

Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group

Bellerby Moor GPS Earthwork Survey

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Introduction

Report on an earthwork survey in advance of the construction of a new electronic target range at Bellerby

Moor, North Yorkshire, with reference to paragraph 5.4 of the *Archaeological Impact Statement and Recommendation for Archaeological Investigation* by Phil Abramson, DIO Historic Environment Advisor (Catterick), December 2011.

The Swaledale and Arkengarthdale Archaeology Group (SWAAG) surveyed the site of the proposed new range at Bellerby Moor and the immediate vicinity between 14th and 16th January 2012.

The survey conditions were difficult in areas of substantial heather and rushes. It is therefore possible that archaeological important sites have been missed. Thirty six features were identified and whilst not all are directly relevant to the construction footprint, they do indicate the archaeological and geological context and importance of the range footprint on Bellerby Moor, and support the further investigation of the features that will be impacted by the construction. There are a number of features close to the range footprint that must be protected.

Report Contents:

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- Map 5 Small Arms Range Northern Section.
- Map 6 Small Arms Range Northern Section Braided Trackway Margins.
- Additional map of Black Beck Farmhouse remains just to the north of the study area.

The map displays the Bellerby Ranges area, which is highlighted in red. Surrounding areas include Bellerby Moor to the north, Bellerby Deer Park to the east, Herontree Allotment to the south, and Leyburn Moor to the southwest. Key locations and features include:

- Bellerby Ranges:** The central red-outlined area, including Rifle Ranges and Sheepfold.
- Bellerby Moor:** Located to the north of the Bellerby Ranges.
- Bellerby Deer Park:** Located to the east of the Bellerby Ranges.
- Herontree Allotment:** Located to the south of the Bellerby Ranges.
- Leyburn Moor:** Located to the southwest of the Bellerby Ranges.
- Geographical Features:** Black Beck Gill, Park Gill, Wimp Hill, Dirty Gap, and the River Ure.
- Other Locations:** Rifle Ranges, Sheepfold, Grouse Butts, Bellerby Camp, The Cottages, and Quarry (disused).
- Infrastructure:** Roads, paths, and various small features like shafts, pits, and quarries.

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Gazetteer of Features:

Site marked by ** are on, between or close to the outer edge of Small Arms Range footprint.

| No. | Grid Ref. | Site Type | Description | Period |
|-------|----------------------|------------|--|------------------------|
| 1 ** | SE 08673 93693 | Bank | Curving bank at eastern edge of trackway. This short section is within the footprint of the new range, but there is an extensive network of similar trackways to the north of the footprint that pre-date the dry-stone walls. See Map 6 of the upper and lower trackway margins. Care should be taken not to damage them during the construction phase and with any new service road around the top of the range. | Medieval/Post Medieval |
| 2 ** | SE 08673 93682 | Bank | Substantial stone clearance bank, much reduced by quarrying. | Prehistoric |
| 3 ** | SE 08657 93685 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn. Undisturbed. | Prehistoric |
| 4 ** | SE 08651 93679 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn. Undisturbed. | Prehistoric |
| 5 ** | SE 08642 93668 | Mine shaft | Trial shaft, ?coal. See Dunham and Wilson. BGS Geology of the North Pennine Orefield, Vol 2. Stainmore to Craven. pp173, 179. | Medieval/Post Medieval |
| 6 ** | SE 08646 93665 | Mine shaft | Trial shaft ?coal. See Dunham and Wilson. BGS Geology of the North Pennine Orefield, Vol 2. Stainmore to Craven.pp163, 179. | Medieval/Post Medieval |
| 7 ** | SE 08694 93657 | Cairn | Medium (6m x 4m ovoid) clearance or burial cairn. Reduced by quarrying. | Prehistoric |
| 8 ** | SE 08704 93642 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn. Reduced by quarrying. | Prehistoric |
| 9 ** | SE 08681 93642 | Cairn | Group of 3 stones, ?quarried clearance or burial cairn site. | Prehistoric |
| 10 ** | SE 08684 93628 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn. Reduced by quarrying. | Prehistoric |

| | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|-------------|---|------------------------|
| 11 ** | SE 08858 93587 | Mound | Possible burnt mound in marsh. Visible as vegetation change. Stone proved by probing. To be investigated by excavation. | Prehistoric |
| 12 ** | SE 08743 93575 | Mine Shaft | Trial shaft. ?coal. At spring rise. See Dunham and Wilson. BGS Geology of the North Pennine Orefield, Vol 2. Stainmore to Craven. pp163, 179. | Medieval/Post Medieval |
| 13 ** | SE 08723 93492 (centre) | Trackways | The roads to the Preston Moor Colliery. Braided trackway with visible hollow ways. Upper and lower margins of braided trackways shown. | Medieval/Post Medieval |
| 14 ** | SE 08617 93497 | Mine Shaft | Trial shaft, ?coal. At spring rise. See Dunham and Wilson. BGS Geology of the North Pennine Orefield, Vol 2. Stainmore to Craven. pp163, 179. | Medieval/Post Medieval |
| 15 ** | SE 08704 93376 (centre) | Trackways | The roads to the Preston Moor Colliery. Braided trackway with (<i>Insert Number</i>) visible hollow ways. Upper and lower margins of braided trackways shown. | Medieval/Post Medieval |
| 16 ** | SE 08537 93304 | Burnt Mound | Medium size burnt mound. (<i>as SWAAG HER 130</i>). Masked below thick heather. Visible burnt stone | Prehistoric |
| 17 ** | SE 08712 93295 | Mine Shaft | Trial shaft, ?coal. See Dunham and Wilson. BGS Geology of the North Pennine Orefield, Vol 2. Stainmore to Craven. pp163, 179. SE | Medieval/Post Medieval |
| 18 ** | SE 08755 93270 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn. Much reduced by quarrying. Circular stone feature may indicate presence of a burial pit. | Prehistoric |
| 19 ** | SE 08755 93279 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn below wall. | Prehistoric |
| 20 ** | SE 08752 93273 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn. Below wall. | Prehistoric |
| 21 ** | SE 08722 93233 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn below wall. | Prehistoric |
| 22 ** | SE 08603 93126 (centre) | Trackways | The roads to the Preston Moor Colliery. Braided trackway with visible hollow ways. Upper and lower margins of braided trackways drawn. | Medieval/Post Medieval |

| | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------|
| 23 | SE 08812 93024 (largest) | Standing Stone | Standing stone. A further, part quarried, rock and several stone holes where rocks have been removed indicate that there may once have been a stone setting in this area. | Prehistoric |
| 24 | SE 08870 93064 | Hengiform Monument | Hengiform complex barrow monument, Wessex Type, comprising central barrow mound, concentric ditch and outer bank, some 20m overall. | Prehistoric |
| 25 | SE 08957 93112 (centre) | Trackway | Shallow narrow trackway, which looks like a shallow lynchet at the south west end. This trackway terminates at a Clapper Bridge near cairn 27. This trackway appears to connect the Hengiform Barrow (24) with features 26, 27 and 28. Additionally there is a second Clapper Bridge about 100m downstream. | Prehistoric |
| 26 | SE 09100 93183 | Burnt Mound | Large burnt mound. (<i>SWAAG HER 131</i>) Heather covered. Visible burnt stone. 300m AOD. | Prehistoric |
| 27 | SE 09028 93208 | Cairn | Possible cairn. Very small, <4m dia. | Prehistoric |
| 28 | SE 09013 93255 | Mound | Mound of uncertain purpose, close to watercourse, partly quarried. | Prehistoric |
| 29 ** | SE 08706 93244 | Cairn | Small (>4m dia.) clearance or burial cairn.. Undisturbed. | Prehistoric |
| 30 | SE 08844 93321 | Tufa Spring Mound | Tufa forming spring. 'Note: These tufa deposits are rare nationally, may possess rich and varied flora and fossil faunas and provide a source for determination of early environments and isotope geochemistry. It is important that stratigraphy is recorded and adequate samples from these features are obtained prior to destruction. Reference: Travertine. Dr Allan Pentecost. ISBN: 1402035233 Springer, Netherlands, 2005.' | Geological |
| 31 ** | SE 08710 93420 | Bank | Stones interpreted as a buried field clearance bank | Prehistoric |

| | | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|-------------------|--|-------------|
| 32 ** | SE 08708 93431 | Bank | Stones interpreted as a buried field clearance bank | Prehistoric |
| 33 ** | SE 08706 93436 | Bank | Stones interpreted as a buried field clearance bank. There appears to be an edge aligning 31, 32 and 33 on the eastern face. | Prehistoric |
| 34 ** | SE 08685 093472 | Bank | Stones which may be an extension of field clearance bank 31 to 33, but has the appearance of a clearance cairn. | Prehistoric |
| 35 | SE 08945 93633 | Burnt Mound | Burnt mound (<i>SWAAG HER 132.</i>) Large burnt mound 12m x 10m. 310m AOD. East bank of oncolytic spring stream. | Prehistoric |
| 36 | SE 08945 93640 | Burnt Mound | Burnt Mound (<i>SWAAG HER 133.</i>) Large burnt mound 10m diameter at spring rise, heather covered. 320m AOD. | Prehistoric |
| 37 ** | SE 08746 93260 | Tufa Spring Mound | Tufa Spring Mound in Plantation. 'Note: These tufa deposits are rare nationally, may possess rich and varied flora and fossil faunas and provide a source for determination of early environments and isotope geochemistry. It is important that stratigraphy is recorded and adequate samples from these features are obtained prior to destruction. Reference: Travertine. Dr Allan Pentecost. ISBN: 1402035233 Springer, Netherlands, 2005.' | Geological |
| 38 ** | SE 08807 93420 | Tufa Spring Mound | Tufa Spring Mound. 'Note: These tufa deposits are rare nationally, may possess rich and varied flora and fossil faunas and provide a source for determination of early environments and isotope geochemistry. It is important that stratigraphy is recorded and adequate samples from these features are obtained prior to destruction. Reference: Travertine. Dr Allan Pentecost. ISBN: 1402035233 Springer, Netherlands, 2005.' | Geological |
| 39 ** | SE 08544 93321 | Burnt Mound | Burnt mound (<i>SWAAG HER 129</i>) Medium Burnt Mound overlooking Loess Infilled Lake. Whipperdale Site 2. | Prehistoric |

Proposed Small Arms Range at Bellerby Moor

Map 1: Archaeology Summary

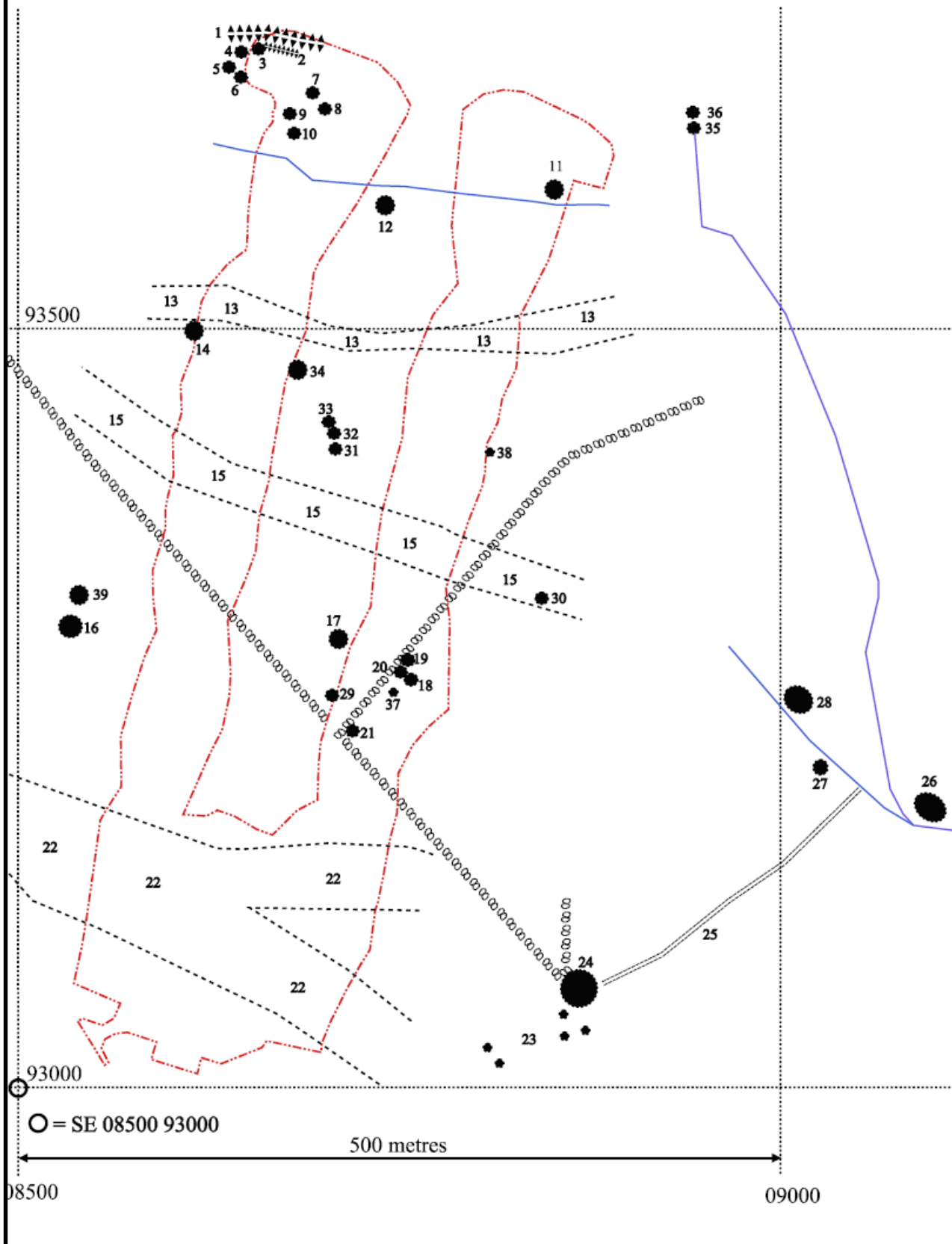
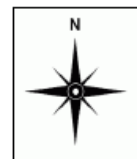
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Range footprint

Watercourse

D.S. Wall






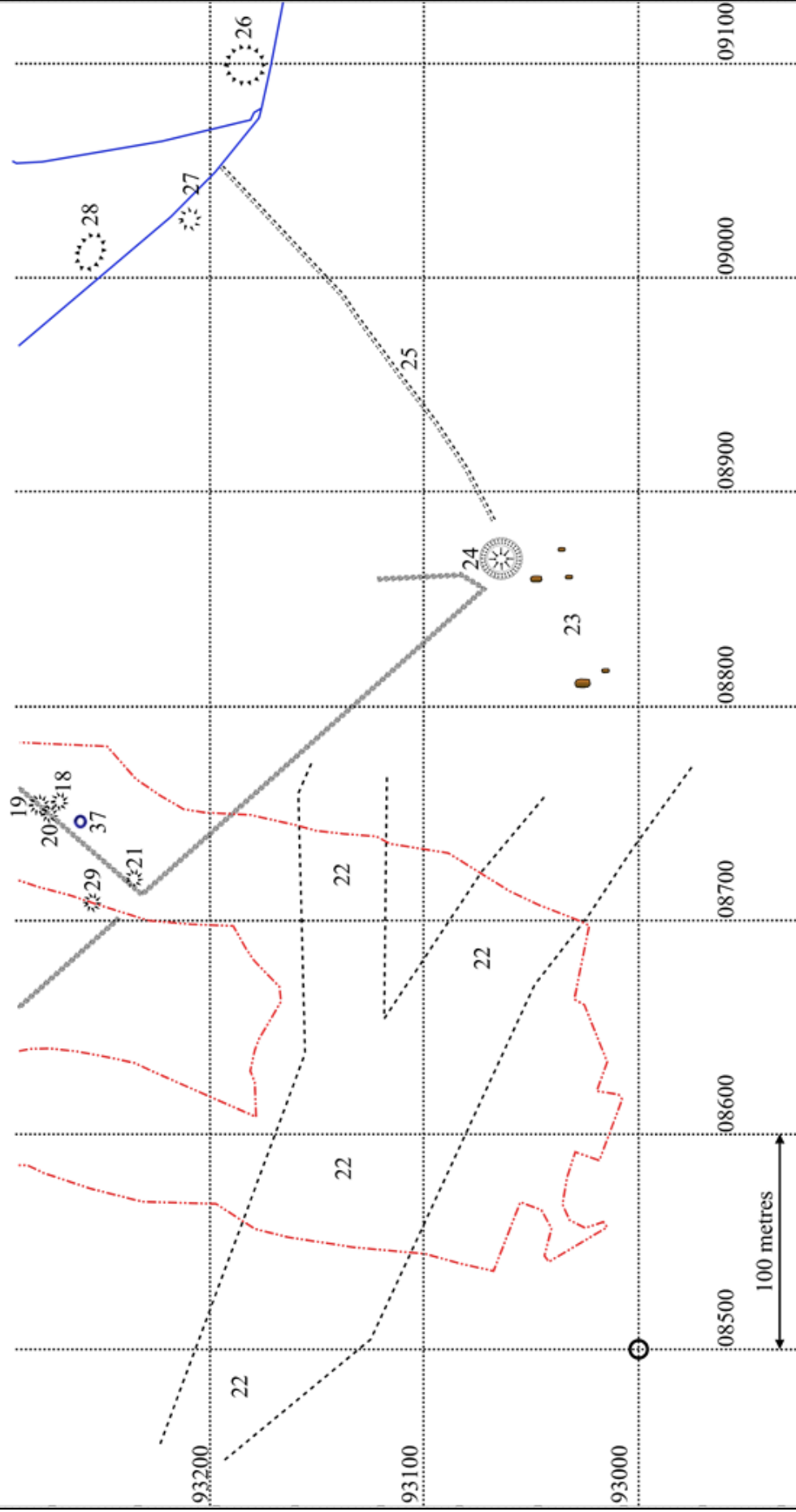
Proposed Small Arms Range at Bellerby Moor

Map 2: Southern Section - Wide View

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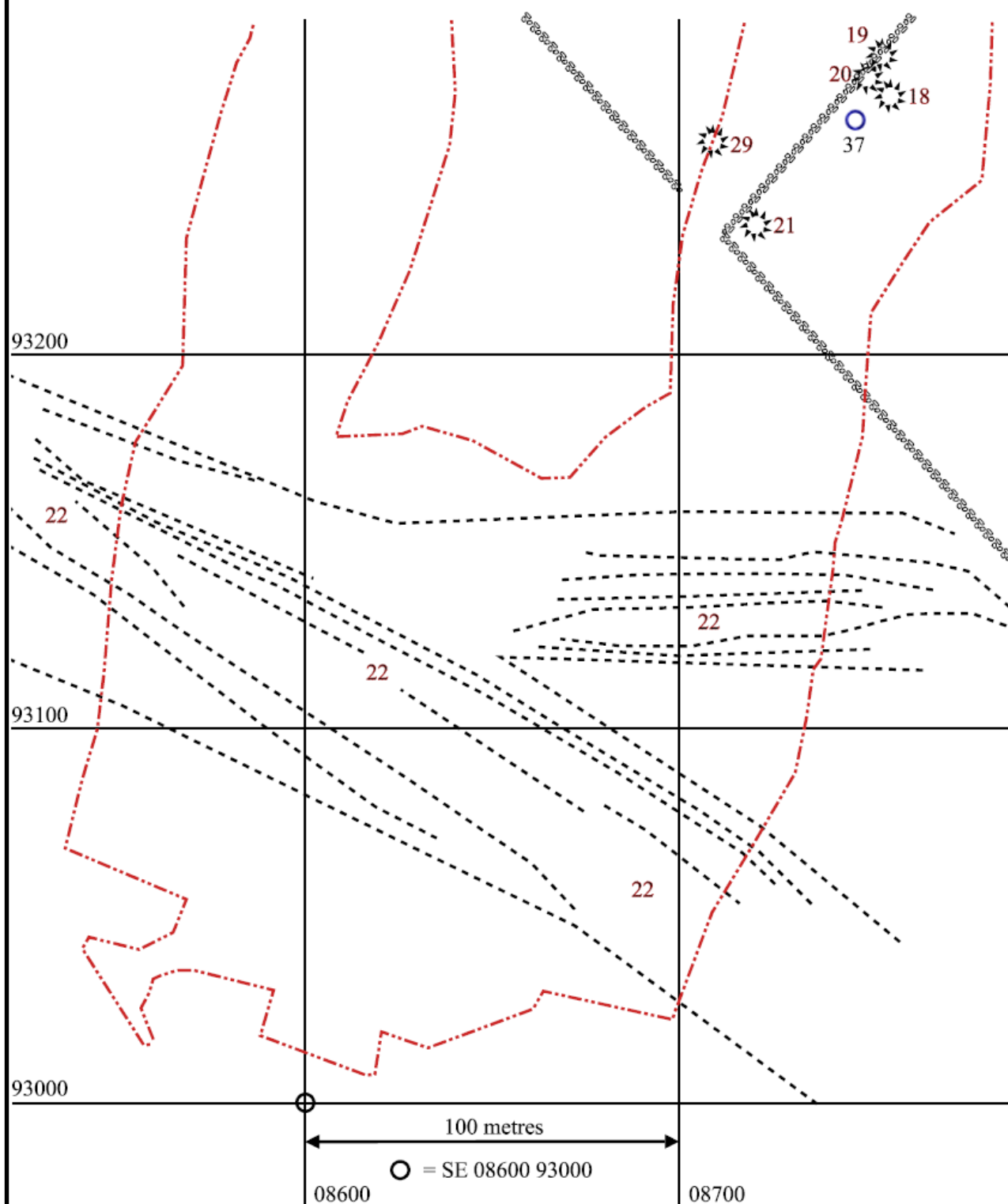
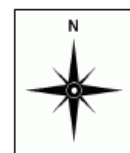
-  Drystone wall
-  Range footprint
-  Watercourse



O = SE 08500 93000

27/01/2012

--- Range footprint

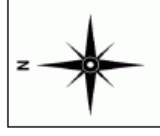


Proposed Small Arms Range at Bellerby Moor

Map 4: Central Section

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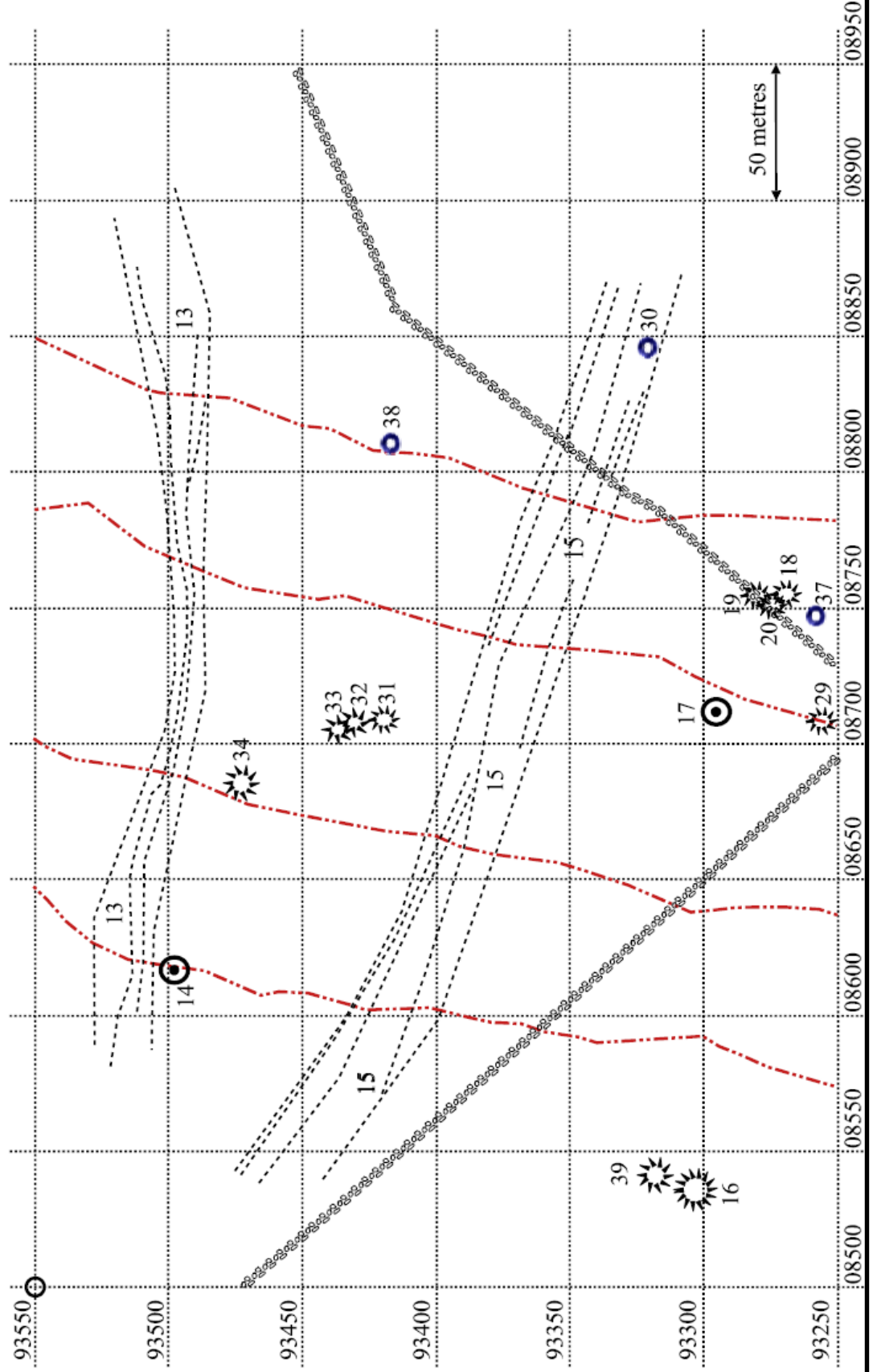
27/01/2012



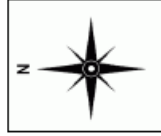
Range footprint

Drystone wall

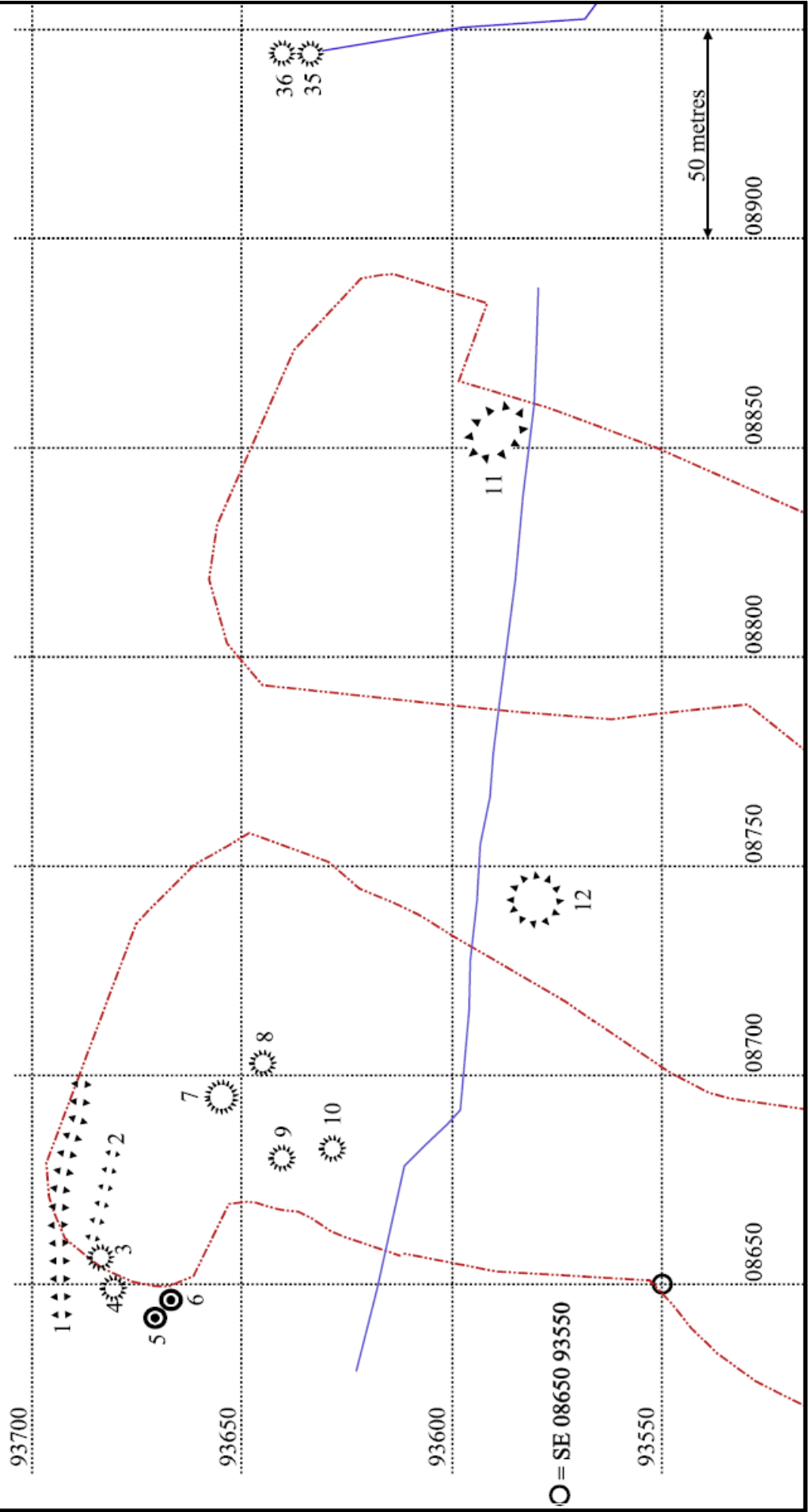
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Proposed Small Arms Range at Bellerby Moor
 Map 5: Northern Section
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--- Range footprint
 --- Watercourse



Proposed Small Arms Range at Bellerby Moor
Map 6: Northern Section Braided Tracks
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- Range footprint
- Braided Trackway Margins
- Dry-stone Wall

O = SE 08500 94000

94000



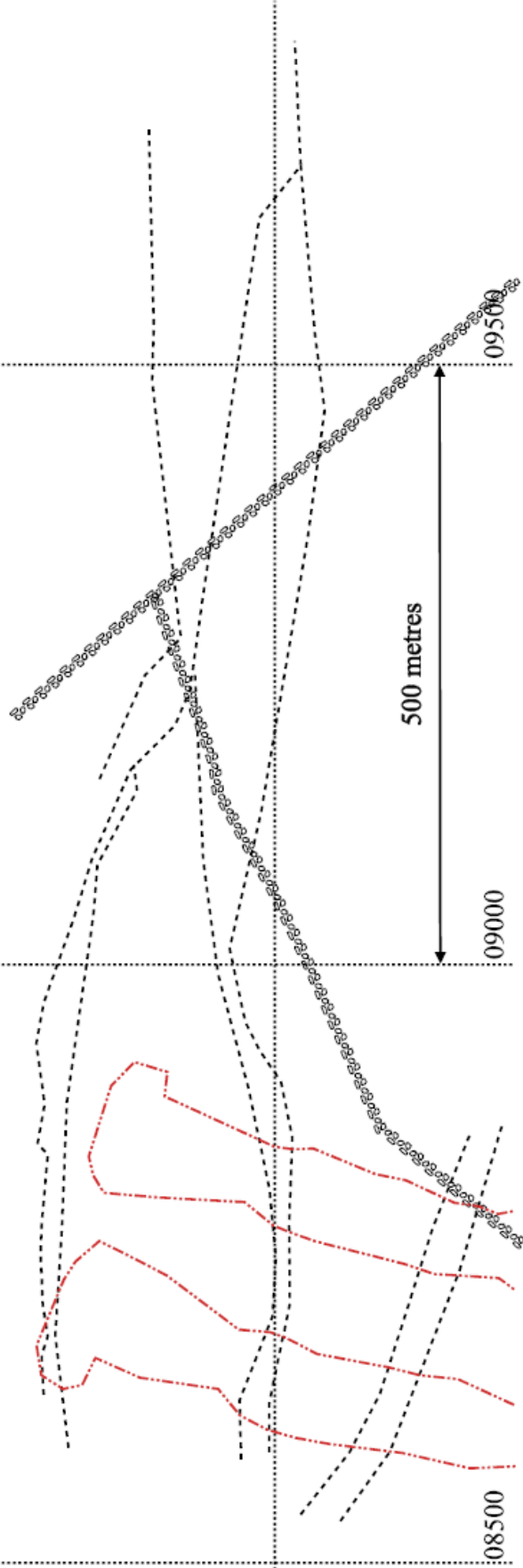
93500

08500

09000

09500

500 metres



Black Beck House

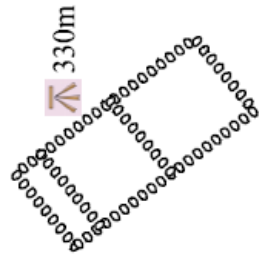
Bellerby Moor

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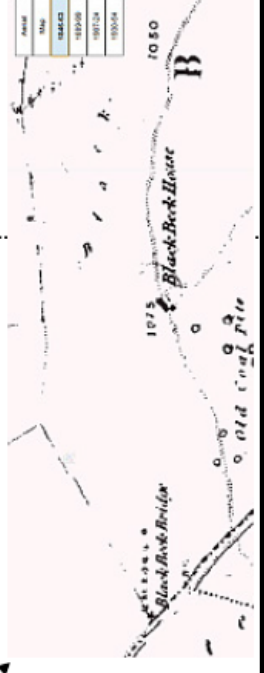
93800

O = SE 08600 93800



93750

08550



Post Report Comment and Excavation Image [added on 10/04/2015]

Priory to construction commencing these features were investigated by Wessex Archaeology and where indicated excavated. A number of SWAAG members assisted at that Wessex excavation.



Shirley (SWAAG) assisting Wessex Archaeology 14/04/2012.