

# St Agnes Affordable Housing Higher Town, St Agnes

## Isles of Scilly

### Archaeological Mitigation Phase 2

### Archive Report



Historic Environment Projects



**St Agnes Affordable Housing Site,  
Higher Town, St Agnes,  
Isles of Scilly**

**Archaeological Mitigation Phase 2  
Archive Report**

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The soil samples were processed at Treemill Farm, Tywardreath by Gary Goodman. The initial finds processing was carried out by members of the Cornwall Archaeological Society including Peter Cornall, Roger Farnsworth, Sally Oakley, Theresa Oakley, Stella Redgrave, Chris Verran, and Christine Wilson, under the supervision of Carl Thorpe who completed the initial identification and cataloguing of the finds. Initial conservation work on the copper alloy brooch and block-lifted vessel was carried out by Laura Ratcliffe.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of Historic Environment Projects and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

## **Freedom of Information Act**

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## **Cover illustration**

Clockwise from top left: wall 275, the fibula brooch (Laura Ratcliffe), box hearth [323] and circular hearth [324], working shot looking south

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## **Abbreviations**

CRO	Cornwall County Record Office
EH	English Heritage
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HE	Historic Environment, Cornwall Council
NGR	National Grid Reference
OS	Ordnance Survey
PRN	Primary Record Number in Cornwall HER
RIC	Royal Institution of Cornwall
SM	Scheduled Monument
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

## **1 Summary**

In May 2010 Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council (HE Projects) were commissioned by Cornwall Rural Housing Association Ltd to carry out archaeological recording to satisfy a planning condition for the development of a bungalow as part of an affordable housing development at Higher Town, St Agnes, Isles of Scilly (NGR SV88229 08241).

The development site is adjacent to a Scheduled Monument described as 'Prehistoric to Romano-British Field System and Settlement at Higher Town, St Agnes' (SM 15456), and, in October 2009, an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for the construction of the two neighbouring affordable houses had revealed a prehistoric circular, stone-built structure (overlain by a cairn), two other cairns and a large number of finds including an almost whole pot.

The bungalow site was divided into two discrete zones of prehistoric activity: in the south-west, downslope, part of the site were a number of shallow, sub-circular pits cut into the natural clay while the north-east, upslope, part of the site contained stratified archaeological deposits and structural remains, including parts of two buildings, two hearths and extensive shell middens. A total of 1416 finds were recovered including animal bone, pottery, stone, flint, glass, metalwork and burnt clay.

The archaeological remains revealed on the site are evidently part of the south-western extent of Scheduled Monument 15456 'prehistoric to Romano-British field system and settlement at Higher Town, St Agnes', and associated with the remains found in 2009.

Although the remains lie outside of the scheduled area they should be considered as of National Importance and it is recommended that there should be a further stage to assess the potential for further analysis and to produce an updated project design for full publication of the results of the archaeological investigation as an article in an academic journal. It would be sensible to combine these stages with the assessment/-analysis/publication of the results of 2010 archaeological excavation of the St Agnes bungalow site (which is the subject of a separate archive report).





## 2 Introduction

### 2.1 Project background

At the Council of the Isles of Scilly Planning Committee meeting on 9 February 2010 it was resolved to approve planning application P/10/003 to build a house adjacent to the two already under construction following planning permission for application P/07/100. The planning decision notice included the following condition.

- No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has previously been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

#### Reason

The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.

On 20 September 2007 planning permission had been granted for planning application P/07/100 to build two affordable houses. The planning consent included a condition requiring a programme of archaeological work and an archaeological watching brief was maintained on the site. During groundworks for the development extensive archaeological remains were found (Taylor and Johns 2010).

In the consultation response to the Local Planning Authority regarding planning application P/10/003 Phil McMahon, English Heritage Inspector of Monuments stated that in light of the recent archaeological discoveries at this site that "if planning consent is granted for the current application, a planning condition securing an archaeological mitigation strategy be applied in accordance with the guidance set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16."

Consequently, Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council (HE Projects) were commissioned by Cornwall Rural Housing Association Ltd to carry out archaeological recording to satisfy a planning condition for the development.

The archaeological work was carried out in May 2010 according to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by HE Projects (Johns 2010) based on a Brief outlining the minimum requirements for archaeological recording produced by the Historic Environment Advisor of the Council of the Isles of Scilly (Breen 2010).

### 2.2 Aims

The site specific aims were:

- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of archaeological remains encountered and to relate those remains to the excavated archaeological remains on the adjacent development site (P/07/100).
- To record any archaeological remains including above ground or buried field boundaries
- To establish the nature of the activity on the site
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation of the site
- To provide further information on the archaeology of the area from any archaeological remains encountered.

## **2.3 Methods**

The work was carried out in the following stages according to the methodology set out in the WSI (Johns 2009).

### **2.3.1 Desk-based assessment**

Prior to the commencement of on-site works the project archaeologists familiarised themselves with available information from the archaeological investigations undertaken on the adjacent site in October 2009 relating to planning application P/07/100 (Taylor and Johns 2010). In addition information held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record at Truro was examined and other sources were consulted (see Sections 8.1 and 8.2).

### **2.3.2 Fieldwork**

The fieldwork was undertaken in May 2010. The site proposed for this development was being utilised as part of the works for the existing and ongoing development. The area was cleared of all spoil, stored materials and equipment; due care was taken to ensure that subsurface archaeological features were not damaged during this process

The topsoil was removed from the entire site, comprising the building footprint and area required for scaffolding, an area in total of approximately 220 square metres. A toothless ditching bucket was used for the removal of topsoil. Stratified deposits below this were hand cleaned and archaeological features, deposits, and structures were excavated and recorded.

A copper alloy brooch was recovered from a small pit and what appeared to be a complete pot in an adjacent pit was lifted in a block of soil, bound around with crepe bandages and placed in a box lined with bubblewrap for transport back to the mainland

The excavation area and spoil were scanned with a metal detector on a regular basis, and this proved a useful technique for identifying small metal objects prior to excavation.

An open day was held at the site on 19 May to allow islanders and tourists to view the site and its artefacts and to hear an initial interpretation of the site by archaeologists; in addition there were a large number of informal site tours and a visit by the children and staff from St Agnes primary school.

### **2.3.3 Post-excavation work**

#### ***Finds***

The artefacts were cleaned, dried, sorted as appropriate. Initial finds identification and cataloguing was carried out by Carl Thorpe, the HE Projects Finds Officer.

Initial conservation of the copper alloy brooch and block-lifted potter vessel was carried out by Laura Ratcliffe.

#### ***Samples***

The soil samples were processed by flotation. The residues were collected on a 1000-micron mesh and sorted by hand into the following categories: plant macrofossils, charcoal, animal bone, marine molluscs and crustacea.

#### ***Archiving***

During this stage the field records were collated and checked, the field drawings were digitised in AutoCAD, and the photographs catalogued.

## 3 Location and setting

### 3.1 Location and setting

The site is located in two fields that were formerly used for flower growing, and are now down to grass. It is situated towards the bottom of the south-west facing hill slope below Higher Town (NGR SV 8828 0823) and has an entrance opening on to Old Lane, the island's main road (Fig 1).

The boundary subdividing the fields was removed before the archaeological watching brief began; this boundary is not recorded on either the 1880 or 1907 OS maps so may date from the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### 3.2 Geology and soils

The geology of St Agnes is granite, with weathered periglacial head, known locally as *ram*, covering the lower hill slopes and valley floors and supporting soils suitable for cultivation and pasture (Geological Survey of Great Britain, 1975, Isles of Scilly, Sheets 357 and 358).

### 3.3 Historic Landscape Character

The site lies within an area categorised as late post-medieval enclosure formed from Anciently Enclosed Land, this being land that was enclosed prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> century, potentially in the medieval period or earlier (Land Use Consultants 1996). This category of land has the potential for archaeological remains.

### 3.4 Archaeological background

The site is south of, and adjacent to, Scheduled Monument 15456, a prehistoric to Romano-British field system and settlement at Higher Town, St Agnes and approximately 200m south-east of Scheduled Monument 15450, a prehistoric settlement and field system at Porth Killier, St Agnes (Fig 1). In a field between these monuments two Bronze Age pottery vessels were discovered during the archaeological recording for the St Agnes Quay development in 2007 (Johns and Sawyer 2008; Johns and Quinnell forthcoming).

There are also a number of other archaeological sites in the vicinity of the development site. These include the following sites identified by Primary Record Number (PRN):

- 7036 Plump Well
- 7309 Find spot, prehistoric and historic periods
- 71366 Post medieval pit
- 71367 Post medieval pit

Other sites in the vicinity are located within and form part of the Scheduled Monument.

### 3.5 Recent archaeological work

The archaeological recording undertaken on the site in October 2009 revealed a circular, stone-built structure (overlain by a cairn) and two other cairns (Fig 2). These structures were provisionally dated by associated pottery to the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age period (Taylor and Johns 2010).

The stone-built structure was oval and contained a number of features indicating a functional use for the building, including a stone-lined drain or flue beneath it, a large burnt pit, a stone-lined chamber containing an almost whole pot, and a number of postholes. Overlying the structure was a cairn, a large mound of granite rubble possibly erected as an act of closure of the site, or perhaps indicating re-use for a different function (Taylor and Johns 2010).

One of the potsherds recovered during the archaeological work has incised marks that appear to represent the front part of a sailing vessel: if substantiated this would be the earliest depiction of such a vessel in Scilly and Cornwall, and one of the earliest in the British Isles (Thomas 2010).

The archaeological remains revealed on the site are evidently part of the south-western extent of Scheduled Monument 15456 'prehistoric to Romano-British field system and settlement at Higher Town, St Agnes' (Taylor and Johns 2010).

## 4 Archaeological results

The site proved to be divided into two zones of prehistoric activity: the south-west, downslope, part of the site comprised a horizon of numerous shallow, sub-circular pits cut into the natural clay while the north-east, upslope, part of the site contained stratified archaeological deposits and structural remains (Fig 3).

### 4.1 Pits – the south-west part of the site

The stratigraphy in the south-west part of the sites consisted of ploughsoil 0.67m deep (201) and subsoil (202) 0.1m deep overlying the natural *ram*, which in this area was soft yellowish brown clay (226). A modern services trench ran along the south-west edge of the site.

Cut into the natural clay were 12 shallow oval or sub-circular pits ranging in size from 2.1m long by 2.1m wide by 0.19m deep to 1m long by 0.8m wide by 0.2m deep, features: [234] (233); [235] (208); [239] (211); [240] (214); [241]; [243] (206); [253], (250); [255] (254); [256] (215); [258] (257); [259] (251); [264] (263); [265] (2660) (Figs 3 and 4). Some of the pits were intercutting and some were disturbed by animal burrowing and tree throws. The pit fills were generally dark greyish brown to black sandy clay.

The pits appear to date from the Middle Bronze Age (1800-1200 BC) because the pit fills contain an assortment of Middle Bronze age pottery, and other artefacts such as flint tools and flakes, and a broken whetstone. A sherd of post-Roman imported E-ware was recovered from context (233), and a rimsherd of medieval pottery came from context (250), with another possible sherd from context (203). These hint at some early medieval activity on the site but could have intruded into the pit fills.

Differing to those pits described above and of particular interest was pit [222]. This was a small oval-shaped pit with a rounded base measuring 0.33m long by 0.28m wide by 0.12m deep with a complete Iron Age pot SF5 in its dark greyish brown soft silty clay fill (212). Pit [222] cut (224), the fill of pit [223], 0.83m long by 0.42m wide by 0.15m deep, which contained a copper alloy fibula brooch SF6 of Iron Age or Romano-British date. The south-west edge of fill (224) was also cut by two steep-sided post-holes [229] (230) and [231] (232), respectively 0.12m in diameter by 0.16m deep and 0.21m in diameter by 0.11m deep.

Pit [225] was steep-sided linear pit measuring 3m long by 0.68m wide by 0.14m deep. It was filled with dark blackish grey sandy silt (213) containing sherds of post-medieval pottery. This feature cut an area of soft spongy silty clay.

Pit [236], a shallow oval pit filled with brownish grey soft sandy clay (219) produced post-medieval pottery and burnt stone.

In addition, this part of the site contained a number of natural features such as tree throws: [239], (207), (209); (217); or animal burrows: [265] (266), and shallow undiagnostic features such as [236]; (219). There had been some modern disturbance on the site, witnessed by

modern features (216); (218); (220); (221), which had possibly been caused during excavation of the service trench.

## **4.2 Stratified deposits and structural remains – the north-east part of the site**

The north corner of the site contained a complex build up of stratified structures, features and shell midden deposits 0.5 deep. This extended for approximately 4m from the north-east edge of the trench, before sloping down to the level of the natural clay (226) in the south-west part of the trench.

The natural ram in this part of the site (321) was much harder and stonier than the soft clay (226) to the south-west. It was overlain by a layer of green-tinged, greyish-brown silty sandy clay (322) which was a general layer, probably hillwash, underlying all the structures and deposits in the northern part of the site and, on the same horizon, (315) a colluvial layer of mottled grey and light brown clay extending south from structures 5 and 6.

### **4.2.1 Structure 5**

To the south of the main complex of structures and deposits and not stratigraphically related to them was 294, an alignment of stones, one of them a re-used saddle quern, SF13. 294 was a single course high and wide forming a dog-leg 2.2m long north-south and 1.7m long east-west. 294 had been built in a construction cut [314] into the colluvium (315) whose fill (317) was almost indistinguishable from the colluvium (Figs 3 and 5). Because it lies outside the settlement compound and is sealed by (325), the site layer into which all the other features are cut or built on, it is likely that 294 relates to an earlier phase of settlement.

Two metres from, the north-south arm of 294 were two stones (shown as stone sockets on Figs 5 and 6). Which might represent the north-west corner of an otherwise robbed out wall. If this is the case it indicates a sub-rectangular structure about 2m wide – structure 5.

Wall 294 could also be associated with layer (295) the fill of uneven possible cut, not numbered, that appears to be the truncated remains of a foundation trench for a wall although it is more likely that this belongs to a later phase (Fig 5).

### **4.2.2 Pit 316**

Otherwise, the earliest feature in the north part of the site was a large pit [316], 3.5m long by 2m wide by 0.18m deep, the bottom of which was filled with dark greyish-brown silty clay (292)/(319) containing Bronze Age pottery, animal bones, hammer stones, a whetstone, limpet shells, flints and water-worn pebbles (figs 3, 5 and 6). It is possible that [316] was a construction cut for an oval-shaped structure

Pit [316] cut site layer (325) and also layer (320) a deposit of light greyish brown sandy clay up to 0.08m thick, which was only encountered at the far west side of the site. Pit [316] had been re-cut as pit [312], filled with (313) and (318).

The upper fills of [312] were a midden layer (302) below an upper layer of very dark greyish black soft silty clay (284). This layer contained Bronze Age pottery, a saddle quern, hammer stone and water-worn pebbles.

### **4.2.3 Pits [323] and [324]**

Layers (284) and (302) were cut by [323], a steep-sided, rectangular stone-lined pit 0.7m long by 0.35m wide by 0.4m deep. The stone lining of the pit (287) comprised granite slabs on three sides with a large water-worn pebble on the north side. It was filled by layers (286) dark greyish brown silty clay containing Bronze Age pottery, animal bone and limpet shells, (298) a similar layer with limpet shells, (299) a lens of dark-coloured clay and (300), soft grey silty clay

containing a hammer or whetstone, and (301) a lens of clay within (300). Prior to excavation [323] was interpreted as a possible tank for holding water and keeping shellfish but there was no stone at the base and the edge stones were not watertight.

Another interesting feature was a circular stone-rimmed pit [324], 0.7m in diameter and 0.16m deep and immediately adjacent to the south corner of [323]. The rim of the pit was lined with waterworn pebbles arranged in a circle (306) which were sealed around the outer edge with yellow clay (308). The pit was filled with limpet shell in a little soft clay (305) and sealed beneath a 0.04m thick covering layer of light yellowish brown clay (285) which appeared to be baked or fired on the surface which dark greyish black in colour, and almost with the consistency of pottery. This layer contained Bronze Age pottery, burnt, animal bones and a whetstone.

Comparison with other Scillonian sites indicates that these features are hearths (see below Section 6).

#### **4.2.4 Structure 6**

In the northern part of the site were two walls 273 and 275 built on top of the midden deposits which filled and overflowed from pits [316]/[312], and together forming the northern wall of an oval or sub-circular building structure 6 (Figs 2, 5 and 6).

Wall 275 was a mixture of orthostats and coursed wall two to three stones high, 3.9m long by 0.4m wide by 0.69m high, which continued to the north-east and to the south-east beyond the edge of the excavated area (Figs 4, 5 and 6). Wall 275 was built in a foundation cut 0.12m deep containing fill (282), dark greyish brown sandy clay from which sherds of Bronze Age pottery, hammer stone and a whale vertebra were recovered.

It enclosed a sub-rectangular area and which contained the following layers: a layer of greyish brown silty clay 0.32m thick with sherds of Bronze Age pottery fragments of a clay loom weight, a pestle or hammer stone animal bone and flint flakes (246) over a layer of cobbles (297) over a layer of compact brown sandy clay 0.12m deep (291) containing sherds of Bronze Age pottery and animal bone

To the south of, and roughly parallel to, wall 275 was a wall of coarsely laid granite rubble 2m long by 0.9m wide by 2 stones (0.36m) high 290 (Fig 6). This was a later feature than wall 275 and forms a sort of passage, 0.75m wide, blocked with rubble at its south-west end. The passage was filled by layer (238) over a layer of very dark greyish brown silty clay (272) containing saddle querns fragments and other work stone.

At the extreme north end of the site was a corner of substantial walling 273 built of flat granite slabs approximately 1m long by 1m wide by up to five courses (0.62m) high, 1.1m north of and parallel to the east return of wall 275. The core, or interior, of the wall was formed by deposit (248), very dark greyish brown sandy silt 0.28m deep containing Bronze Age pottery and granite cobbles. The wall was built into a shallow foundation cut [281], the fill of which (280) strangely contained post-medieval and modern pottery and flints, and which cut a layer of yellowish brown clay (296), possibly redeposited ram and confined to this corner of the site and overlay a band of dark soil (310) which was similarly spatially confined and overlay the green-tinged basal site layer (322).

The gap between walls 273 and 275 had been blocked by three large granite blocks, 284; the overall dimensions of the blocking was 0.93m long by 0.46m wide by 0.3m high. The area to the north of 284, between walls 273 and 291 was filled with layer (247) dark greyish brown sandy clay containing sherds of Bronze Age pottery, flints, and fragments of animal bone.

#### 4.2.5 Midden deposits and stone alignments

Spreading south-west from walls 273 and 275 was an horizon of midden deposits of limpet shells containing Bronze Age pottery, stone tools, and animal bone, (276) and (279), which were virtually indistinguishable from a third midden deposit (292). These were sealed by (245), a layer of brown sandy clay silt containing frequent large granite stones (probably tumble from wall (275), to the south (245) was bounded by the rubble layer (267). Layer (245) contained Bronze Age and Early Iron age pottery, stone tools, a saddle quern, flints and animal bones. On the same horizon and south of wall 290 was a similar layer, (244).

267 was a linear spread of granite rubble in a matrix of dark greyish brown silty clay running north-west to south-east across the top of the break of slope, bounding and overlying layer (245). This is almost certainly a collapsed rubble wall, defining the south-west extent of the settlement compound.

The latest stratified feature at this end of the site was another alignment of granite stones one course high and two or three stones wide 237, which ran on a north-west / south east alignment, eventually curving to the south. It is likely that this represents a redefinition of the south west extent of the settlement.

In the south-east corner at the northern end of the site was a wide shallow pit [309], measuring 3.8m wide by 0.3m deep and filled with midden deposits (288), (203) and (204) which were up to 0.42m deep. These layers contained finds ranging in date from Bronze Age to modern and proved to have been extensively disturbed by a modern test pit [309] which had been backfilled with redeposited *ramm* (260) mixed with topsoil and various midden deposits (303). Digging the test pit had caused the excavated natural clay to be spread around this area, mixed with the various midden deposits and reburied. During the previous winter this part of the site had also been an access route for heavy plant and all the layers were hard and compacted because of this.

All features at this end of the site were covered by a subsoil layer (203), dark greyish brown firm sandy clay up to 0.2m thick below the ploughsoil (201).

## 5 Finds summary report

### 5.1 The finds

By C M Thorpe

A total of 1416 artefacts were recovered during this project. Animal bone forms the largest category of artefacts, some 800 being collected (54.49% of the assemblage) with pottery forming the next largest category (406 sherds or 28.67% of the assemblage). There is also stone, flint, glass, metalwork and burnt clay within the assemblage.

Some 76 artefacts (7.3% of the total) came from the topsoil and are best considered unstratified, being collected during the stripping of the field or the cleaning of the archaeological features. The remaining artefacts were collected from sealed features or layers and were recorded by context with only special artefacts or groups being three dimensionally recorded (denoted in this report by a  $\Delta$ ).

The earliest identifiable artefacts are flints. Forty six were recovered during the course of the work coming from contexts (201), (203), (204), (206), (210), (211), (214), (215), (245), (246), (247), (250), (254), (257), (263), (266), (278), (280), (284), (292), and unstratified from the topsoil. They did not appear to be very diagnostic, but are most likely of Neolithic or Bronze Age date. The flint apparently all comes from beach pebbles.

The identification of the ceramics present is tentative as there are many forms that are not immediately recognisable to the author. The majority of the sherds are of granitic fabric; however there are also a few sherds of gabbroic pottery.

The earliest identifiable pottery recovered during this project appears to date from the Middle Bronze Age. This material was recovered from contexts (201), (203), (206), (208), (244), (247), (254), and (292).

Prehistoric pottery in a granitic fabric was also recovered from contexts (202), (205), (207), (211), (214), (215), (233), (238), (245), (246), (248), (249), (250), (251), (257), (263), (279), (282), (284), (285), (286), (291), (302), (313), (318), and (319).

Within this material are forms of vessels including large storage jars that are not readily identifiable. They do not appear to be the typical shapes of ceramics that occur in the Scillonian Neolithic, or Middle Bronze Age periods. It is possible that this material could thus also be Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age in date, but this is very tentative. The conclusions of this report are conservative and a Middle Bronze Age has been assigned provisionally to this material.

Some 16 sherds were identified as being of potential Iron Age or Romano-British date coming from contexts (201) and (204). None of this material was diagnostic, identification being based on the appearance of the fabric, with the exception of a small rimsherd from (201) which looked similar to South Devon ware.

A whole pot, **Δ5**, was recovered from context (212). This was an unusually shaped bowl with an everted slightly beaded rim on a flat base. Thin walled, the highly burnished exterior and gabbroic<sup>?</sup> fabric is suggestive of an Iron Age date. A complete copper alloy fibula brooch **Δ6** was found in association with this vessel coming from context (224). This too appears to be of Iron Age date.

A sherd of imported E-ware from France dating from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> centuries AD from context (233), and a rimsherd of grass-marked Sandy Lane Style 1 pottery from the 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries AD coming from context (250), with another possible sherd from context (203), hint at some early medieval activity on the site.

A large collection of worked stone was recovered from the site, some 45 items in total including oval shaped cobble saddle querns, hammer stones, pestles, and whetstones; however none could be assigned to a particular period. Two large saddle querns and a possible pivot stone were left on the Island. There is a high proportion of hammer stones, (a total of 19) which may point to some specialist function or process occurring on the site that would need to be considered in any future study of this material.

There is a scattering of sherds from the medieval and post-medieval periods across the site, some coming from sealed contexts though most are unstratified. This is typical of assemblages obtained from fields close to farming communities the finds being derived from domestic midden material being utilised for the manuring and improvement of the fields.

The total number of finds from each context are summarised below in Section 10.2.

## **5.2 Treatment work on copper alloy brooch**

By Laura Ratcliffe

A copper alloy brooch, small find number **Δ6**, context (224), was lifted in a block of soil on site. On arrival in the lab the soil was still damp and the whole block was in a sealed polythene box. The soil was mid brown and crumbly in texture with streaks of paler dun colour. There were small inclusions of quartz, presumably from decayed granitic material, similar to the soil around the block lifted urn form the same site.



Visible in the top of the soil was the point end and shoulder of a copper alloy brooch. The head of the brooch disappeared into the soil at an angle; what was visible appeared to be fully mineralised and fragile. Active corrosion was evident in the bright green patches on the damaged edges of the exposed area; the piece is likely to be partially or fully mineralised and very fragile and prone to crumbling.

The soil block was X-rayed and showed a complete brooch with the pin tip detached but still present. The soil was carefully removed from the brooch which was consolidated as required using paraloid B72 in acetone 5% w/v.

The brooch was fully mineralised and very crumbly. The pin in particular is not very strong, and broke away from the main brooch as the soil was removed. The mineralised metal remaining is pale green copper oxides and chlorides and is quite powdery. There are areas of patina surface preserved within the corrosion layers across most of the brooch but it was very fine and floats above a mass of powdery copper chlorides. Much consolidation was required so it was not lost during cleaning. The pin was particularly unstable, being the thinnest and most worked /stressed part of the brooch and therefore more prone to corrosion than other parts.

Whilst cleaning continued it became apparent that there was much organic staining in the soil directly around the spring end of the brooch and the pin, with textile fibres still visible in places. No discernable weave or threads were noted however, just a mass of brown staining and broken fibres. These were not animal fibres but plant based fibres, with a flat, tape-like profile consistent with flax like plants. There is an area of this material firmly adhered to the brooch around the head end and on the pin; this has been left in place. Textile remains, mostly mineralised, cling to the hinge area of the pin in places.

The spring area has broken – probably before or near to burial as the mineralization of the broken ends of the metal are consistent with the patina from the rest of the brooch and not a new break surface which would be clean. This has caused the pin to stick out at an angle rather than lie flush to the back of the brooch as is normal in a closed brooch. It was probably either deposited broken or damaged as part of the burial process or soon after. The presence of textile fragments though around this area suggest it was in close contact with fabric at the time of deposition and as this staining covers the broken ends of the spring, it was deposited broken or broken on deposition, whilst the fabric was still present as fabric and not as decayed organic matter.

Decoration is apparent in the patina layer remaining on the tail and head area of the brooch. There is a pattern of stamped circles on the head and an incised curved zig-zag pattern on the tail. The T-bar has incised lines running front to back, two on each side.

Consolidation carried out after cleaning should help keep the copper minerals stable but the pin area will always be very fragile. A padded support was made to keep it from moving around in the box. Some silica gel was also used to keep the interior of the box at a steady and low humidity. This should prevent further decay of the minerals that make up the brooch. The brooch needs to be handled with care and kept in a low humidity environment.

See below Appendix 10.3.

### **5.3 Conservation record for block-lifted vessel**

By Laura Ratcliffe

A ceramic vessel was lifted on site in a soil block and wrapped in crepe bandages. Only the rim section of about two-thirds of the vessel was visible standing slightly proud from the main bulk of the soil. The soil inside and visible at the top of the block was dark brown and homogenous – loamy with a fine quartz component making it slightly grainy to the touch.

This appeared to be fairly compacted into the vessel. The soil visible on the outside of the vessel, in particular the base of the block lift was more orange brown in appearance and heavily clay like in texture

The ceramic is sturdy and does not crumble to the touch. The original surface is still present and shows a high level of burnishing. The vessel is in pieces, some of the breaks being relatively old as a result of stresses imposed by the burial environment as opposed to recent i.e. created during excavation.

The interior of the vessel was excavated by hand using a spatula. There were some small inclusions of decayed granite – no larger than 6mm D in the fill but otherwise nothing was found inside the vessel other than soil. This was sampled for analysis (sample number 53) and recorded as context (228).

The vessel was mostly complete with upright but outward flared sides, a very shallow depth – some 900 mm, and flat circular base – somewhat unusual. The flat base showing some deformation in the centre possibly due to the cracking but was not a sagged bottom vessel, it is definitely more flat than anything else. The join between sides and base is quite abrupt and almost a right angle. The vessel is in pieces – some 15 or 16 were noted at this time and there is a crack running all around the base. The only thing holding the pieces in place is the soil around it.

The vessel should be removal from the block, and carefully cleaned after air drying before reconstruction of the vessel for study. Most of the vessel is present, the ceramic is in good condition and it would not require a large amount of storage space. It is possible that there is residue on the vessel but none was seen at this time – only a good burnishing of the inside and outside surfaces.

See below Appendix 10.4

## 6 Discussion

An early date for wall 294 – structure 5 - is demonstrated because it was buried by deposits which underlie the other settlement features. However there were no artefacts associated with it other than the re-used saddle quern SF13, and the sample taken from the fill of its construction cut proved to be sterile with no palaeoenvironmental material.

The 12 pits in the southern part of the site appear to date to the Middle Bronze Age. The pits are all approximately the same depth, about 0.2m, and stop when the harder grittier *ram* is reached so it is inferred that they were dug to extract the soft natural clay in this area. One possible use of the clay is for the manufacture of pots, another is that the clay was being coated on the outside of pots in order to make them watertight (as is possibly the case of the clay-encrusted pot found in the Phase 1 archaeological recording on the site).

The Iron Age pot SF5 and the Iron Age or Romano-British copper alloy brooch SF6 deposited in smaller oval-shaped pits seem to be the result of deliberate or structured deposition, possibly a votive deposit associated with extraction of the soft clay. Their proximity suggests that their position may have been marked in some way, perhaps by posts inserted in the two post-holes cutting the edge of the fill of pit [224].

Although it was not apparent at the time of excavation it is now clear that walls 273 and 275 form the interior face of the northern wall of an oval or sub-circular Bronze Age building, Structure 6, probably built in a hollow formed by pit [316]. Its internal dimensions are approximately 5m long by 5m wide but the southern wall of the building has been totally demolished and robbed out at some point. The building demonstrates at least two phases of

construction; during the first phase the gap between walls 273 and 275 forms a north-facing entrance. This was subsequently blocked by the three large granite stones 274. The passage formed by wall 290 on the south-east side of the structure is reminiscent of an interior compartment in Building 5 at Nornour (Butcher 1978, 47, figs A and 150).

The stone-edged pit [323] and the circular stone-edged, clay-topped pit [324] are respectively examples of a box hearth and a circular hearth, two of the main prehistoric hearth-types in Scilly. The hearths would seem to be associated with the second phase of Structure 7 because the box hearth intrudes into the phase one entrance.

The occurrence of similar adjacent box and circular hearths within a single house at Nornour suggest that they may have had different functions within the household. Butcher suggests that the box hearth may have been used as tank in which water might have been boiled through the placement of heated stones (pot boilers) (Butcher 1978; Robinson 2007, 92-3).

Structure 6, and the associated remains, undoubtedly represents part of the south-western extent of Scheduled Monument 15456 'prehistoric to Romano-British field system and settlement at Higher Town, St Agnes'. Although they sit outside of the scheduled area they form part of a monument designated as of National Importance and should be regarded as of National Importance.

## **7 Recommendations**

The results of the archaeological recording on the St Agnes Affordable Housing site in May 2010 are of National Importance and merit assessment of potential for further analysis, particularly in view of the structures revealed and the character and large quantity of finds recovered. This archive report has covered the initial results from the investigations and is the first stage in the analysis of the excavation results, designed to provide a record to be used to target further assessment and analysis.

At the conclusion of this stage of this project the following tasks have been achieved:

- An archive report outlining the results of the excavation has been produced.
- All context, finds, and sample record sheets have been completed and archived.
- All photographs have been indexed and catalogued.
- All correspondence has been filed and stored within an archive box.
- All finds have been cleaned, catalogued and stored in acid free boxes.
- All environmental samples have been wet-sieved and sorted into floats and residues.

Following the completion of the fieldwork and archiving the requirements for further work will need to be reviewed and outlined in a costed proposal for Assessment and production of an Updated Project Design for Analysis and Publication.

**It is recommended that the Assessment, Analysis and Publication stages of the 2010 excavation on the bungalow site and the 2009 work on the two houses should be combined**

The post-excavation stages of the project should include the following.

### **7.1 Assessment**

The next stage should be assessment of the potential of the structural and stratigraphic data and artefactual and environmental material for further analysis.

The following classes of data should be assessed:

- Stratigraphic and structural (verification of data and for potential for comparative study)
- Pottery
- Stone artefacts
- Flint
- Animal bone to identify potential for species identification and resource exploitation
- Mollusc shells to identify potential for information about resource exploitation
- The flots from the soil samples to identify their potential to contain charred macrofossils, seeds, and potential for radiocarbon dating
- Vitrified clay (deposit (157) surrounding pot SF1)

## **7.2 Updated Project Design**

On completion of the Assessment stage an Updated Project Design will be produced. The Updated Project Design will:

- Include the results from the 2009 watching brief and the 2010 excavation on the bungalow site.
- Include the results from the assessments for the 2009 watching brief and the 2010 bungalow site excavation.
- Outline the research questions for the analysis stage.
- Outline the tasks for the analysis stage.
- Put forward an outline for the academic publication.

The content of the Updated Project Design will be agreed with the Historic Environment Adviser for the Council of the Isles of Scilly

## **7.3 Analysis**

The analysis will entail the study of structural and stratigraphic data, artefacts, and environmental samples and will be governed by the Updated Project Design. This will involve the following tasks:

- Liaise with specialists (eg environmental samples, radiocarbon dating, and artefacts, etc) regarding further analysis.
- Send off artefacts (ceramics etc) to the appropriate specialist for analysis.
- Send off residues from environmental samples to appropriate specialists.
- Send off suitable material for radiocarbon dating, if appropriate.
- Review results from analyses and agree final form of academic publication.

## 7.4 Academic / Final publication

The results are National Importance and require wider dissemination than an archive level report. The final scope of the publication will need to be reviewed in the light of the results from the analyses and should combine the results of the 2009 work and the 2010 excavation on the bungalow site. The contents of the report would include:

Section	Text	Illustrations
Summary	Brief text summarising the contents of the article, focusing on the key results of the project.	
1. Location & setting	Brief description of the site location and the natural setting (ie geology, soils relief, rivers, vegetation).	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Map showing the location of the site in Scilly (inset: map showing the location of Scilly in relation to SW England).</li> <li>2. Relief map of the immediate area showing the location and extent of the site</li> </ol>
2. Archaeology, history, previous work and historic landscape setting.	The location and nature of archaeological sites in the vicinity will be summarised (eg Porth Killier), previous work in the area and the historic landscape character will be described.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Map showing the historic landscape character and location of archaeological sites in the surrounding area</li> </ol>
3. The project	A description of the circumstances of the archaeological project - background, desk-based assessment, watching brief and excavation methodology, artefact retrieval, sampling strategy.	.
4. Structural and stratigraphic report	2009 watching brief and 2010 excavation results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Selected plans and section drawings</li> <li>5. Selected photos</li> </ol>
6. Specialist's reports	<p>Containing specialist reports various types of artefactual and environmental material:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Metalwork</li> <li>2. Pottery</li> <li>3. Stonework</li> <li>4. Flint</li> <li>5. Animal bone</li> <li>6. Molluscs</li> <li>7. Plant macrofossils</li> <li>8. Charcoal</li> <li>9. Radiocarbon dating</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Various supporting tables and illustrations</li> </ol>
7. Discussion	Discussion of the significance and context of the results	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. Distribution map of comparative</li> </ol>

Section	Text	Illustrations
		Scillonian sites
9. References		
		NB Selected photographs will also be included – of the site, work in progress, key features and artefacts.
Acknowledgements		

## 8 References

### 8.1 Primary sources

Ordnance Survey, c1880. *25 Inch Map* First Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, c1907. *25 Inch Map* Second Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, 2007. *Mastermap Digital Mapping*

### 8.2 Publications

Breen, E, 2010. *Brief for Archaeological Recording, St Agnes Affordable Housing, Higher Town, St Agnes*, Council of the Isles of Scilly

Bucher, S A, 1978. Excavations at Nornour, Isles of Scilly 1969-73: the pre-Roman settlement, *Cornish Archaeol*, **17**, 29-112

Johns, C, 2010. *St Agnes Affordable Housing, Higher Town, St Agnes Phase 2: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Recording during g Groundwork*, HE, Truro

Johns, C and Quinnell, H, forthcoming. Two Nested Bronze Age Vessels from St Agnes, Isles of Scilly, *Cornish Archaeol*

Johns, C and Sawyer, K, 2008. *Isles of Scilly Off-island Quays Refurbishment,;: Archaeological Recording*, HES, Truro

Land Use Consultants and Cornwall Archaeological Unit, 1996. *Isles of Scilly Historic Landscape Assessment and Management Strategy*, Cornwall County Council

Robinson, G, 2007. The Prehistoric Island Landscape of Scilly, *BAR Brit Ser* **447**

Taylor, S, and Johns, C, 2010. *St Agnes Affordable Housing, Higher Town, St Agnes: Archaeological Mitigation Phase 1 Archive Report*, HE Projects, Truro

Thomas, C, 2010. *A preliminary note on a boat-decorated Bronze Age sherd from St Agnes, Isles of Scilly*, privately circulated document

## 9 Project archive

The HE project number is **2010042**

The project's documentary, photographic and drawn archive is temporarily housed at the offices of Historic Environment, Cornwall 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 and copies of documentary/cartographic source material (file no 2010042).
2. Field plans and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE 711).
3. Electronic drawings stored in the directory R:\Historic Environment (CAD)\CAD Archive\Scilly\St Agnes Affordable Housing Phase 2 Excavation2010042
4. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers: GBP 2143, GBP 2144, GBP 2145
5. Digital photographs stored in the directory ..\Images\Sites\Scilly\St Agnes Affordable housing Phase 2 Excavation 2010042
6. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-

This report text is held in digital form as: G:\CAU\HE Projects\Sites\Scilly\Sites Q-T\St Agnes\At Agnes Affordable Housing Phase 2 Excavation 2010042\St Agnes Affordable Housing Phase 2 Archive Report

Artefacts and environmental material retrieved during the project will be stored at the Isles of Scilly Museum, St Marys. The site code is SQ10.

## 10 Appendices

### 10.1 List of contexts

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
201	D	Ploughsoil. Dark greyish brown friable sandy clay up to 0.67m thick. Finds: Bronze Age, Iron Age/Romano-British, medieval, and post-medieval pottery, clay pipe fragments, an iron nail, a clinker fragment, animal bones, modern glass, prehistoric worked stone tools, flints, and cobbles (natural).		67 68 71	11/05/10	SRT
202	D	Subsoil. Dark brownish grey soft sandy clay up to 0.1m thick. Finds: Bronze Age and medieval pottery, a post-medieval roofing tile fragment, clinker, a prehistoric worked stone tool, quartzite flake, and a water-rounded pebble (natural).		67	11/05/10	SRT
203	D	Subsoil horizon over northern part of site. Dark greyish brown firm sandy clay with occasional small granite inclusions. Up to 0.2m thick. Probably the same as (202). Finds: Bronze Age and medieval pottery, clay pipe fragment, animal bones, prehistoric worked stone tools, flints, and cobbles (natural).		68 71	11/05/10	SRT
204	D	Midden material derived from (205) disturbed during the excavation of a test pit. Very dark greyish soft brown sandy clay. Contained abundant limpet shells and animal bone, and modern glass. Finds: Iron Age/Romano-British and post-medieval pottery, animal bones, prehistoric worked stone tools, a hand-forged iron nail (SF8), modern glass, flints, and cobbles (natural).	42 58 59	71	11/05/10	SRT

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
205	D	Midden material at NE corner of site. Very dark greyish brown soft sandy clay containing 85% limpet shells and frequent amounts of animal bone. Up to 0.42m thick. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, clinker fragments, animal bones including fish bones and a crab claw fragment, and cobbles (natural).	42 58	71	11/05/10	SRT
206	D	Fill of pit [243]. Mid greyish brown friable silty clay. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, a prehistoric stone pestle, and a flint core.	31	48 54	11/05/10	SRT
207	D	Fill of possible tree bowl, cut by pit [239]. Mid brownish grey friable sandy clay with moderate amounts of medium sub-angular granite. Not fully excavated. Finds: Bronze Age pottery.	31		11/05/10	SRT
208	D	Fill of pit [235]. Dark greyish black friable silty sand with small granite inclusions. Finds: Bronze Age pottery and a broken quartzite whetstone.	31	39	11/05/10	SRT
209	D	Fill of probable tree bowl or irregular pit. Mid greyish brown loose silty clay. Not fully excavated.	31		11/05/10	SRT
210	D	Fill of pit [227]. Dark blackish grey compact sandy clay with frequent quartz grit. Finds: a flint flake.	31	37	11/05/10	SRT
211	D	Fill of pit [239]. Dark brownish grey friable sandy clay with one large piece of granite. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, animal bones, two flint flakes.	31 33	47	11/05/10	SRT
212	D	Fill of pit [222]. Dark brownish grey soft silty clay. Finds: a complete Iron Age pot, SF5.	32	36 49	11/05/10	SRT
213	D	Fill of pit [225]. Dark blackish grey friable sandy silt with small pieces of granite. Finds: Post-medieval pottery.	32 34	35	11/05/10	SRT
214	D	Fill of pit [240]. Dark brownish grey friable sandy clay with occasional large sub-rounded granite. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, fragments of burnt animal bone, a flint scraper, and pebbles (natural).	33	46	11/05/10	SRT
215	D	Fill of pit [256]. Dark brownish grey friable sandy clay with occasional sub-angular granite. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, animal bones, fragment of limpet shell, a flint core, flint flakes and cobbles (natural).	33	52	11/05/10	SRT
216	D	Fill of modern feature 0.38m in diameter and 0.04m deep containing polythene adjacent to pit [253]. Dark brownish grey friable sandy clay. Finds: iron nail.	34		11/05/10	SRT
217	D	Fill of shallow depression/root disturbance 0.7m by 0.32m and 0.06m deep. Very dark greyish brown friable silty clay.	34		11/05/10	SRT
218	D	Fill of a modern feature 0.38m by 0.26m and 0.05m deep. Very dark greyish brown friable sandy clay.	34		11/05/10	SRT



Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
219	D	Fill of pit [236]. Mid brownish grey soft sandy clay. Finds: Post-medieval pottery, fragments of burnt stone.	34 64	40	11/05/10	SRT
220	D	Fill of shallow modern feature 0.82m by 0.6m and 0.08m deep. Very dark greyish brown friable sandy clay with inclusions of yellowish brown clay.	34		11/05/10	SRT
221	D	Fill of modern feature 0.24m in diameter and 0.07m deep. Very dark greyish brown friable sandy clay.	34		11/05/10	SRT
222	C	Cut of small oval concave pit 0.33m by 0.28m and 0.12m deep. Filled by (212), which contained a complete Iron Age pot, SF5. Cuts pit [223].	32 38 62	36 49	13/05/10	SRT
223	C	Cut of fairly irregular pit 0.83m by 0.42m and 0.13m deep. Filled by (224), which contained a copper alloy brooch, SF6. Cut by pit [222].	32 38 62	36 49	13/05/10	SRT
224	D	Fill of pit [223]. Mid greyish brown friable silty clay. Finds: copper alloy fibula brooch, SF6, probably Iron Age.	38	36 49	13/05/10	SRT
225	C	Cut of linear steep-sided pit 3m by 0.68m and 0.14m deep oriented SW-NE. Filled by (213).	62 64	35	13/05/10	RP
226	D	Natural clay ( <i>ram</i> ) over southern, downslope, part of site. Light reddish-yellow compact sandy clay with occasional granite. Spongy in places, probably due to waterlogging: this part of the site forms the base of the head of a small valley. This material is cut by frequent pits and is possibly the source of clay for the local manufacture of pottery.	83	35 36 37 39 40 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 67 68	13/05/10	SRT
227	C	Cut of sub-oval pit 0.34m by 0.24m and 0.2m deep. Filled by (210).	61	37	13/05/10	TK
228	D	Fill of SF5. Dark brownish black friable silty clay.	84	49	13/05/10	SRT
229	C	Cut of steep-sided posthole 0.12m in diameter and 0.16m deep. Filled by (230). Cuts (224), fill of pit [223].	32 38 62	36	13/05/10	AF
230	D	Fill of posthole [229]. Dark greyish yellow friable silty sand. Some mixing with fill (224) as a result of root disturbance.	32	36	13/05/10	AF
231	C	Cut of steep-sided posthole 0.21m in diameter and 0.11m deep. Filled by (232). Cuts the edge of pit [223].	32 38 62	36	13/05/10	AF
232	D	Fill of posthole [231]. Dark yellowish grey friable silty sand.	32	36	13/05/10	AF
233	D	Fill of pit [234]. Dark grey friable silty sand. Cut by pit [235]. Finds: Bronze Age and early medieval pottery.		39	13/05/10	RP
234	C	Cut of oval concave pit 2.1m by 1.5m and 0.11m deep. Filled by (233). Cut by pit [235].	61	39	13/05/10	RP
235	C	Cut of sub-circular concave pit 1.5m by 1.3m. Filled by (208). Cuts pit [234] and fill	61	39	13/05/10	CJ

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
		(233).				
236	C	Cut of shallow sub-oval pit 0.98m by 0.56m and 0.1m deep. Filled by (219).	64	40	13/05/10	SRT
237	B	Wall base running SE-NW across the northern, upslope, part of the site. An alignment of granite rubble one course high and 2-3 stones wide. Overlies all other structures on this part of the site.	41 44	42 68	17/05/10	SRT
238	D	Deposit consisting of a small patch of small stones in a dark greyish brown matrix 1.1m by 0.9m and 0.07m thick. Overlies deposit (272), which blocks the 'passage' between walls 275 and 290. Finds: Bronze Age pottery.	41	71	17/05/10	CJ
239	C	Cut of sub-circular concave pit 1.84m by 1.72m and 0.2m deep. Filled by (211).	63	47	17/05/10	EB
240	C	Cut of circular steep-sided pit 1.2m in diameter and 0.24m deep. Filled by (214). Cuts tree throw [241] and fill (242).	63	46	17/05/10	SRT
241	C	Cut of tree throw 1.6m by 0.8m and 0.1m deep. Base has root holes. Filled by (242). Cut by pit [240].	63	46	17/05/10	SRT
242	D	Fill of tree throw [241]. Mid brownish grey compact silty clay. Cut by pit [240].		46	17/05/10	SRT
243	C	Cut of circular pit 1.6m in diameter and 0.24m deep. Filled by (206).	61	48 54	17/05/10	SRT
244	D	Deposit thick situated outside (to the south) of wall 290, part of Structure 5. Dark greyish brown friable sandy clay 0.16m with occasional small granite fragments. At the same level as, and possibly the same as, deposits (246), (247), and (272). Finds: Bronze Age pottery, a quartzite pestle or whetstone, and animal bones.	41		18/05/10	SRT
245	D	Deposit situated outside (to the south) of wall 275, part of Structure 5. Mid brown friable sandy silt 0.12m thick containing frequent large granite blocks, probably derived from wall 275. Bounded to the south by rubble 267, which lies over it. Finds: Bronze Age and Early Iron Age pottery, various worked stone tools, a saddle quern, animal bones, flints, and cobbles and water-rounded pebbles (natural) including SF7, two conjoining fragments of a broken cobble.	41		18/05/10	SRT
246	D	Deposit in area enclosed by wall 275, part of Structure 5. Dark brownish grey firm silty clay 0.32m thick. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, fragments of a clay loom weight, a pestle or hammer stone, animal bones, flint flakes, and cobbles (natural).	41	71	18/05/10	EB

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
247	D	Deposit located between Structures 5 and 6. Dark greyish brown firm sandy clay 0.32m thick with moderate granite rubble. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, animal bones, flints, fragment of granite used as a pivot stone (SF9), and a cobble (natural).	41	71	18/05/10	SRT
248	D	Deposit located within wall 273, part of Structure 6. Very dark greyish brown firm sandy silt 0.28m thick. Finds: Bronze Age pottery and granite cobbles, some used, some natural.	41 69	68	18/05/10	SRT
249	D	Deposit lying between walls 274 and 275 below deposit (245). Black sandy silt 0.16m thick. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, saddle quern, animal tooth, and cobbles (natural).	41		18/05/10	SRT
250	D	Fill of pit [253]. Very dark greyish brown firm sandy clay with one large granite stone. Finds: Bronze Age and Early Medieval pottery, an animal bone, and a flint core.	33 34	50	19/05/10	CJ
251	D	Fill of pit [259]. Mid brownish grey friable sandy silt. Finds: Bronze Age pottery.		54	19/05/10	AF
252	D	A small mound 1.22m by 0.7m and 0.15m high comprised of 8 granite blocks in a matrix of mid brown soft sandy clay.	32		19/05/10	AF
253	C	Cut of sub-circular pit 2m by 1.6m and 0.2m deep. Filled by (250).	33 34 63	50	19/05/10	CJ
254	D	Fill of pit [255]. Dark grey friable sandy clay with frequent large sub-angular and sub-rounded granite blocks. The stones were concentrated towards the centre and the top of the fill. Possible animal burrow disturbance towards the centre as there were many voids between the stones. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, fish bones, an iron object, a flint flake, and cobbles and water-rounded pebbles (natural).	32	53	19/05/10	SRT
255	C	Cut of sub-circular steep-sided pit 2.1m in diameter and 0.19m deep. Cuts pit [265] and fill (266).	32 62	53	19/05/10	SRT
256	C	Cut of sub-oval pit 2.05m by 1.73m and 0.11m deep. Filled by (215).	33 63	52	19/05/10	CJ
257	D	Fill of pit [258]. Very dark greyish brown firm sandy clay with frequent large stones. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, granite hammer stone or pestle, water-rounded pebbles, and flint flakes.	32 34	51	19/05/10	SRT
258	C	Cut of sub-oval pit 2m by 1.7m and 0.2m deep. Filled by (257).	32 34 62 64	51	19/05/10	SRT
259	C	Cut of sub-oval pit 1.7m by 0.9m and 0.14m deep. Filled by (251). Cuts pit [243] and fill (206) and has an uncertain relationship with pit [264] and fill (263).	61	54	19/05/10	AF
260	D	Redeposited natural clay ( <i>ram</i> ) in test pit [304]. Mid yellowish brown compact clay.	42 58	71	20/05/10	CJ

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
261	D	Fill of pit [277]. Dark grey compact sandy silt with frequent sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles. Probably redeposited material from midden (204). Finds: modern pottery and animal bones.	42 58	65	20/05/10	CJ
262	D	Compacted deposit in NE corner of site. Very dark greyish brown compact sandy clay. The result of site traffic driving over this part of the site.	42		20/05/10	CJ
263	D	Fill of pit [264]. Mid brownish grey friable sandy silt with flecks of yellow clay. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, animal bones, and a flint flake.		54	20/05/10	SRT
264	C	Cut of sub-oval pit 1.1m by 0.8m and 0.2m deep. Filled by (263). Uncertain relationship with pit [259].	32 61 63	54	20/05/10	SRT
265	C	Cut of animal burrow or tree bowl, irregular, 1m by 0.53m and 0.21m deep. Filled by (266). Cut by pit [255].	62	53	20/05/10	SRT
266	D	Fill of [265]. Mid brownish grey, mottled with light yellowish brown, soft sandy silt with occasional large angular granite. Finds: a flint flake.		53	20/05/10	SRT
267	D	A linear spread of granite rubble running across the northern part of the site at the top of a break of slope. Runs NW-SE from western edge of site before turning south at the eastern side. A group of stones at the base of the slope 4m to the south may represent an extension of this feature. Stone is in a matrix of dark greyish brown friable silty clay. Represents either a rubble wall or collapse from Structures 5 and 6. Lies over layer (245). Finds: hammer stone and cobbles (natural).	41 42 58	68	21/05/10	SRT
268	D	Deposit forming a compacted layer in NE corner of site. Mid brown compact silty clay. Cut by modern pits [277] and [304]. May be hillwash, the same as deposit (315). Finds: animal bones.	58 59		21/05/10	SRT
269	D	Fill of pit [270]. Mid greyish brown friable sandy silt with occasional rounded pebbles.	59		21/05/10	SRT
270	D	Cut of small sub-oval pit 0.14m by 0.12m and 0.05m deep. Filled by (269).	59		21/05/10	SRT
271	D	Deposit of natural ( <i>ram</i> ) in NE corner of site. Light reddish yellow compact sandy clay. Unclear whether this was <i>in situ</i> or redeposited. Not excavated. Cut by pit [309].	58		21/05/10	SRT
272	D	Deposit situated in 'passage' between walls 272 and 290. Very dark greyish brown loose silty clay with moderate small-medium stone. Lies beneath (238). Finds: saddle querns and worked stone tools.	41 69	71	21/05/10	CJ

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
273	B	Substantial wall forming a return in the NW corner of the site, protruding into the site for 1m. Built of drystone flat-laid granite rubble up to 5 courses high (0.62m). Core or interior of wall filled by deposit (240). Built in a shallow foundation cut, [281]. Forms part of structure 6	41 69	68 71 76	25/05/10	SRT
274	B	A linear arrangement of stones that appear to block the gap between walls 273 and 275. Comprising 3 sub-angular and sub-rounded granite blocks with overall dimensions of 0.93m by 0.46m and 0.3m high. Sealed by deposit (247).	41		25/05/10	SRT
275	B	A section of walling protruding into the NW corner of the site. A mixture of orthostats and 2-3 courses (0.69m high) of drystone granite rubble wall with a length of 3.9m and 0.4m wide. Encloses a sub-rectangular area and continues under the baulk section to the north. Forms part of structure 6.	41 69	71 72 77 78 81 82	25/05/10	SRT
276	D	Deposit of midden material to south of wall 275 below layer (245). Very dark brownish grey firm sandy silt with frequent limpet shell and animal bone. Same as deposit (279) and probably the same as deposit (292).			25/05/10	SRT
277	C	Cut of pit in redposited natural (260). Irregular, probably due to the stony nature of the material that it cuts, 1m by 0.4m and 0.2m deep. Filled by (261).	58	65	25/05/10	SRT
278	D	Linear deposit probably filling an animal burrow 0.12m deep. Mid greyish brown compact sandy clay with occasional sub-rounded small granite rubble.		65	25/05/10	SRT
279	D	Deposit of midden material covering a large part of the area at the NW corner of the site below layers (245) and (247). Very dark greyish brown firm sandy silt. Same as deposit (276) and probably the same as (292). Finds: Bronze Age pottery, worked stone tools, animal bones, and a cobble (natural).		71	25/05/10	CJ
280	D	Fill of foundation cut [281]. Dark greyish brown firm sandy clay. Finds: Post-medieval and Modern pottery and flints.	69	71	25/05/10	CJ
281	C	Foundation cut 0.1m wide and 0.11m deep for wall 273.	69	71	25/05/10	CJ
282	D	Fill of foundation cut [283]. Dark greyish brown firm sandy clay. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, a hammer stone, and a bone or cartilage disc from a marine mammal.	69	71 72 80 81 82	25/05/10	CJ
283	C	Foundation cut 0.08m wide and 0.12m deep for wall 275.	69	71 72 80 81 82	25/05/10	CJ

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
284	D	Upper fill of pit [312]. Very dark greyish black soft silty clay up to 0.25m thick. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, saddle quern, hammer stone, animal bones, flints, and water-worn pebbles and cobbles (natural).		68 71 72 82	25/05/10	SRT
285	D	Layer 0.04m thick sealing deposit of limpets, (305), within stone-lined pit 306. Light yellowish brown (burnt dark greyish black on the surface) friable (compact surface) silty clay. Appeared to be baked or fired on the surface being very dark and compact, almost with the consistency of pottery. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, burnt clay, animal bones, whetstone, and a cobble (natural).	69	80	25/05/10	SRT
286	D	Upper fill of stone-lined pit [323]. Dark brownish grey friable silty clay up to 0.13m thick with frequent animal bones and limpet shells and moderate small sub-angular granite. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, slick stone, animal bones, and a cobble (natural).	69	72	25/05/10	SRT
287	B	Stone lining of pit [323] cut into the upper fills of pit [312] to the north of stone-lined pit [324]. Built of granite rubble with a water-worn pebble used at the western end. Aligned E-W, 0.7m by 0.34m and 0.4m deep. Filled by (286), (298), and (300).	69 73 74 75	72	25/05/10	SRT
288	D	Deposit of midden material lying in pit [309] in the NE corner of the site. Very dark greyish brown firm sandy clay with abundant limpet shell and animal bone. Cut by modern test pit [304]. Finds: topshells, shards of Modern glass, and water-worn pebbles (natural).	66	71	26/05/10	CJ
289	C	Duplicate for pit [309].	66	71	26/05/10	CJ
290	B	A section of coarse granite drystone rubble wall up to 2 courses (0.36m) high 2m long and 0.9m wide that extends E from wall 275. It may form a passage to the E of 275 and had been blocked off with granite rubble at its SW end. Postdates 275. Forms part of structure 6	41 69	77	26/05/10	SRT
291	D	Deposit confined to the interior of wall 275 beneath cobbles 297. Mid brown compact silty clay up to 0.12m thick. Finds: Bronze Age pottery and an animal bone.	69	82	26/05/10	SRT
292	D	Upper fill of pit [316]. Dark blackish grey plastic silty clay. Finds: Bronze Age pottery, animal bones, hammer stones, whetstone, limpet shells, flints, and water-worn pebbles and cobbles (natural).	69	72 79 80	26/05/10	SRT
293	D	A lens of redeposited natural within pit fill (292). Light yellowish brown compact clay. Not excavated.	69		26/05/10	SRT

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
294	B	Footings of a granite wall set in a foundation trench, [314]. Forms a dog leg 2.2m long and 1.7m wide, the trench itself being 0.3m wide, perhaps with (295) forming an entrance into the settlement represented by Structures 6, but probably part of an earlier phase of occupation – structure 5 Not excavated. Finds: saddle quern SF13.	69 70		26/05/10	SRT
295	D	Fill of uneven possible cut, not numbered, that appears to be the truncated remains of a foundation trench for a wall possibly associated with 294 – structure 5. Light reddish brown compact silty clay with frequent medium to small rubble.	69 70		26/05/10	SRT
296	D	Redeposited deposit of clay 0.3m thick in the NW corner of the site, probably derived from the cutting of pit [316]. Mixed with soil deposit (310). Light brownish yellow soft clay. Not excavated.	69	71 79	27/05/10	SRT
297	B	Granite kerb 1.2m by 0.1m and 0.1m deep composed of granite rubble and water-worn pebbles found on the inside of wall 275. Possibly edges one of the pits beneath 275, [312] or [316].	69	82	27/05/10	SRT
298	D	Secondary fill of stone-lined pit [323]. Dark greyish brown soft clay 0.12m thick with some limpet shell (probably derived from midden (302) which [323] cuts). Finds: animal bones and shells.	73	72	27/05/10	SRT
299	D	A thin lens of material 0.03m thick within (298) forming an arc at the eastern end of stone-lining 287. Dark greyish black soft clay.	73		27/05/10	SRT
300	D	Primary fill of stone-lined pit [323]. Mid grey soft silty clay 0.1m thick. Finds: hammer stone or whetstone and a cobble (natural).	74	72	27/05/10	SRT
301	D	Dark circular lens 0.02m thick at the base of pit [323] within primary fill (300). Dark blackish grey soft silty clay.	74		27/05/10	SRT
302	D	Deposit of midden material 0.1m thick within pit [316] or recut [312]. Dark brownish grey friable silty clay and abundant (90% of deposit) limpet shells and frequent animal bone. Lies beneath stone-lined pit [323]. Bronze Age pottery, hammer stones, animal bones, marine shells, and cobbles (natural).	74 75	72 79	27/05/10	SRT
303	D	Backfill of modern test pit [304]. No description. Bulk of material comprises midden deposits (204) and (205) mixed with topsoil and natural.		71 72	28/05/10	CJ
304	C	Modern test pit in NE corner of site. Square-cut with vertical sides 0.9m across and 1.36m deep.		71 72	28/05/10	CJ

Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
305	D	Deposit of limpet shells 0.09m thick filling stone-lined pit [324]. Mid greyish brown soft clay with abundant (99% of deposit) loose limpet shells.	73	80	28/05/10	SRT
306	B	Stone lining of pit [324] comprising water-worn pebbles arranged in a circle 0.7m in diameter. The cobbles were sealed externally by a deposit of yellow clay, (308). Situated to the south of stone-lined pit [323].	73	80	28/05/10	SRT
307	D	Duplicate of (292).	73		28/05/10	CJ
308	D	Clay sealing the external face of stone lining 306. Light reddish yellow friable clay. Probably natural <i>ram</i> .	73	80	28/05/10	CJ
309	C	Cut of pit 3.8m wide and 0.3m deep containing midden (288).	58 66	71	28/05/10	CJ
310	D	Band of dark soil mixed with redeposited natural clay (296) in NW corner of site between walls 273 and 275. Dark brown friable silty clay 0.15m thick.		71 79	28/05/10	SRT
311	C	Possible cut 0.2m deep and 1.15m across containing midden material (302) as it appeared in Section 79 - all other sections showed (302) as a mound of material within pit [316] or recut [312]. Disturbance by later deposits and cuts may be responsible for the confusion.		79	28/05/10	SRT
312	C	Recut of pit [316] 1.06m by 0.5m and 0.45m deep. Sub-oval in plan with convex sides and a flat base. Filled by (284) and (313).	74 75	72 82	28/05/10	SRT
313	D	Primary fill of [312]. Dark brownish grey soft silty clay 0.25m thick. Finds: Bronze Age pottery.	74	72 82	28/05/10	SRT
314	C	Foundation cut for wall 294. Forms a dog-leg to S of Structures 5 and 6. May form an entrance into the complex with (295). Cuts (315).	70		28/05/10	CJ
315	D	Colluvial layer to the south of Structures 5 and 6. Mottled grey, light grey, and light brown firm sandy clay. Overlies natural <i>ram</i> . Cut by [314].	70		28/05/10	CJ
316	C	Cut of pit 2.75m in diameter and 0.18m deep. Earliest pit on site underlying (partially) wall 275. Bulk of fill is (292) although deposits (302) and (318) may also lie within it.	74	72 79 80	28/05/10	SRT
317	D	Fill of cut [314], virtually indistinguishable from colluvium (315).	70		28/05/10	CJ
318	D	Deposit beneath midden (302) forming the primary fill of pit [312] or [315]. Mid greyish brown soft silty clay with frequent limpet shells and sub angular granite.		72 80	29/05/10	SRT
319	D	Upper fill of [316]. Dark greyish brown plastic sandy clay up to 0.2m thick. Cut by [324]. Possibly the same as (292).		80	29/05/10	SRT



Context Number	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Plan Number	Section Number	Date	Recorder Initials
320	D	Deposit encountered only in the far W side of the site. Light greyish brown friable sandy clay up to 0.08m thick. Cut by pit [316].		72	29/05/10	SRT
321	D	Natural clay ( <i>ram</i> ) over northern part of site. Much stonier than deposit (226) downslope. Light yellowish grey compact clay with frequent granite rubble. Tinged green beneath limpet midden (302).	69 83	68 80 81	29/05/10	SRT
322	D	Layer at the base of the deposits below wall 275 and the interior of Structure 5. Mid greenish brown friable silty clay up to 0.1m thick. See (321) for similar green-tinged deposit.		82	29/05/10	CJ
323	C	Cut for rectangular stone-lined pit lined by 287. Cut is steep-sided, 0.7m by 0.35m, and 0.4m deep. Contains stone-lining 287, primary fill (300), secondary fill (298), lens (299), and upper fill (286). Cuts the upper fills of pit [312], (284) and (313).	69	72	27/09/10	SRT
324	C	Cut for circular stone-lined feature lined by 306. Cut is concave, 0.7m in diameter, and 0.16m deep. Contains stone-lining 306 sealed by clay lining (308) and limpet shell-rich fill (305). Cuts	69	80	27/09/10	SRT
325	D	Dark brownish grey compact silty clay with stones 0.3m thick. Overlies wall 2954 and mostly excavated by machine	69		25/11/10	CJ

## 10.2 Catalogue of finds

Context No: U/s

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Metalwork				
Copper Alloy	5g	1		
Stonework				
Flint	9g	1		
Granite	?	2	Δ10, Δ11	

1 cu alloy coin dated 1661?

1 Miscellaneous retouched flint flake. Prehistoric.

1 large granite saddle / bowl quern. Δ10. Prehistoric. Left on St Agnes.

1 large saddle quern fragment. Δ11. Prehistoric. Left on St Agnes.

### Context No: (201)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	186g	8		
Romano-British	5g	3		
Medieval	29g	3		

Post-Medieval	247g	13		
Modern	6g	3		
Metalwork				
Iron	62g	1		
Industrial debris	3g	1		
Stonework				
Flint	48g	4		
Pebble	2058g	4		
Bone				
Animal	12g	10		
Clay				
Other: Clay pipe	12g	7		
Glass				
Modern	16g	4		

8 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). 1 sherd has a lug. Bronze Age.

1 rim sherd Prehistoric pottery (Very fine Granitic fabric). Similar to South Devon ware? Iron Age/Romano-British?

1 rimsherd prehistoric pottery (Gabbroic fabric). Fine, thin walled vessel. Iron Age/Romano-British?

1 rimsherd prehistoric pottery (Gabbroic fabric). Iron Age/Romano-British?

3 bodysherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

13 sherds Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

3 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware (china). 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

3 fragments clay pipe bowl. 17<sup>th</sup> century.

4 fragments clay pipe stem. Ø = 2mm. 18<sup>th</sup> century.

1 hand forged iron nail, with square head, and square sectioned shank. Post-Medieval?

1 clinker fragment.

10 animal bones (some fish).

4 shards Modern glass. 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 granite cobble hammer stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble hammer stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

1 greenstone? Cobble utilised as a pestle? Prehistoric.

1 flint cobble.

3 cobbles (natural) weighing 594g – discarded.

2 flint cores. Prehistoric.

1 retouched flint flake. Prehistoric.

1 waste flint flake. Prehistoric.

### Context No: (202)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	117g	7		

Medieval	21g	1		
Metalwork				
Industrial debris	2g	2		
Stonework				
Pebble	751g	2		
Clay				
Tile: Roof	74g	1		

7 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

1 basal angle sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware. Sagging base (from jug) decorated with thumb impressions. 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 roofing tile fragment. Granitic fabric. 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries?

2 fragments of clinker.

1 water rounded pebble (natural) weighing 57g – discarded.

1 granite cobble hammer stone. Prehistoric.

1 quartzite flake from a cobble. Utilised? Prehistoric.

### Context No: (203)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	463g	20		
Early Medieval	4g	1		
Medieval	18g	2		
Stonework				
Flint	38g	10		
Pebble	2557g	5		
Bone				
Animal	115g	47		
Clay				
Other: Clay pipe	2g	1		

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Simple upright round topped rim from a large vessel or storage jar. Early Bronze Age?

2 rimsherds (separate vessels) Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

1 sherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). With traces of incised line decoration. Bronze Age?

16 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

1 sherd. Gabbroic fabric? Hard fired. Early-medieval?

2 co-joining sherds Medieval Coarseware. Shoulder of jug with handle scar. Import? Not a Cornish fabric. 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 fragment clay pipe stem. Ø = 2mm. 18<sup>th</sup> century.

47 animal bones (including fish).

1 granite cobble rubbing stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble rubbing stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble rubbing stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

- 1 granite cobble rubbing stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.
- 1 quartzite cobble hammer stone? Prehistoric.
- 3 cobbles (natural) weighing 1860g – discarded.
- 1 flint pebble.
- 8 flint flakes (1 burnt). Prehistoric.
- 1 flint core. Prehistoric.

**Context No: (204)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Romano-British	284g	13		
Post-Medieval	4g	1		
Metalwork				
Iron	36g	1	Δ8	
Stonework				
Flint	21g	3		
Pebble	915g	4		
Bone				
Animal	131g	54		
Glass				
Modern	5g	2		

- 13 undiagnostic sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Iron Age/Romano-British?
- 1 sherd Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 54 animal bones including fish bones.
- 1 vein quartz cobble possibly utilised as a rubbing stone. Prehistoric.
- 1 broken granite cobble muller. Prehistoric.
- 2 water rounded pebbles.
- 9 cobbles (natural) weighing 3232g – discarded.
- 1 iron object. Hand forged. Nail? Δ8.
- 2 shards Modern glass. 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.
- 1 flint core. Prehistoric.
- 1 flint scraper. Prehistoric.
- 1 flint flake. Prehistoric.

**Context No: (205)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	54g	2		
Metalwork				
Industrial debris	5g	3		

Bone				
Animal	610g	365		
Mollusca				
Marine	7g	7		
Crustacea				
Crab	1g	1		

2 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age. (Internal residue)

3 clinker fragments.

365 animal bones including some fish bones.

1 crab claw fragment.

6 limpet shell fragments.

1 Top shell.

3 cobbles (natural) weighing 653g – discarded.

### Context No: (206)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	66g	3		
Stonework				
Flint	30g	1		
Pebble	202g	1		

2 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Gabbroic admixture?). 1 sherd has incised line decoration of a consisting of a band of diagonal lines within a border of horizontal lines. Bronze Age.

1 sherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

1 elongated granite pebble, utilised as a pestle? Prehistoric.

1 flint core. Prehistoric.

### Context No: (207)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	19g	1		

1 sherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

### Context No: (208)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	140g	6		
Stonework				
Pebble	66g	1		

6 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). 2 sherds co-join forming a lug. Bronze Age. (internal residue)

1 broken quartzite pebble utilised as whetstone with wear facets and possible iron staining. Prehistoric.

1 granite fragment (natural) weighing 20g – discarded.

**Context No: (210)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Flint	1g	1		

1 flint waste flake. Prehistoric.

**Context No: (211)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	167g	16		
Stonework				
Flint	6g	2		
Bone				
Animal	2g	3		

16 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

3 animal bones.

2 flint waste flakes. Prehistoric.

**Context No: (212)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Iron Age	Not weighed	10	Δ5	

1 complete pot. Prehistoric pottery (Gabbroic? fabric). Thin walled, slightly beaded, everted rim on a flat base. Not weighed as lifted in a soil block. Highly burnished exterior well finished. Iron Age? Δ5.

**Context No: (213)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Post-Medieval	10g	1		

1 sherd Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

**Context No: (214)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	154g	9		
Stonework				
Flint	6g	1		
Bone				

Animal	1g	2		
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9 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

2 fragments of burnt bone.

1 flint scraper. Prehistoric.

2 pebbles (natural) weighing 162g – discarded.

### Context No: (215)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	323g	10		
Stonework				
Flint	7g	3		
Bone				
Animal	6g	7		
Mollusca				
Marine	1g	1		

8 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

2 large sherds Prehistoric pottery (Gabbroic fabric). Bronze Age?

7 animal bones.

1 limpet shell fragment.

1 flint core. Prehistoric.

2 waste flint flakes. Prehistoric.

3 cobbles (natural) weighing 404g – discarded.

2 granite fragments (natural) weighing 94g – discarded.

### Context No: (216)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Metalwork				
Iron	54g	1		

1 iron object. Nail?

### Context No: (219)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Post-Medieval	9g	1		
Stonework				
Other	4g	2		

1 sherd Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

2 fragments of burnt stone.

### Context No: (224)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Metalwork				
Copper Alloy	Not weighed	1	Δ6.	

1 copper alloy fibula brooch. Not weighed as lifted in soil. Complete brooch, though pin has been broken (though present). Form with exposed springs seems earlier, more likely Iron Age rather than Romano-British. Δ6.

### Context No: (233)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	80g	9		
Early Medieval	9g	1		

9 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

1 body sherd, imported E-ware? Early medieval, 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### Context No: (238)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	36g	1		

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

### Context No: (244)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	86g	6		
Stonework				
Pebble	243g	1		
Bone				
Animal	25g	54		

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

5 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). 1 sherd forms part of a possible lug while another has traces of incised line decoration. Bronze Age.

1 quartzite elongated cobble pestle / whetstone. Prehistoric.

54 animal bones.

### Context No: (245)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	525g	31		
Stonework				



Flint	18g	3		
Pebble	11080g	10	Δ7	
Bone				
Animal	257g	39		

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Rounded slightly everted rim. Thin walled vessel. Bronze Age/Early Iron Age?

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Slightly everted rim. Bronze Age/Early Iron Age?

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Simple upright rounded rim. Thick walled vessel. Bronze Age?

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Thin walled vessel. Bronze Age?

27 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

1 small granite pebble pestle. Prehistoric.

1 broken elongated cobble rubbing stone with percussion marks and possible use as a pestle / whetstone. Prehistoric.

1 broken granite cobble. Utilised? Prehistoric.

1 fragment of a granite cobble hammer stone. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble hammer stone. Prehistoric.

1 tourmalinised granite cobble hammer stone. Prehistoric.

1 vein quartz cobble hammer stone. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble fragment, part of a muller and hammer stone. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble muller. Prehistoric.

1 large granite boulder, oval shaped, utilised as a saddle quern. One concave working surface with distinctive polish and striations. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble (natural). Δ7.

20 cobbles and water rounded pebbles (natural) weighing 7556g – discarded.

39 animal bones.

1 flint core. Prehistoric.

1 flint flake. Prehistoric.

1 flint pebble. Prehistoric.

### Context No: (246)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	78g	3		
Stonework				
Flint	5g	2		
Pebble	218g	1		
Bone				
Animal	21g	23		
Clay				

Daub	139g	6		
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3 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

6 fragments of burnt clay (Granitic fabric). Loom weight? Bronze Age?

1 elongated granite cobble fragment utilised as a pestle / hammer stone. Prehistoric.

7 cobbles (natural) weighing 2021g – discarded.

23 animal bones, some with cut marks on surface.

1 Miscellaneous retouched flint flake. Prehistoric.

1 flint flake. Prehistoric.

### Context No: (247)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	111g	4		
Stonework				
Flint	29g	2		
Granite	Not weighed	1	Δ9	
Bone				
Animal	6g	3		

4 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Decorated with fine incised line decoration forming a chevron pattern enclosed within a horizontal border. Bronze Age? (internal residue)

3 animal bones.

1 flint pebble, struck. Prehistoric.

1 flint flake. Prehistoric.

1 granite fragment utilised as a pivot stone? Δ9. Left on St Agnes.

1 granite cobble (natural) weighing 1374g – discarded.

### Context No: (248)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	119g	8		
Stonework				
Pebble	567g	2		

8 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

1 elongated granite cobble rubbing stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

1 elongated granite cobble. Utilised? Prehistoric.

8 cobbles (natural) weighing 7562g – discarded.

### Context No: (249)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	204g	9		
Stonework				

Pebble	3500g	1		
Bone				
Animal	12g	1		

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Upright, square topped. Bronze Age?

5 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

3 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Gabbroic admixture?). Bronze Age?

1 large granite boulder, oval shaped, utilised as a saddle quern. One concave working surface with distinctive polish and striations. Prehistoric.

2 cobbles (natural) weighing 1778g – discarded.

1 animal tooth.

### Context No: (250)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	40g	4		
Early Medieval	43g	1		
Stonework				
Flint	10g	2		
Bone				
Animal	2g	1		

4 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). Bronze Age?

1 rimsherd. Gabbroic fabric. ‘Grass-marked’. Sandy Lane Style 1 (SL1) or Sandy Lane Style 2 (SL2) pottery. Early-medieval, 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries AD.

1 animal bone.

1 flint core. Prehistoric.

### Context No: (251)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	42g	6		

6 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

### Context No: (254)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	157g	12		
Metalwork				
Iron	19g	1		
Stonework				
Flint	1g	1		
Bone				
Animal	1g	2		

12 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric). 1 sherd decorated with incised lines forming a flattened chevron pattern. Bronze Age.

2 animal bones (fish bones).

1 iron object. Nail?

1 flint waste flake. Prehistoric.

9 cobbles and water rounded pebbles (natural) weighing 560g – discarded.

### Context No: (257)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	41g	4		
Stonework				
Flint	2g	2		
Pebble	893g	6		

4 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

1 elongated granite cobble hammer stone / pestle? Prehistoric.

5 water rounded pebbles.

2 flint flakes. Prehistoric.

### Context No: (261)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Modern	4g	1		
Bone				
Animal	1g	5		

1 sherd Modern White Glazed Stoneware (china). 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

5 animal bones (including fish bone).

### Context No: (263)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	1g	1		
Stonework				
Flint	1g	1		
Bone				
Animal	5g	6		

1 sherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

6 animal bones.

1 flint flake. Prehistoric.

### Context No: (266)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Flint	2g	1		

1 flint flake. Prehistoric.

### Context No: (267)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Pebble	567g	1		

1 sub spherical granite cobble hammer stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

2 water rounded pebbles (natural) weighing 105g – discarded.

### Context No: (268)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Bone				
Animal	2g	3		

3 animal bones (including fish bone).

### Context No: (272)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Granite	11000g	2		
Pebble	2966g	2		

1 large granite boulder fragment. Part of an oval shaped saddle quern. One concave working surface with distinctive polish and striations. Prehistoric.

1 large granite boulder (broken), oval shaped, utilised as a saddle quern. One concave working surface with distinctive polish and striations. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble muller with one convex working surface. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble utilised as a hammer stone? Prehistoric.

1 granite fragment (natural) weighing 1536g – discarded.

### Context No: (279)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	32g	6		
Stonework				
Flint	30g	1		

Pebble	1299	2		
Bone				
Animal	27g	14	Δ12	

6 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

1 elongated granite cobble rubbing stone? Prehistoric.

1 elongated granite pebble, utilised? Prehistoric.

1 cobble (natural) weighing 1636g – discarded.

14 animal bones.

### Context No: (280)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Post-Medieval	7g	2		
Modern	1g	1		
Stonework				
Flint	13g	2		

2 sherds Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 sherd Modern White Glazed Stoneware (china). 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 flint scraper. Prehistoric.

1 flint flake. Prehistoric

### Context No: (282)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	139g	5		
Stonework				
Pebble	890g	1		
Bone				
Animal	Not weighed	1	Δ12	

5 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

1 granite cobble hammer stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

1 bone/cartilage disc. From a whale or cetacean? Δ12.

### Context No: (284)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	1359g	65		
Stonework				
Flint	18g	2		
Granite	4000g	1		
Pebble	1347g	5		
Bone				
Animal	20g	10		

3 rimsherds (separate vessels) Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

62 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

1 large fragment of a granite boulder, oval shaped, utilised as a saddle quern. One concave working surface with distinctive polish and striations. Prehistoric.

1 elongated granite cobble hammer stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

4 water rounded pebbles (natural).

1 cobble (natural) weighing 1532g – discarded.

1 flint scraper, struck. Prehistoric.

1 flint flake. Prehistoric.

10 animal bones.

### Context No: (285)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	115g	6		
Stonework				
Pebble	83g	1		
Bone				
Animal	9g	5		
Clay				
Daub	139g	8		

6 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

8 fragments of burnt clay.

5 animal bones.

1 elongated quartzite pebble. Utilised? Whetstone? Prehistoric.

1 cobble (natural) weighing 631g – discarded.

### Context No: (286)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	140g	25		
Stonework				
Pebble	188g	1		
Bone				
Animal	69g	32		

25 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

1 elongated quartzite cobble, highly polished. Slick stone? Prehistoric.

1 cobble fragment (natural) weighing 217g – discarded.

32 animal bones (1 jaw bone) including fish bones.

### Context No: (288)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
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Stonework				
Pebble	42g	3		
Glass				
Modern	6g	2		
Mollusca				
Marine	5g	2		

2 Top shells.

3 water rounded pebbles.

2 shards Modern glass. 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### Context No: (291)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	9g	2		
Bone				
Animal	1g	1		

2 sherds very abraded Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

1 animal bone.

### Context No: (292)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	928g	41		
Stonework				
Flint	29g	2		
Pebble	2293g	6		
Bone				
Animal	303g	69		
Mollusca				
Marine	1g	1		

1 rim sherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Thin walled vessel with incised line decoration. Bronze Age.

1 sherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Part of a lug. Bronze Age.

39 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age? (3 x internal residue)

69 animal bones (some cut and butchered) including fish bones.

2 water rounded pebbles (natural).

1 broken granite cobble hammer stone? Prehistoric.

1 elongated granite cobble whetstone / rubbing stone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble hammer stone. Prehistoric.

1 granite cobble hammer stone. Prehistoric.

5 cobble fragments (natural) weighing 875g – discarded.

1 limpet shell fragment.

1 flint scraper, struck. Prehistoric.



1 flint flake. Prehistoric.

**Context No: (294)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Granite	Not weighed	1	Δ13	

1 granite saddle quern. Prehistoric. Left on St Agnes. Δ13.

**Context No: (298)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Bone				
Animal	10g	7		
Mollusca				
Marine	34g	26		

7 animal bones (1 jaw bone).

26 shell fragments.

**Context No: (300)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Pebble	650g	1		

1 elongated quartzite cobble hammer stone / whetstone with pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

1 quartzite cobble (natural) fragment weighing 27g – discarded.

**Context No: (302)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	802g	19		
Stonework				
Pebble	1409g	2		
Bone				
Animal	138g	26		
Mollusca				
Marine	49g	7		

1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Simple rim. Bronze Age.

18 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

1 elongated tourmalinised granite cobble hammer stone / whetstone. Prehistoric.

1 pebble hammerstone with roughened finger grips. Prehistoric.

4 cobble fragments (natural) weighing 946g – discarded.

26 animal bones.

7 marine shell fragments.

**Context No: (313)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	3g	1		

1 sherd Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

**Context No: (318)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	3g	2		
Bone				
Animal	10g	11		
Mollusca				
Marine	39g	11		

2 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?

11 animal bones.

11 marine shell fragments.

**Context No: (319)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	30g	7		

7 sherds Prehistoric pottery (Granitic fabric?). Bronze Age?


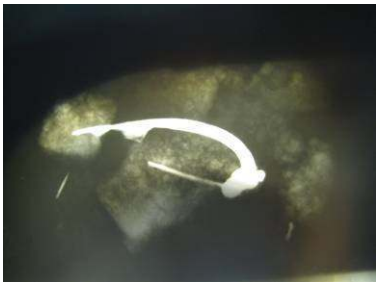
**Context No: (322)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Bone				
Animal	2g	3		

3 animal bones.

### 10.3 Treatment report for copper alloy brooch

By Laura Ratcliffe, LR Conservation and Heritage Service

<b>Job/lab No:</b> LR16	<b>Object Name:</b> Brooch	<b>Material:</b> Copper alloy			<b>Age:</b> Iron Age? Roman?
<b>client: Charlie Johns, Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.</b>					
<b>Photos:</b>	<b>X-rays: yes</b>	<b>Samples: no</b>			<b>Previous Treatment:</b> no
<b>Date Started:</b> 17.06.2010		<b>Date Completed:</b> 30.06.2010		<b>Conserved By:</b> Laura Ratcliffe	
<b>Description:</b>	<b>Size:</b>	<b>Length</b> 100mm	<b>Width</b> 90mm	<b>Thickness</b> 75mm	<b>No. pieces</b> 1
<p>Block of soil lifted on site (St Agnes, Isles of Scilly, site code SQ10) small find number Δ6 context (224). On arrival in the lab the soil was still damp and the whole block was in a sealed polythene box.</p> <p>Soil is mid brown and crumbly in texture with streaks of paler dun colour. Small inclusions of quartz, presumably from decayed granitic material, similar to the soil around the block lifted urn form the same site.</p> <p>Visible in the top of the soil is the point end and shoulder of a copper alloy brooch. The head of the brooch disappears into the soil at an angle. What is visible appears to be fully mineralised and fragile.</p>					
					
<p><b>Condition</b></p> <p>Active corrosion is underway evident in the bright green patches on the damaged edges of the exposed area, I would imagine the piece to be partially or fully mineralised and very fragile and prone to crumbling.</p>					
<p><b>Treatment</b></p> <p>The soil block was X-rayed and showed a complete brooch with the pin tip detached but still present.</p>					
					

Removing the soil from the brooch mechanically and consolidating as required using paraloid B72 in acetone 5% w/v. The brooch is fully mineralised and very crumbly. The pin in particular is not very strong, and broke away from the main brooch as the soil was removed. The mineralised metal remaining is pale green copper oxides and chlorides and is quite powdery. There are areas of patina surface preserved within the corrosion layers across most of the brooch but it is very fine and floats above a mass of powdery copper chlorides. Much consolidation is required so it is not lost during cleaning. The pin is particularly unstable, being the thinnest and most worked /stressed part of the brooch and therefore more prone to corrosion than other parts.



Whilst cleaning continued it became apparent that there was much organic staining in the soil directly around the spring end of the brooch and the pin, with textile fibres still visible in places. No discernable weave or threads were noted however, just a mass of brown staining and broken fibres. These are not animal fibres but plant based fibres, with a flat, tape-like profile consistent with flax like plants. There is an area of this material firmly adhered to the brooch around the head end and on the pin, this has been left in place.

Textile remains, mostly mineralised, cling to the hinge area of the pin in places



The spring area has broken – probably before or near to burial as the mineralization of the broken ends of the metal are consistent with the patina from the rest of the brooch and not a new break surface which would be clean. This has caused the pin to stick out at an angle rather than lie flush to the back of the brooch as is normal in a closed brooch. I would guess that it was either deposited broken or damaged as part of the burial process or soon after. The presence of textile fragments though around this area suggest it was in close contact with fabric at the time of deposition and as this staining covers the broken ends of the spring, it was deposited broken or broken on deposition, whilst the fabric was still present as fabric and not as decayed organic matter.

Decoration is apparent in the patina layer remaining on the tail and head area of the brooch. A pattern of stamped circles on the head and an incised curved zig-zag pattern on the tail. The T-bar has incised lines running front to back, two on each side.



Stamped rings around the head



Zig-zag decoration

Consolidation after cleaning was done should help keep the copper minerals stable but the pin area will always be very fragile. A padded support was made to keep it from moving around in the box. Some silica gel was also used to keep the interior of the box at a steady and low humidity. This should prevent further decay of the minerals that make up the brooch.



#### Recommendations

Handle with care and keep in a low humidity environment.

## 10.4 Conservation record for block lifted vessel

By Laura Ratcliffe, LR Conservation and Heritage Service

<b>Job/lab No:</b> SQ10 (212) Δ5	<b>Object Name:</b> Block lifted vessel	<b>Material:</b> ceramic	<b>Age:</b> Iron age / RB		
<b>client:</b> Charlie John – Historic Environment					
<b>Photos:</b>	<b>X-rays:</b>	<b>Samples:</b> Fill sampled as sample 53		<b>Previous Treatment:</b>	
<b>Date Started:</b> 17.06.2010		<b>Date Completed:</b> 17.06.2010		<b>Conserved By:</b> Laura Ratcliffe	
<b>Description:</b>	<b>Size:</b>	<b>Height</b> 130mm	<b>Length</b> 160mm	<b>depth</b> 140mm	<b>No. pieces</b> 1
<p>Soil block lifted and wrapped in crepe bandages containing a ceramic vessel. Only the rim section of about 2/3 of the vessel is visible standing slightly proud from the main bulk of the soil. The soil inside and visible at the top of the block is dark brown and homogenous – loamy with a fine quartz component making it slightly grainy to the touch. This appears to be fairly compacted into the vessel. The soil visible on the outside of the vessel, in particular the base of the block lift is more orange brown in appearance and heavily clay like in texture</p> <p>From an associated sherd not still attached to the main block the ceramic is fine, has relatively straight sides and a slightly outward flared lip. At this stage it is hard to determine the extent of the vessel present as the block is relatively shallow. If it were to contain a complete vessel, it would be a shallow one. The ceramic is a relatively dark grey with small inclusions. From what is visible at this stage the vessel rim is in several pieces, some slightly offset from the rest so I would imagine the vessel (or whatever is present) to be broken in places but with the sherds still roughly articulated into the original vessel form, encased in soil.</p>					
<p><b>Condition</b></p> <p>The ceramic is sturdy and does not crumble to the touch. The original surface is still present and shows a high level of burnishing. I imagine the vessel to be in pieces, some of the breaks being relatively old as a result of stresses imposed by the burial environment as opposed to recent i.e. created during excavation.</p>					
<p><b>Treatment</b></p> <p>The interior of the vessel was excavated by hand using a spatula. There were some small</p>					



inclusions of decayed granite – no larger than 6mm D in the fill but otherwise nothing was found inside the vessel other than soil. This was sampled for analysis (sample number 53) and recorded as context (2280).

The vessel was mostly complete with upright but outward flared sides, a very shallow depth – some 900 mm, and flat circular base – somewhat unusual. The flat base showing some deformation in the centre possibly due to the cracking but was not a sagged bottom vessel, it is definitely more flat than anything else. The join between sides and base is quite abrupt and almost a right angle. The vessel is in pieces – some 15 or 6 are noted at this time and there is a crack running all around the base. The only thing holding the pieces in place is the soil around it.



the work was carried out on site at the Cornwall Council Historic Environment premises.

#### **Recommendations**

I would recommend removal from the block, careful cleaning after air drying then reconstruction of the vessel for study. Most of the vessel is present, the ceramic is in good condition and it would not require a huge amount of storage space. It could be possible there is residue on the vessel but none was seen at this time – only a good burnishing of the inside and outside surfaces.

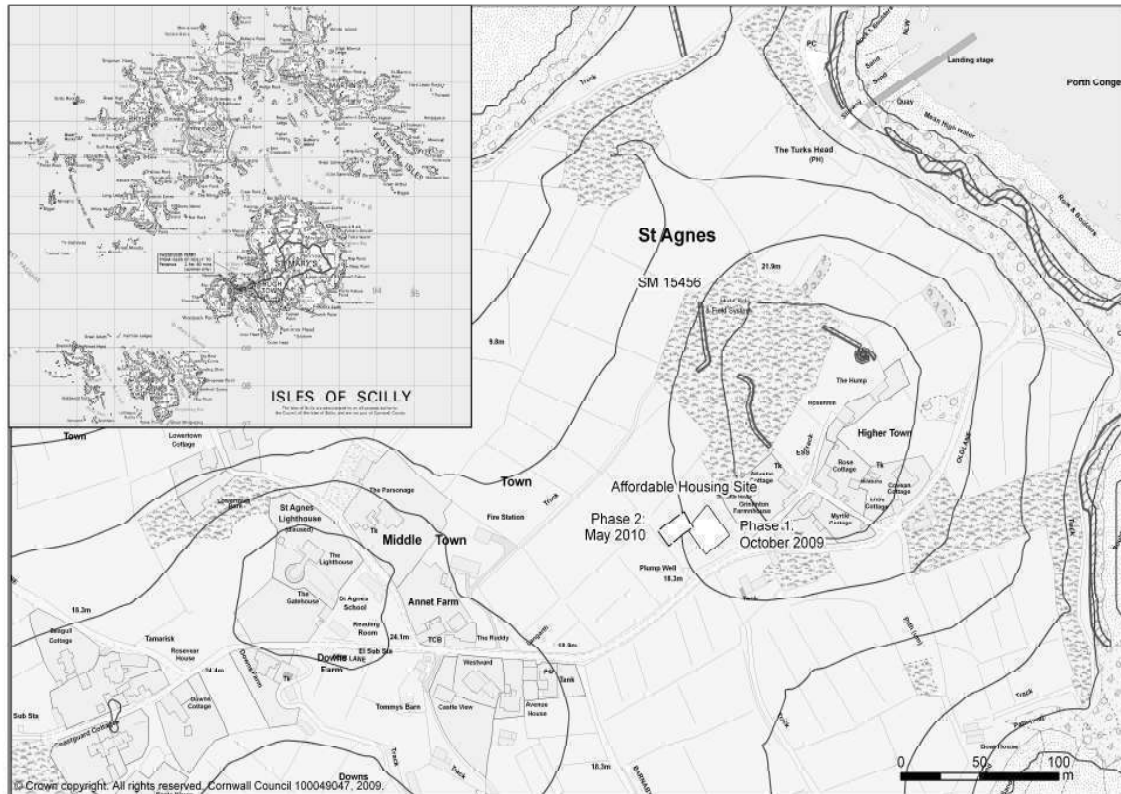


Fig 1 Location map showing the Phase 1 (2009) and Phase 2 (2010) areas



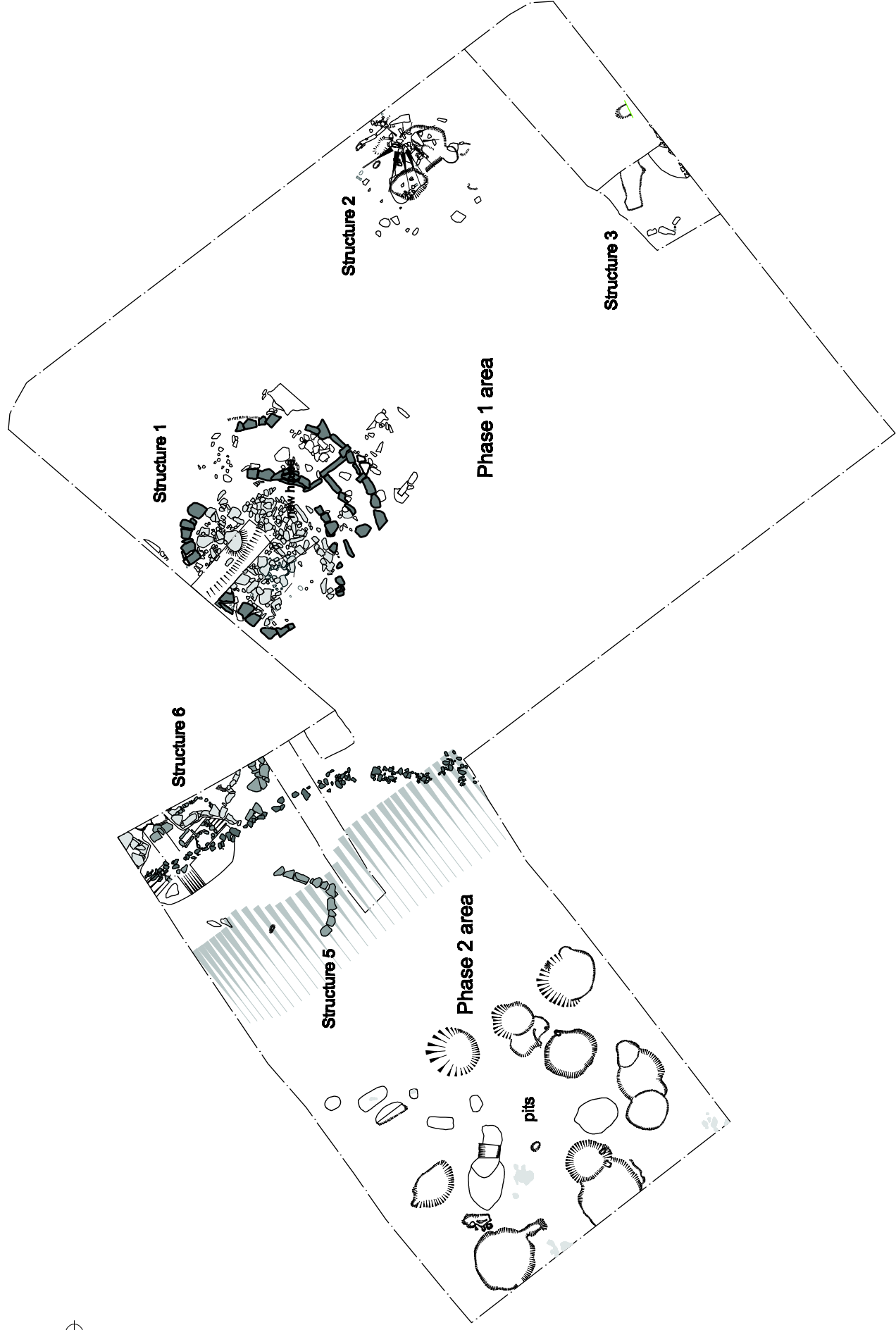


Figure 2: Plan showing the location of the archaeological features uncovered in May 2010 in relation to the October 2009 site

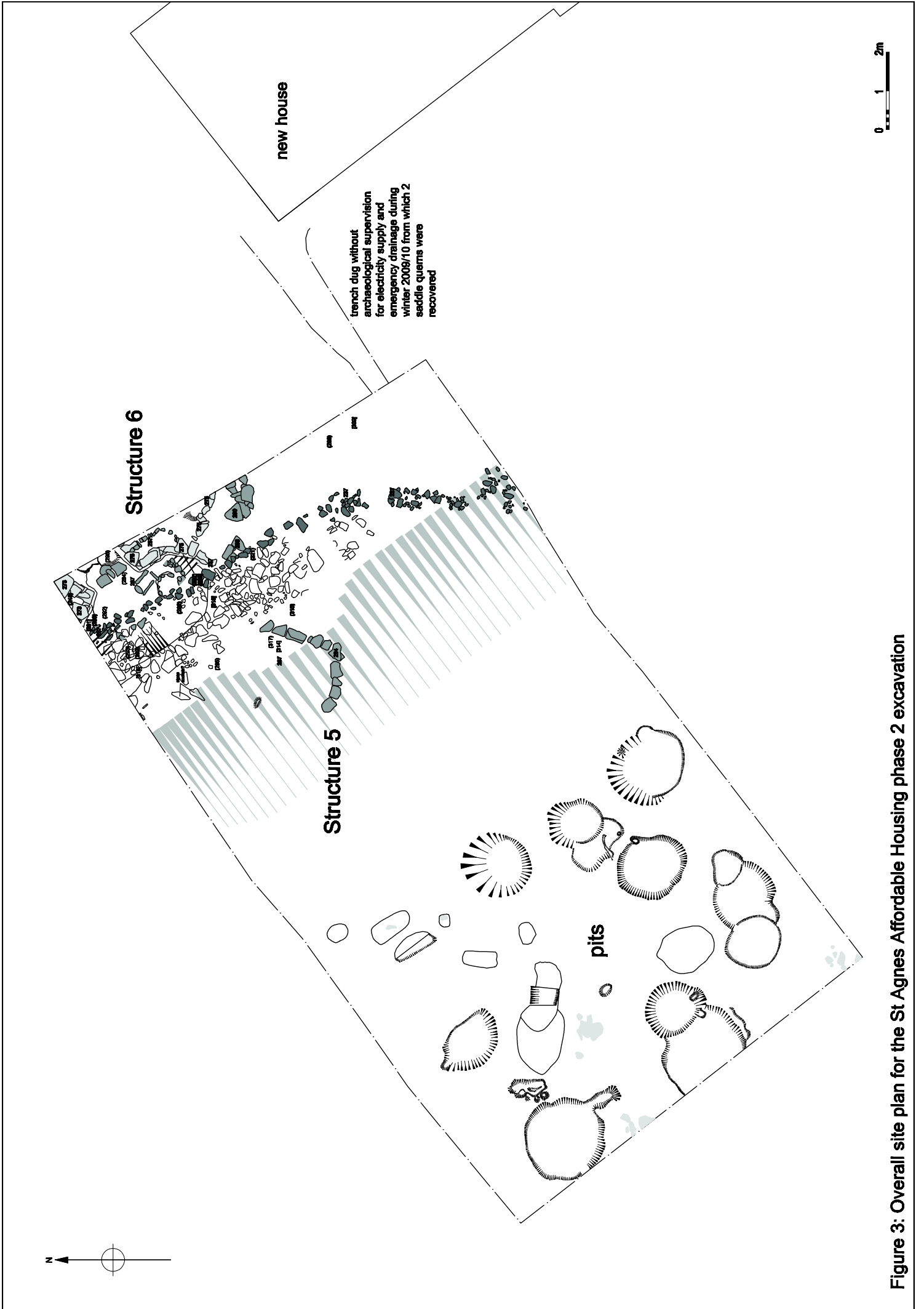


Figure 3: Overall site plan for the St Agnes Affordable Housing phase 2 excavation

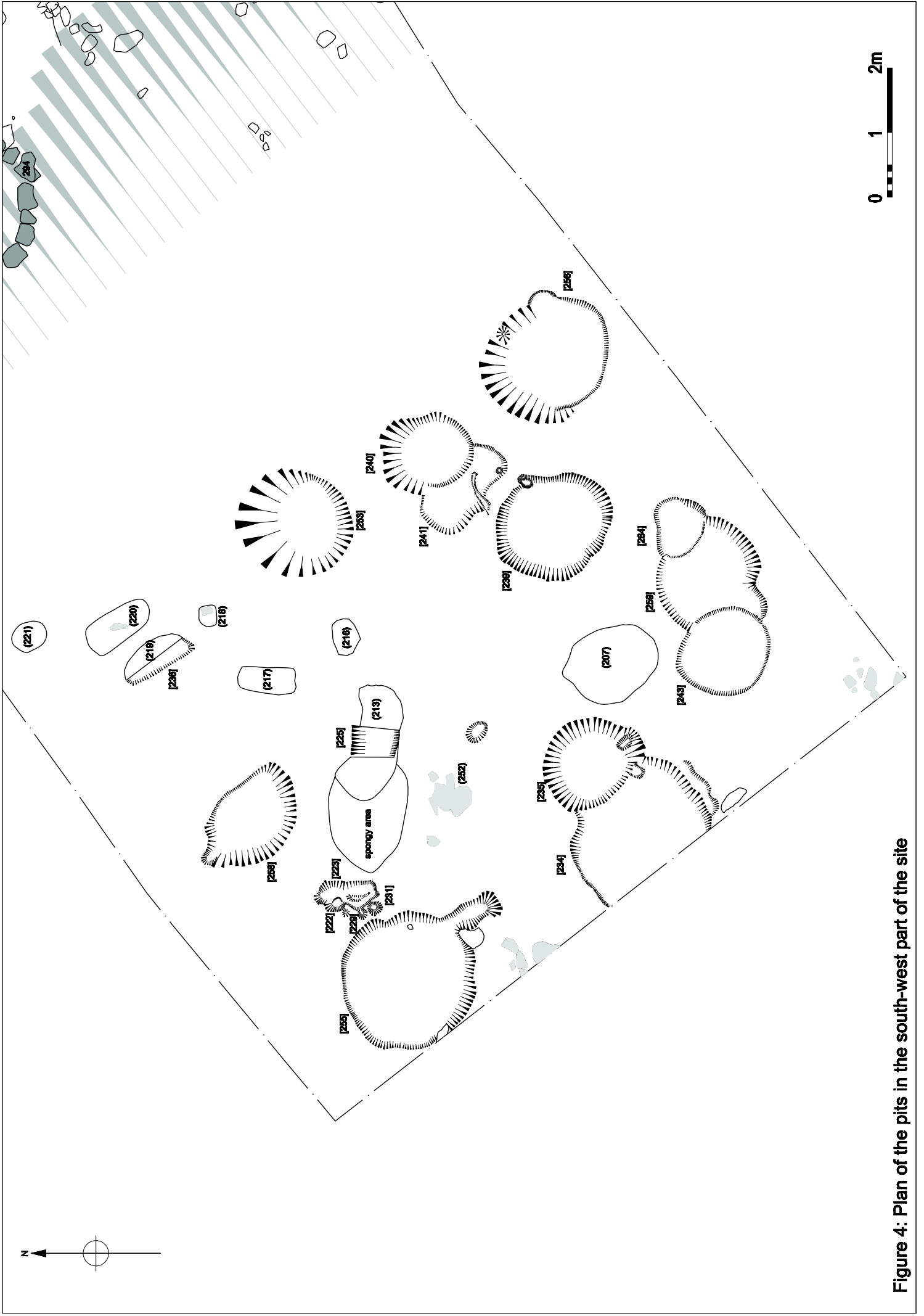


Figure 4: Plan of the pits in the south-west part of the site

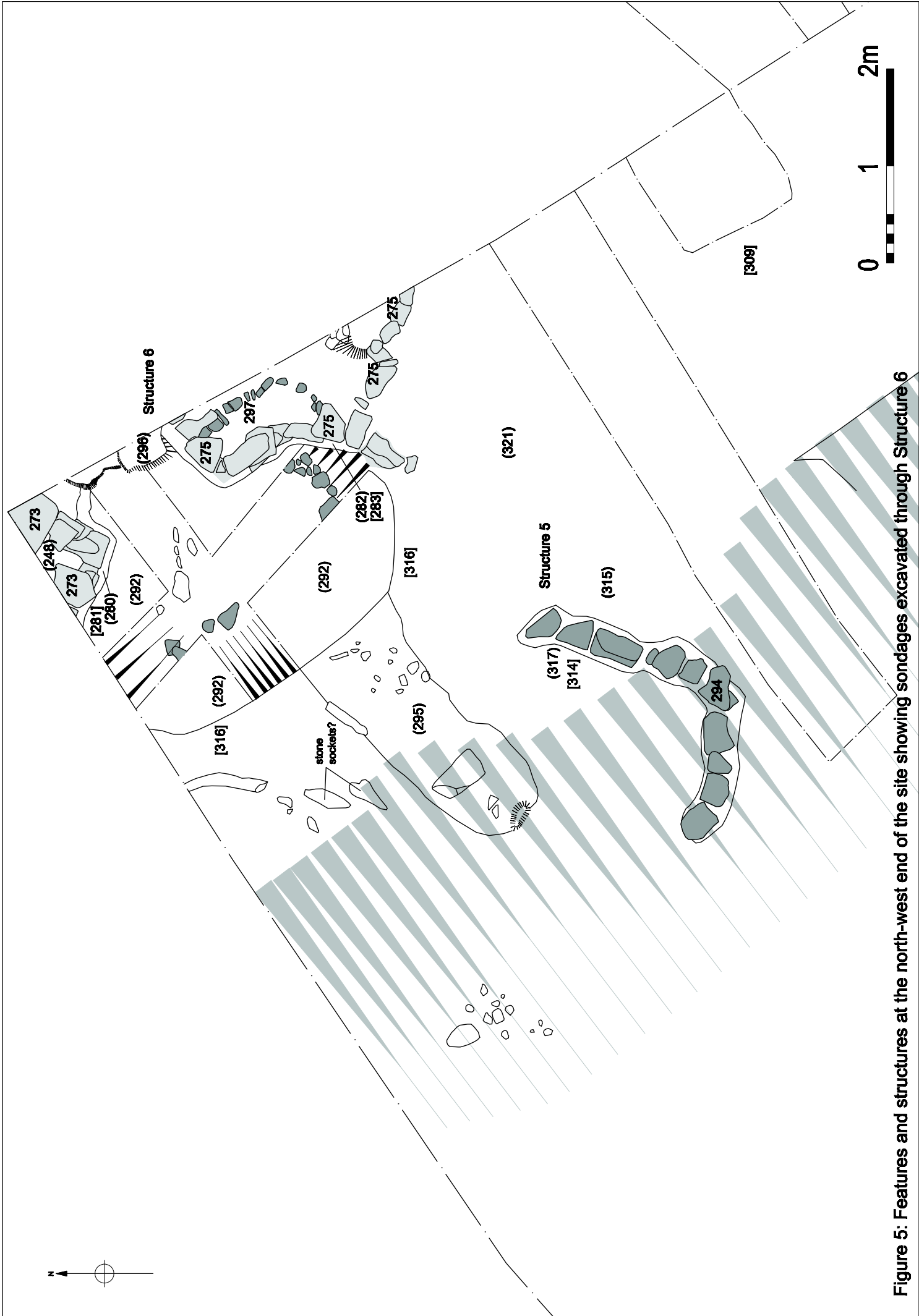


Figure 5: Features and structures at the north-west end of the site showing sondages excavated through Structure 6

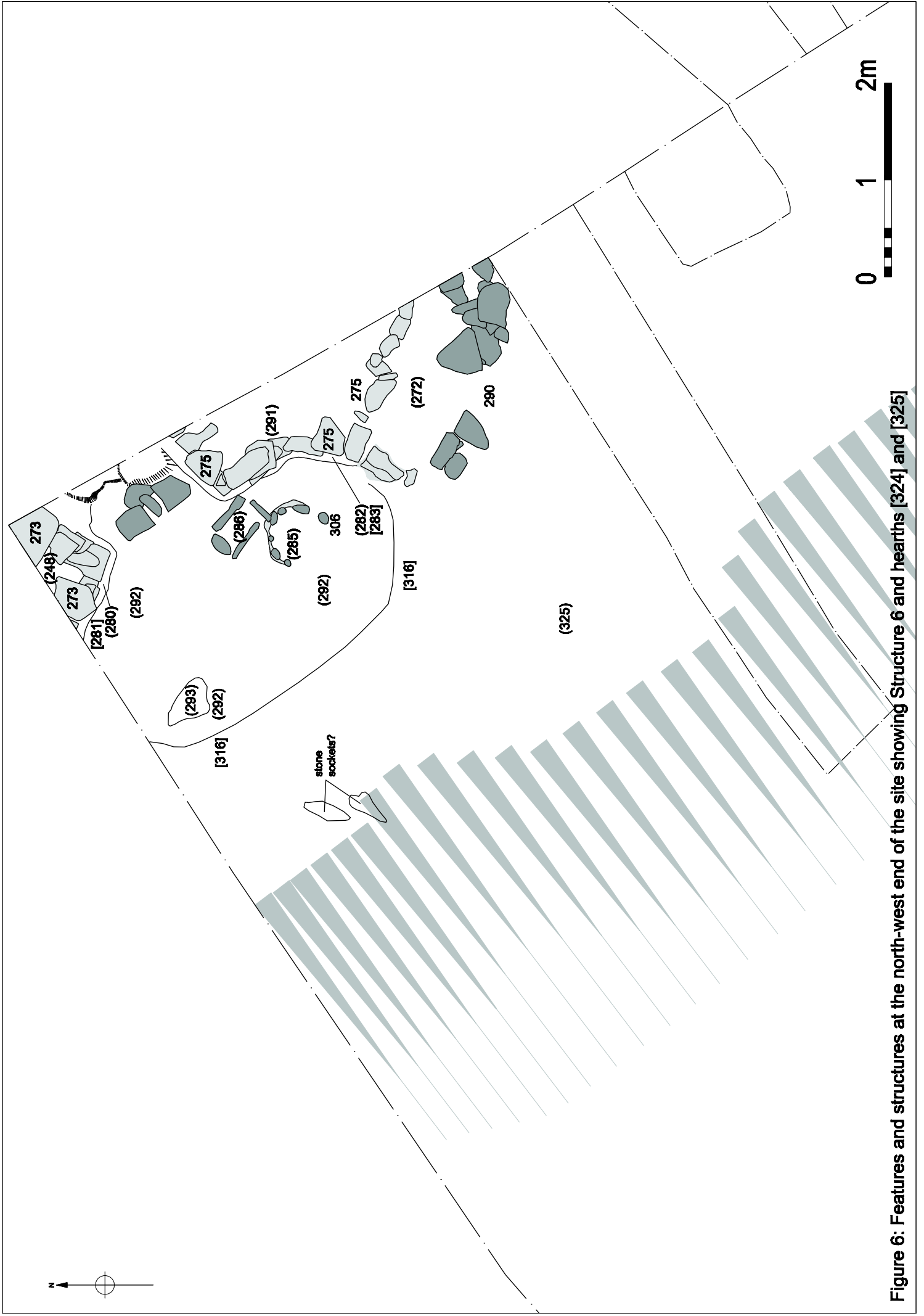


Figure 6: Features and structures at the north-west end of the site showing Structure 6 and hearths [324] and [325]

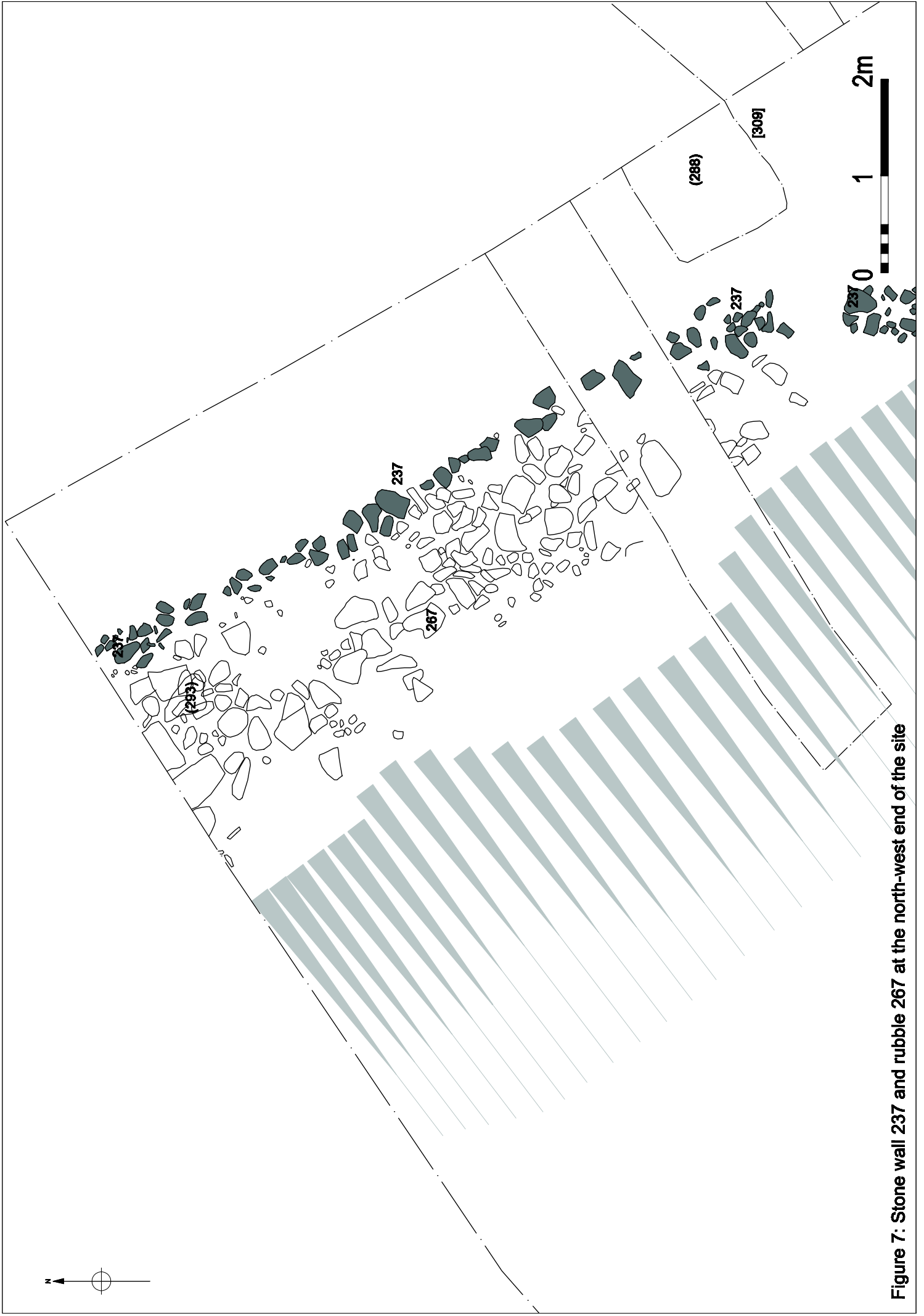


Figure 7: Stone wall 237 and rubble 267 at the north-west end of the site

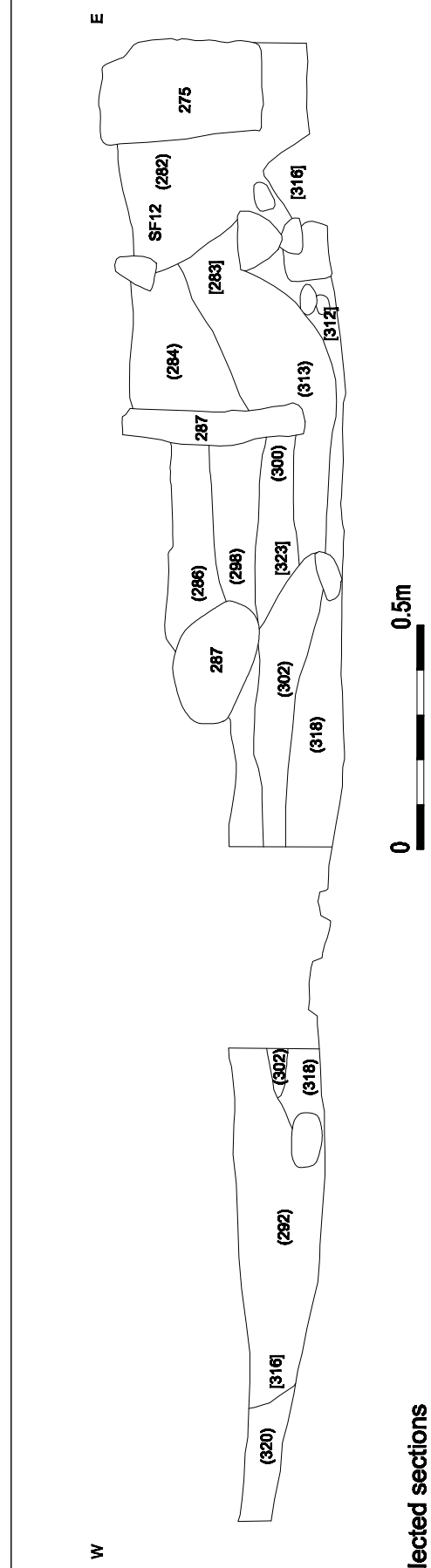
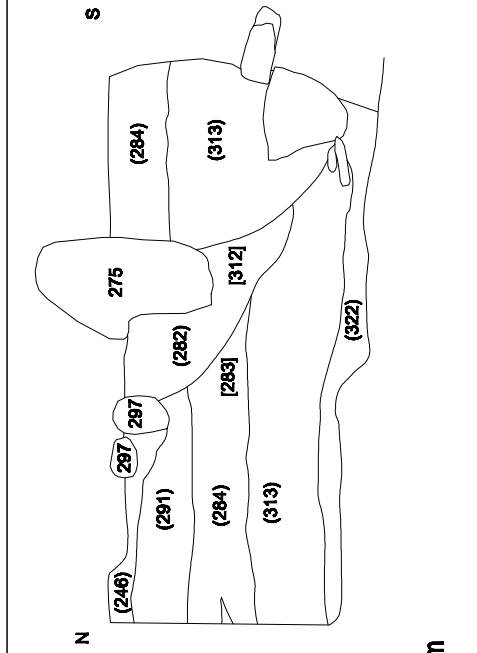
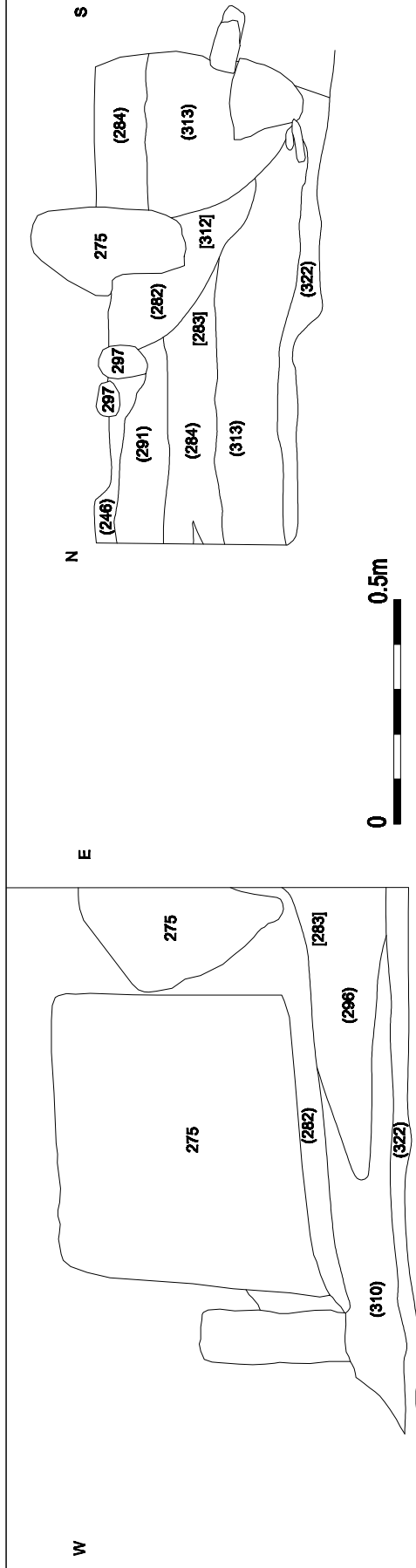
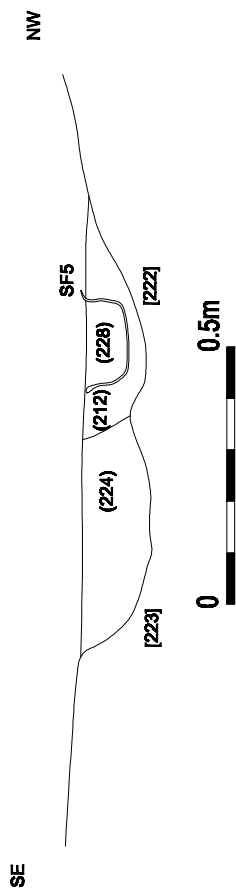


Figure 8: Selected sections

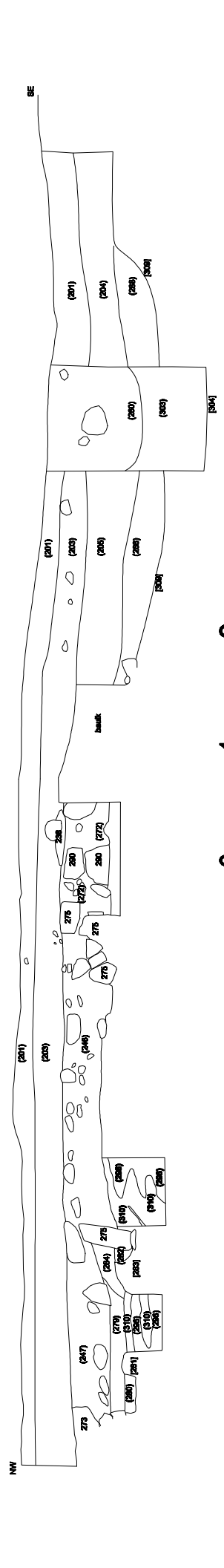
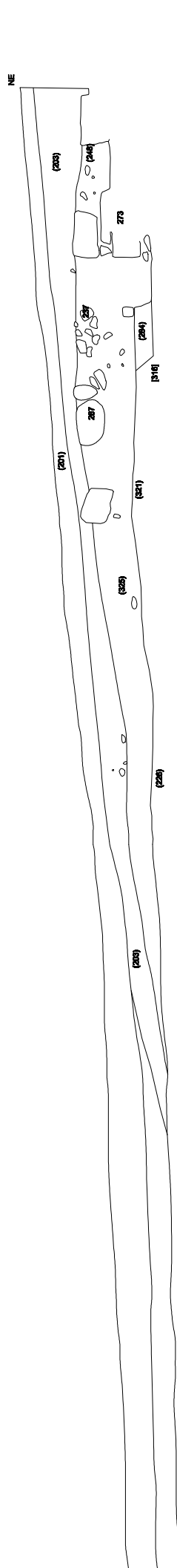
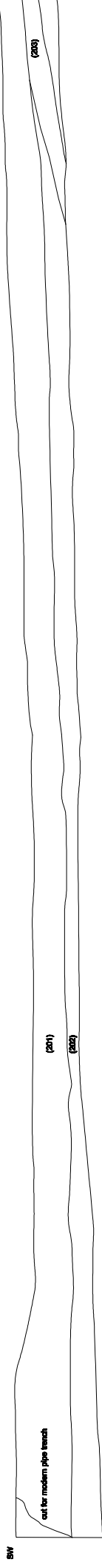


Figure 9: Selected sections





*Fig 10 Wall [294] viewed from west (photo: HE Projects)*



*Fig 11 Wall [275] and hearth [323] viewed from the north-west (photo: HE Projects)*