the turf the dry-stone revetting of (201) terminated. Immediately below this was a spread of angular stone which ran from the eastern side of the set labs (203) in an easterly direction underneath (201). This deposit (208) become more dense as it approached (201).



Figure 12: Stony deposit (208) between (201) and (203)

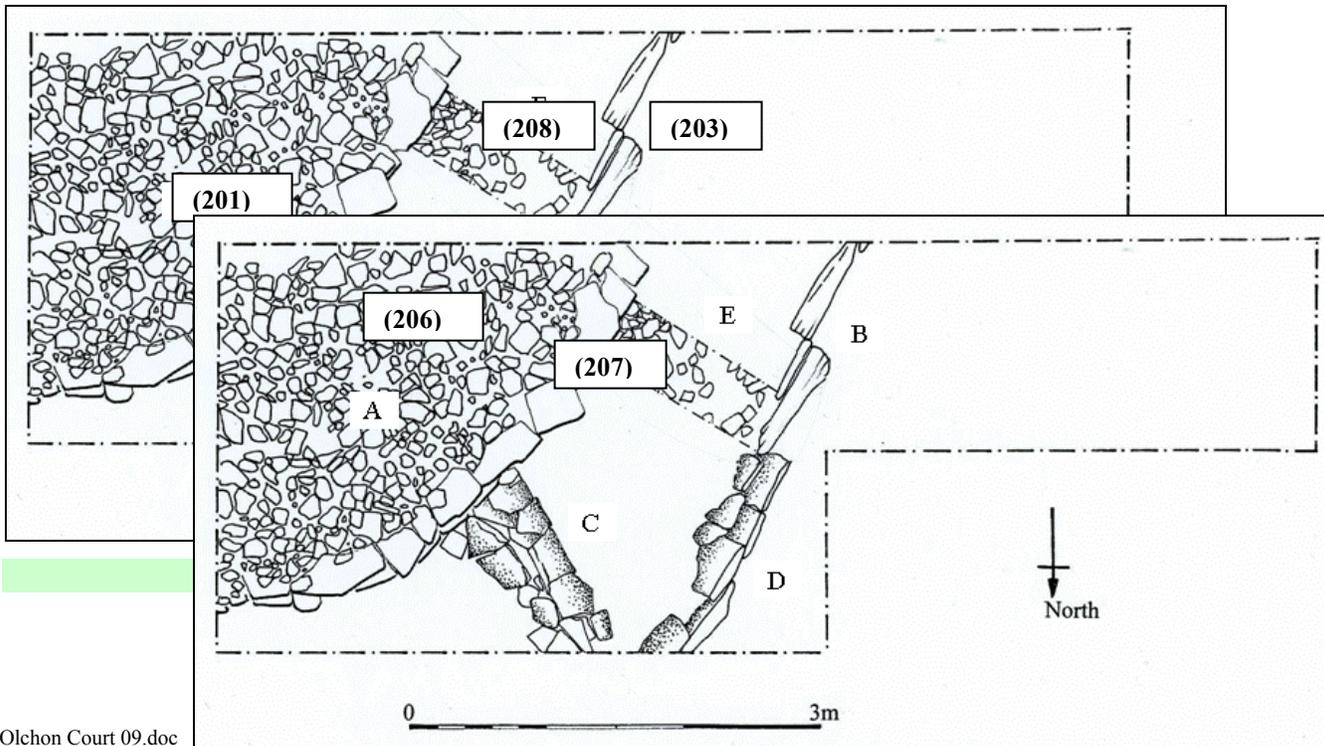


Figure 13: Stony deposit (208) extending underneath the dry stone revetment wall of (201)

Having established the presence of a complex, multi-phase structure, (or series of structures) within this part of the field, the excavation of Trench 2 was terminated at this point. Although few finds were recovered the entire assemblage suggests an early prehistoric date. The recovery of small fragments of burned bone, flint debitage and small fragments of apparently late Neolithic or early Bronze Age pottery, together with the nature of the features encountered would strongly suggest the presence of a series of Bronze Age and earlier funerary monuments.



Figure 14: Trench 2 looking south-east, upon completion of the 2009 fieldwork.



## Interim interpretation

Trench 1 appears to have intercepted a linear soil bank with contained stone that represents the upcast from intensive and deep ploughing of wartime or subsequent date.

Trenches 2 and 3 clearly intercepted a prehistoric cairn of complex form and development, that, to judge from the presence of calcined bone, was and is associated with the deposition of a cremation deposit. As such it is presumed to have been a mortuary structure of some kind – although this does not preclude its potential as a focus for a variety of activities not necessarily primarily associated with rites of commemoration of the dead.

It is not possible from the limited assemblage of artefacts and bone recovered to determine precisely the date of the monument. Moreover, no reliably sealed contexts containing either non-cremated bone or carbonised material were encountered in the small area revealed in the 2009 excavations. Two dating and formal possibilities can nonetheless be sketched out in reference to the structural evidence uncovered, to attempt to provide a datum for future investigation.

The first alternative to be considered is that the structures encountered are part of a structured cairn of Early Bronze Age date. Such cairns are a common occurrence of the period c.2500 to c1500BC in the uplands of the west of Britain. Examples have very recently been investigated at Llanelwedd immediately to the north of Builth Wells, and an example has been noted from surface survey in 2008 at Cefn Hill only some 6km north of Olchon Court. These are closely comparable in size to the sub-circular cairn uncovered in Trench 2 at Olchon Court, and share the same structure of a ring of stones creating a circular 'drum' subsequently filled with small stones. It is quite probable that one or more of the much more massive (in diameter) cairns on the easternmost ridge of the Black Mountains overlooking the Olchon Valley shared the same overall form.

However, there are potentially highly significant differences between these established Early Bronze age cairns and the Olchon Court cairn. One important difference is that the structured cairns tend only to have a kerb of upright stones, and not coursed in any way. Another difference is that although such cairns do sometimes exhibit structural complexity they tend to comprise elaborations of a basic circularity. In many cases, the stone phase or phases of construction post-date a timber circle phase. The authors

know of no instances where such a circular cairn has subsequently been incorporated within a structure with a straight kerb extending well beyond concentricity with the central cairn structure.

The second alternative is that the succession of structures here relates instead to a sequence that ends with the incorporation of the revetted or kerbed cairn within a more angular structure. The form of the A-shaped counter-set stone wall is suggestive of a cellular dividing wall within a cairn, and the soil above and around it is indicative of the former existence of a turf mound. The outward leaning smaller kerb stones also indicate the presence of a turf mound covering the sub-circular cairn, pushed outwards due to its weight.

This mound would potentially therefore comprise part of a rectangular or trapezoidal enclosing structure suggestive of the Cotswold-Severn tradition of cairns (Darvill, 2004). One interpretation of the spread of material within Trench 4 is that it represents the remains of the eastern side of such a rectangular/trapezoidal mound, intercepted by the later hedge line and accompanying ditch in this area.

Such a sequence of enclosure of a circular cairn within a later mound would fit with the existence of 'rotunda' structures encased within (normally stone and earth) long-cairns, and one interpretation of the sub-circular cairn is that it was one such structure. If this is the case, it is of particular note that there exists a level or near-level cairn, sealed by an apparent old land surface, extending beneath the sub-circular cairn. Such a sequence could mean that all three structures (rectangular/trapezoidal turfed mound, sub-circular stone-filled revetted cairn, underlying stone cairn) were built within the first half of the fourth millennium BC. Such a potential sequence has far-reaching possibilities for the interpretation of the early Neolithic both locally and more widely.

## Site Archive

Archive resulting from this piece of fieldwork:

18 context cards

124 digital images

5 field drawings

3 inked drawings

1 Geoplot data file

1 Fragment of flint (context 202)

15 fragments of flint (context 204)

7 sherds of pottery (context 204)

8 fragments of burned bone (context 204)

1 charcoal sample (context 204)

This document.

## Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the support and commitment and hospitality of Anthony Furness and Miriam Griffiths, land owners and custodians of Olchon Court.

We would also like to thank the dedicated and hard working team of local and not so local volunteers for their help, interest and support during this fieldwork and the Olchon Valley Survey Project in general.

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© Herefordshire Archaeology

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© Herefordshire Archaeology

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Figure 13: Stony deposit (208) extending underneath the dry stone revetment wall of (201) © Herefordshire Archaeology

Figure 14: Trench 2 looking south-east, upon completion of the 2009 fieldwork.

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Figure 15: Plan of Trench 2. © Herefordshire Archaeology

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### **Validation**

Herefordshire Archaeology operates a validation system for its reports, to provide quality assurance and to comply with Best Value procedures.

This report has been checked for accuracy and clarity of statements of procedure and results.

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